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 residing in the school district and the appropriate geographic director district.

A person may become a candidate for a place on the Board by filing a Declaration of Candidacy with the county auditor during the June filing period, as prescribed by law.

In the event that there are more than two candidates for any position on the Board, a primary election shall be held on the third Tuesday of August in the manner prescribed by law. The two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will appear on the election ballot in November.

In the event a Board member position becomes vacant or a void in candidacy for a school director position occurs before the regular filing period begins, the candidates will go through the June filing period as prescribed in law. If the vacancy occurs after the filing period starts but before the eleventh Tuesday prior to the primary election, the county auditor shall establish a special three day filing period.

In the event a Board member position becomes vacant or a void in candidacy for a school director position occurs after the eleventh Tuesday before the general election, but before the eleventh Tuesday before the general election, then the county auditor shall establish a special three day filing period. In such a case, regardless of the number of candidates, there will be no primary, and the winner of the position will be the candidate receiving a plurality of the votes cast.

In the event a Board member position becomes vacant or a void in candidacy for a school director position occurs after the eleventh Tuesday before the general election, the scheduled election is lapsed, the election deemed stricken from the ballot, no write-in votes counted and no candidate certified as elected. If an incumbent school director is serving in this instance, the director’s service on the Board will continue until the next school board election or until the director resigns. If no director is currently serving, the position will be filled by the Board consistent with the Board’s policy on filling 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 Directors — Declarations of candidacy — Positions as separate offices  
RCW 28A.343.330 Directors — Ballots — Form  
RCW 28A.343.340 Directors — When elected — Eligibility
RCW 29A.04.151 Residence
RCW 29A.24.181 Reopening of filing — After eleventh Tuesday before primary
RCW 29A.24.191 Scheduled election lapses, when
RCW 29A.52.210 Local primaries
RCW 42.12.010 Causes of vacancy

Management Resources:  *Policy News*, October 2006  Changes in Election Law

Adopted:  January 29, 2007
Replaces Mead School District Policy 1250