

Bylaws of the Board

Governing Board Elections

Any person is eligible to be a Board member, without further qualifications, if he/she is 18 years of age or older, a citizen of California, a resident of the school District, a registered voter and not legally disqualified from holding civil office. Any person who has been convicted of a felony involving the giving, accepting, or offering of a bribe, embezzlement or theft of public funds, extortion, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any such crime, under California law or the law of another state, the United States of America, or another country, is not eligible to be a candidate for office or be a Board member except when he/she has been granted a pardon in accordance with law. (Education Code 35107; Elections Code 20)

A District employee elected to the Board shall resign his/her position before being sworn in or shall have his/her employment automatically terminated upon being sworn into office. (E.C. 35107)

Board of Education election procedures shall be conducted in accordance with the California Education Code and Elections Code.

Electing Board Members

Each Board member shall reside within the trustee area that he/she represents but shall be elected by all voters in the District.

To ensure ongoing compliance with the California and federal Voting Rights Acts, the Board may review the District's Board election method to determine whether any modification is necessary due to changes in the District's population or any of its racial, color, or language minority group composition. The review shall be based on the Superintendent or designee's report to the Board after the release of each decennial federal census.

If the Board determines that a change is necessary, it shall adopt a resolution at an open meeting specifying the change(s) and shall, in accordance with Education Code 5019 or other applicable provisions of law, obtain approval from the County Committee on School District Organization having jurisdiction over the District.

Campaign Conduct

In order to help protect the public's trust in the electoral process as well as the public's confidence in the Board and District, the Board encourages all candidates to sign and adhere to the principles in the Code of Fair Campaign Practices pursuant to Elections Code 20440.

Statement of Qualifications

The District shall not assume any of the cost of printing, handling, translating or mailing candidate statements pursuant to Elections Code 13307.

On the 125th day prior to the day fixed for the general district election, the Board secretary or designee shall deliver a notice, bearing the secretary's signature and District seal, to the county elections official describing both of the following: (Elections Code 10509)

1. The elective offices of the District to be filled at the general election and which offices, if any, are for the balance of an unexpired term
2. Whether the District or the candidate is to pay for the publication of a statement of qualifications pursuant to Elections Code 13307

Candidate statements shall be limited to no more than 200 words. (Elections Code 13307)

Tie Votes in Board Member Elections

Whenever a tie makes it impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the Board, the Board shall immediately notify the candidates who received the tie votes of the time and place where the candidates or their representatives should appear before the Board. The Board at that time shall determine the winner by lot. (Education Code 5016)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 1000 Composition, and trustee area, county board of education
- 1006 Qualifications for holding office, county board of education
- 5000-5033 Elections
- 5220-5231 Elections
- 5300-5304 General provisions (conduct of elections)
- 5320-5329 Order and call of elections
- 5340-5345 Consolidation of elections
- 5360-5363 Election notice
- 5380 Compensation (of election officer)
- 5390 Qualifications of voters
- 5420-5426 Cost of elections
- 5440-5442 Miscellaneous provisions
- 7054 Use of district property
- 35107 Eligibility; school district employees
- 35177 Campaign expenditures or contributions

ELECTIONS CODE

- 20 Public office eligibility
- 1302 Local elections, school district election
- 2201 Grounds for cancellation
- 4000-4004 Elections conducted wholly by mail
- 10400-10418 Consolidation of elections
- 10509 Notice of election by secretary
- 10600-10604 School district elections
- 13307 Candidate's statement
- 13309 Candidate's statement, indigency
- 14025-14032 California Voting Rights Act
- 20440 Code of Fair Campaign Practices

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 1021 Conviction of crime
- 1097 Illegal participation in public contract
- 12940 Nondiscrimination, Fair Employment and Housing Act
- 81000-91014 Political Reform Act

PENAL CODE

- 68 Bribes
- 74 Acceptance of gratuity
- 424 Embezzlement and falsification of accounts by public officers
- 661 Removal for neglect or violation of official duty