

What is a School Board Member?

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School board members are locally elected public officials entrusted with governing a community's public **schools**. The role of the **school board** is to ensure that **school** districts are responsive to the values, beliefs and priorities of their communities.

Do Board Members receive a salary or stipend?

Walker County School Board Members receive \$50.00 per meeting to cover driving expenses and time allocated toward board planning sessions and regular session held meetings.

What do School Board Members do?

Walker County School Board Members develop and revise policies based on Georgia Law, Georgia Department of Education policies and expectations, as well as the Federal Guidelines. Walker County Board members are elected officials charged with employing the Superintendent of schools for the district.

- Employing the superintendent
- Setting the yearly budget
- Approving contracts for teachers and outside vendors
- Establishing a vision for the district
- Expanding the district or closing schools

What can School Board Members NOT do?

Interfere in the day to day operations of any facility.

Directly hire or fire any teacher, paraprofessional, janitor, clerical, bus driver, nutrition worker.

Make any decision on their own accord without full approval of the entire board.

Do School Board Members have to hold an education degree to run for office?

- One of the most common questions about school board eligibility is a question of just exactly how much educational achievement is required as baseline for consideration. While the school board is highly involved in shaping the school district's educational administration, it is not necessary for school board members to possess a degree in education and school administration.
- Rather than requiring board members to have a degree in education or school administration, it is of a higher priority for board members to be well-read on the latest national discussions,

contemporary practices and emerging theories in the educator community. Even without a degree, all board members are expected to be both passionate and well-studied in the concept of education and ways that it can be reformed to optimize positive student outcomes.

- The minimum education requirement for school board member candidates is to have either completed high school or to possess an officially equivalent certificate.

What must one do in order to run for the Walker County School Board?

- In order to serve on the school board of any school district, you have to be a legal resident of the district. Depending on the particular school board that you are interested in joining, there may be as certain time length required for your residence that needs to be reached before consideration. In addition to being a resident of the district for whatever amount of time is necessitated by the board, you also have to be a registered voter. Your criminal record affects your eligibility for school board membership as well. If you have a felony on your record, you will not be eligible to join the school board.

<https://lms.embr.mobi/eBoardsmanship/ebsindex.aspx?S=61236>

<https://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/State-Board-of-Education/Pages/Local-Board-Governance.aspx>