

**Board of Education Policy**

**POLL WATCHERS GUIDE FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING**

---

---

**The Role of the Poll Watcher**

The role of the poll watcher is to observe elections at the polling site on behalf of a particular candidate and, where they observe irregularities, report these observations to the Chief Election Inspector and/or the Board of Elections.

The poll watchers will be located in an area with a full view of the voting machines and sign-in tables. Said area shall be located no more than five (5) feet from the sign-in tables. Poll watchers will remain within this designated area and will not, under any circumstances, be permitted to wander about the polling place or school. An identifying badge will be issued and visibly worn at all times.

An authorized poll watcher may review and/or copy poll list sheets in the presence of either the District Clerk or the Chief Election Inspector at appropriate intervals during the vote as determined by the District Clerk or the Chief Election Inspector. If copies are requested, a fee of \$0.25 per page will be charged. Under no circumstances are the original poll list sheets to be removed from the polling place.

**Poll Watcher Qualifications**

Poll watchers must be qualified voters in the Miller Place Union Free School District. Poll watchers must be appointed, in writing, by a candidate and must present the written appointment to the Chief Election Inspector. Each candidate must submit the names and addresses of their poll watchers no less than seven (7) days prior to the Board Meeting which precedes the Annual Meeting for Board approval.

**Number of Poll Watchers**

Each candidate may have no more than one (1) poll watcher per polling location.

**Poll Watcher Rights**

The Poll Watcher may:

- Arrive 15 minutes before opening to observe the opening of the polls;
- Compare the ballot on the voting machines with the paper ballots to see that they match (this is limited to Poll Watchers assigned to the opening of the polls);
- Challenge the qualifications of any individual voter. Any and all challenges should be brought to the attention of the Chief Election Inspector;
- Observe the closing of the polls and the final canvasses;
- Poll watchers must sign in and out with the District Clerk and must surrender their certificate upon exiting;

**Board of Education Policy**

**POLL WATCHERS GUIDE FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING**

---

---

**Poll Watcher Limitations**

The Poll Watcher may not:

- Electioneer within a 100 feet radius of the entrance to the building. Electioneering includes, but is not limited to, soliciting votes or distribution or display of any banner, poster or placard, button, flyer, refreshments displaying a candidate's name, or campaign material on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate or issue to be voted upon.
- Tamper with election materials;
- Interfere with the election process;
- Accompany a voter to the booth.

**Miscellaneous**

Any questions regarding poll watching should be directed to the District Clerk and/or Chief Election Inspector. All actions of poll watchers shall be unobtrusive and may, in no manner, interfere with the orderly conduct of the voting.

***Adopted:*** 01/26/2011  
***Reviewed:*** 01/29/2014 11/14/2018 12/13/2023  
***Revised:*** 02/26/2014 12/12/2018 01/24/2024