

Section: **Board of Directors**

Policy Title: **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 in 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 county to which the district belongs, pursuant to RCW 28A.323.040.

If, prior to the first day of the regular filing period, a vacancy occurs in a school director position that is not scheduled to appear on the general election ballot, leaving an unexpired term for which a successor must be elected at the next general election, filings for that position will be accepted during the regular filing period. The filing officer will provide notice of the vacancy and filing period to newspapers, radio, and television in the county, and online. The position will appear on the primary and general election ballots unless no primary is required.

If, on the first day of the regular filing period or later, a vacancy occurs in a school director position that is not schedule to appear on the general election ballot leaving an unexpired term, the election of the successor will occur at the next succeeding general election that the office is allowed by law to have an election.

If, following the regular filing period and deadline to withdraw, but prior to the day for the primary, a void in candidacy occurs, the filing officer will reopen the filing period of three normal business days. The filing officer will provide notice of the special filing period to newspapers, radio, and television in the county and online. The candidate receiving a plurality of the votes cast for that school director in the general election is deemed elected.

Cross Reference:	Policy 1610	Conflicts of Interest
	Policy 1114	Board Member Resignation and Vacancy
	Policy 1115	Vacancies

Legal References:	RCW 28A. 323.040	Joint school districts – Designation of county to which joint school district belongs
	RCW 28A.343.300	Directors – Terms – Numbers
	RCW 28A.343.320	Declarations of Candidacy – Positions as separate offices
	RCW 28A.343.330	Ballots – Form
	RCW 28A.343.340	When elected – Eligibility
	RCW29A.04.151	Residence
	RCW 29A.24.141	Void in candidacy
	RCW 29A.24.181	Regular filing period – Voids in candidacy
	RCW 29A.24.191	Scheduled election lapses, when
	RCW 29A.52.210	Local primaries
	RCW 42.12.010	Causes of vacancy

Management Resources: *Policy and Legal News*, August 2011
 Policy News, October 2006 Changes in Election Law

Adopted: January 23, 2006

Revised: January 23, 2012