

ELECTION

Board elections shall be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years.

A person is legally qualified to become a Board member who is a United States citizen, and a qualified voter resident in the school district and appropriate director district, if any.

A person may become a candidate for a place on the Board by filing a declaration of candidacy with the county auditor during the May filing period as prescribed by law. If the school district includes territory in two or more counties, the declaration of candidacy shall be filed with the county auditor of the county designated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction as the county to which the District belongs, pursuant to RCW 28A.323.040. In the event that there are more than two candidates for any position on the Board, a primary election shall be held on the third Tuesday of August in the manner prescribed by law. The two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will appear on the election ballot in November.

In the event a school director position becomes vacant or a void in candidacy for a school director position occurs before the regular filing period begins, the candidates will go through the May filing period as proscribed in law. If the vacancy occurs after the filing period starts but before the eleventh Tuesday prior to the primary election, the county auditor shall establish a special three-day filing period.

In the event a school director position becomes vacant or a void in candidacy for a school director position occurs after the eleventh Tuesday before the primary election, but before the eleventh Tuesday before the general election, then the county auditor shall establish a special three-day filing period. In such a case, regardless of the number of candidates, there will be no primary, and the winner of the position will be the candidate receiving a plurality of the votes cast.

In the event a school director position becomes vacant or a void in candidacy for a school director position occurs after the eleventh Tuesday before the general election, the scheduled election is lapsed, the election deemed stricken from the ballot, no write-in votes counted and no candidate certified as elected. If an incumbent school director is serving in this instance, the director's service on the Board will continue until the next school board election or until the director resigns. If no director is currently serving, the position will be filled by the board consistent with the Board's policy on filling vacancies.

Cross Reference: Board Policy 1115 Vacancies
Board Policy 1610 Conflicts of Interest

Legal References: RCW 28A.323.040 Joint school districts—Designation of county to which joint school district belongs
28A.343.300 Directors—Terms—Numbers
28A.343.320 Directors—Declarations of candidacy—Positions as separate offices
28A.343.330 Directors—Ballots—Form
28A.343.340 Directors—When elected—Eligibility
29A.04.151 Residence
29A.24.181 Reopening of filing – After eleventh Tuesday before primary
29A.24.191 Scheduled election lapses, when

29A.52.210 Local primaries
42.12.010 Causes of vacancy

Policy News, October 2006 Changes in Election Law