

POLICY

0143 BOARD MEMBER ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

The election and appointment of Board of Education members will be conducted in strict compliance with law.

The Board shall neither favor nor give the appearance of favoring one candidate over another. When information is released, it shall be made equally available to all candidates. No candidate, including candidates who are incumbent Board members, shall receive preferential treatment.

A vacancy on the Board of Education will be filled by:

1. The County Superintendent, if a vacancy is caused by;
 - a. The absence of candidates for election to the school Board, or
 - b. The removal of a member because of lack of qualifications, or
 - c. The failure of the Board to appoint a person to a vacancy within sixty-five days following its occurrence, or
 - d. A tie for election between two or more candidates in a special runoff election.
2. Special election within sixty days of the annual election, if;
 - a. Two or more qualified candidates tie for election, or
 - b. The annual election is disqualified due to improper election procedures.
3. The County Superintendent, to a number sufficient to make up a quorum of the Board if, by reason of vacancies, a quorum is lacking;
4. The Commissioner of Education if there is a failure to elect a member at the annual school election due to improper election practices; or

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5. A majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Education after the vacancy occurs in all other cases.

The Board Secretary shall promptly notify the President of a vacancy to be filled by the Board; the President shall inform all other Board members. The Board will give public notice of the vacancy and invite any qualified person to request consideration of his/her candidacy for the vacancy. The board may also require candidates to submit a resume with their written request.

At a regular public meeting or at a special public meeting called for the purpose of filling the vacancy, any Board member may nominate one or more candidates for election to Board membership, provided that each candidate nominated is, to the best of the nominator's knowledge, qualified for election and willing to serve. Each nomination will require a second.

All candidates shall be interviewed by a Board nominating committee. The nominating committee shall be composed of the three senior Board members representing the constituent district for which the vacancy exists, plus the senior, non-officer, Board member of the other constituent district. If two members are equally senior, the Board President shall designate which member shall serve. After interviewing all candidates, the committee shall submit one applicant's name to the full Board for consideration.

Election to fill a vacancy will be conducted at a public meeting. A roll call vote will be conducted on the entire list of candidates. If there are two or more vacancies, each vacancy will be filled by a separate election. The candidate who receives the votes of a majority of the remaining Board members will be elected to the vacancy. In the event no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, a second election shall be conducted between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-7; 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15;
N.J.S.A. 18A:13-5; 18A:13-10; 18A:13-11
N.J.A.C. 6:56-1.1

Adopted: July 16, 2007
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