

## **School Board Appointment Process**

On Tuesday, January 4, 2022, then-School Board Chair Mary Tomback accepted the resignation of Board Member Laura McClendon, a member of the Board since January 2020.

State statute requires the Board to fill the vacancy, but the process by which it does so is within its sole discretion. The Board has chosen a process that will allow for any interested and eligible person to apply for the open seat. Board Chair Anne Casey hopes that many people will research the role and consider applying, stating, "We encourage all members of the St. Louis Park community to consider applying to serve on the school board. Please don't hesitate to reach out to board members if you have questions or would like to know more about the role and responsibilities of the board."

Pursuant to state law, the applicant chosen by the Board will be sworn in and seated 30 days following the Board resolution officially appointing the applicant. This 30 day waiting period is mandatory under the law, providing the public an opportunity to petition against the selection of the appointee. The appointee will serve until at least December 31, 2022. There must be a special election in November 2022 to elect a candidate to serve the one-year remainder of Ms. McClendon's term, which expires December 31, 2023. It is the hope of the Board that whomever is appointed to serve until the 2022 election chooses to run in that election to serve the remainder of the term. That seat (along with three others) will be up for election again in November 2023, for a four-year term beginning January 2024.

Responsibilities of the St. Louis Park School Board include:

- Hiring the superintendent, who is an ex-officio member of the board, and delegate authority
- Oversight of human, financial, and facility resources
- Set policy and judicial review
- Collective bargaining
- Community relations and advocacy

Applicants must meet the same requirements as all school board candidates: United States citizen over the age of 21, resident of St. Louis Park for at least 30 days, and no felony convictions. Whomever is appointed by the Board must be available on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month throughout the year, and for other occasional meetings as necessary.

Applicants are asked to send letters of interest to the Board with the following information:

- 1) Confirmation of eligibility for candidacy;
- 2) Connection to the District;
- 3) Interest in serving on the St. Louis Park School Board;
- 4) Impressions and/or opinions regarding the District's Strategic Plan for Racial Equity Transformation.

Letters may be submitted in any language as necessary by the applicant, and the District will have them translated.

Potential applicants are invited to contact [any School Board member](#) or Executive Leadership Partner Flower Krutina at [krutina.flower@slpschools](mailto:krutina.flower@slpschools) or 952.928.6001 if they have any questions or would like to learn more.

### **Application Timeline**

February 4, 2022 by 5 pm: Letters of Interest due to Board Chair Anne Casey ([casey.anne@slpschools.org](mailto:casey.anne@slpschools.org)) and Flower Krutina ([krutina.flower@slpschools.org](mailto:krutina.flower@slpschools.org)).

February 8, 2022: Special Meeting will be held to review applications and select finalists for interviews. All candidates will be notified of their status no later than February 9, 2022.

February 26th and March 2nd: Special Meeting will be held to interview finalists and vote on appointee. Selected appointee will be notified the week of February 27th.

March 8, 2022: Regular Business Meeting during which the Board will vote on a resolution to officially appoint the chosen applicant. .

April 7, 2022: Appointee sworn in and seated as a member of the School Board following mandatory 30-day waiting period.