

**Board of Education**

**Voter Petitions – Propositions**

**Annual Meeting**

The following shall apply to the submission of questions or propositions at the annual meeting:

1. Questions or propositions to appear on the ballot at the annual district meeting shall be submitted by petition filed with the District Clerk on or before the 60<sup>th</sup> day immediately preceding the annual meeting. The petition must contain the signatures of twenty-five (25) qualified voters or five percent (5%) of the number of voters of the district who voted in the previous annual election of Board members, whichever is greater.
2. A separate petition shall be required for each question or proposition.
3. The proposition or question shall be stated clearly and concisely, but the form and length of such questions or propositions is subject to revision by the Board for purposes of placement on the voting machine.
4. Amendments to propositions shall be filed with the District Clerk no later than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting and shall be supported by petitions containing the number of signatures set forth in Paragraph “1” above.
5. Any proposition which requires the expenditures of monies must include the necessary specific dollar appropriation.
6. The Board of Education shall examine each petition for the submission of questions and proposals filed with the District Clerk. Any petition may be rejected by the Board of Education if the question or proposition requires the expenditure of money and it fails to include the necessary specific appropriation and/or it is not within the power of the voters and/or is prohibited by law. Any such petition will not be presented to the voters at such meeting.
7. The Board of Education in its discretion, shall determine the order in which all questions or propositions shall appear upon the voting machines.

The Board, may also, on its own motion, submit propositions to the voters.

**Board of Education**

**Voter Petitions – Propositions(2)**

### Special Meetings

The voters of the district are empowered to request a special meeting for the purpose of requiring the electorate to act on one or more propositions when they present the Board of Education with a petition signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters or five percent (5%) of the number of voters who voted in the last annual election of Board members, whichever number is greater. If the form of the petition is consistent with these requirements and those of statute, the Board is then duty-bound to call a special meeting within twenty (20) days of the presentation of the petition of the Board. Notice of the special meeting must be given in accordance with Section 2004 of the Education Law (4 times within the 7 weeks prior to the special meeting). The Board must either accept the petition and call for the special meeting or reject the petition within the twenty (20) day period.

The Board may refuse to call a special meeting only if a valid reason exists not to do so pursuant to Section 2008(2)(a)-(d) of the Education Law. These reasons include:

1. the subject of the proposition is not within the power of the District voters;
2. the purpose of the proposition is illegal;
3. a petition relating to the issuance of bonds or notes is untimely; or
4. other valid reasons exist to refuse to call such meetings, such as:
  - a. the proposition does not set forth a specific dollar amount to be appropriated for for such purpose or set forth a legally adequate sum of money for such purpose;
  - b. the same matter has recently been before the voters and duly rejected or approved; however, the Board may, in its discretion, present a question which it reasonably determines should be offered again even in the absence of an indication of voter sentiment for a new vote; or
  - c. the proposition is ambiguous and the "will of the voters cannot be readily ascertained and implemented".

Reviewed: 12/19/96, 9/13/05

Approved: 1/6/97

Revised: 10/20/05