How do political campaigns craft and maintain an image while advancing their candidate during the primary?

Donor Vetting Process
One of my main tasks was vetting all donors who gave more than $500 using several databases. This ensures the campaign is keeping in line with their values by avoiding problematic donors.

Petition Vetting
Candidates must petition with at least 2,000 signatures from residents to get on the ballot. Petition laws in PA - petition circulators must:
- be registered voters in PA
- be registered with the party of the candidate they are circulating for
This requires two different checks:
- municipality check
- DNC Voter Action Network

Transcription
Transcribing years of interviews, speeches, debates, and more keeps the campaign organized, providing easier debate prep and a clear record of the candidate’s ideas.

In the future
I had previously thought about working on campaigns, but this fieldwork has given me experience and more confidence as I apply for positions in politics, including in research.

The Pledge
I pledge not to take contributions over $200 from oil, gas, and coal industry executives, lobbyists, and PACs and instead prioritize the health of our families, climate, and democracy over fossil fuel industry profits.

Taking the pledge means that a politician or candidate's campaign will adopt a policy to not knowingly accept any contributions over $200 from the PACs, lobbyists, or SEC-named executives of fossil fuel companies — companies whose primary business is the extraction, processing, distribution, or sale of oil, gas, or coal.

- No Fossil Fuel Pledge
- Lobbying Disclosure Act database
- PA state lobbyists list
- Foreign Agent Registration Act database