

## **BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS, CANDIDATES AND CAMPAIGNING**

### *Qualifications*

The qualifications of a member of the Board of Education are that the individual:

1. must be able to read and write;
2. must be a qualified voter of the district; that is, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age or older, and not adjudged to be an incompetent;  
(Note: a convicted felon is barred from running for a seat on a board of education if his or her maximum prison sentence has not expired or if he or she has not been pardoned or discharged from parole)
3. must be and have been a resident of the school district for at least one year prior to election;
4. may not have been removed from any school district office within the preceding year;
5. may not reside with another member of the same school board as a member of the same family;
6. may not be a current employee of the school district; and
7. may not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office.

### *Nominations*

Each vacancy is a separate, specific office and a separate petition is required to nominate a candidate to each separate office. Candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be nominated by petition. Such petition shall be directed to the District Clerk, shall contain the signatures and addresses of at least 25 qualified voters of the district or 2 percent of the voters who voted in the previous election, whichever is greater, and shall state the name and residence of the candidate. Each petition shall be filed with the District Clerk not later than 30 days preceding the Annual Meeting and Election at which the candidates so nominated are to be elected.

In the event of the absence of the District Clerk from the district, nominating petitions are to be received and acted upon by the Alternate District Clerk in the same manner as required of the District Clerk.

The District Clerk will supervise the procedure used to establish the order of names on the ballot. Selection will be made by lot. The Board may reject nominations if the candidate is ineligible or has declared an unwillingness to serve.

### *Electioneering*

Electioneering during the hours of any vote is prohibited within the polling place or within 100 feet of any such polling place. Displays or handout items of any political nature, except those

provided by law, shall be prohibited by any individual, group or organization in any school building on those days when the polls are open for voting on school district matters, including, but not limited to, the annual school budget, candidates for the Board of Education, special propositions, etc.

Cross-ref: 1050, Annual District Meeting and Election  
6120, Budget Hearing

Ref: Education Law §2018  
Ref: Education Law §§2102; 2103; 2502(7)  
Election Law §5-106(2)-(4), (6)  
*Rosentock v. Scaringe*, 40 N.Y.2d 563 (1976)  
*Matter of Schoch*, 21 EDR 300 (1981)

1<sup>st</sup> Reading November 20, 2000  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading & Adoption December 20, 2000  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading for Re-adoption October 29, 2014  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading for Re-adoption November 25, 2014