

**Tumwater School District  
Board Policy**

**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 resident in the school district and appropriate 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 regular filing period, as prescribed by law. If the school district includes territory in two or more counties, the declaration of candidacy shall be filed with the county auditor of the county designated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction as the county to which the district belongs, pursuant to RCW 28A.323.040.

In the event that there are more than two candidates for any position on the board, a primary election shall be held on the first 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.

If, prior to the first day of the regular filing period, a vacancy occurs in a school director position that is not scheduled to appear on the general election ballot, leaving an unexpired term for which a successor must be elected at the next general election, filings for that position will be accepted during the regular filing period. The filing officer will provide notice of the vacancy and filing period to newspapers, radio, and television in the county, and online. The position will appear on the primary and general election ballots unless no primary is required.

If, on the first day of the regular filing period or later, a vacancy occurs in a school director position that is not scheduled to appear on the general election ballot leaving an unexpired term, the election of the successor will occur at the next succeeding general election that the office is allowed by law to have an election.

If, following the regular filing period and deadline to withdraw, but prior to the day for the primary and no valid declaration of candidacy exists for the position, the filing officer will reopen the filing period of three normal business days. The filing officer will provide notice of the special filing period to newspapers, radio, and television in the county, and online. The candidate receiving a plurality of the votes cast for that school director in the general election is deemed elected.

Legal References: RCW 28A.323.040

RCW 28A.343.300

Joint school districts — Designation  
of county to which joint school  
district belongs  
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.24.141

Void in candidacy—exception

RCW 29A.24.181

Reopening of filing —before eleventh  
Tuesday before general election

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*, August 2011

Legislature clarifies law on  
vacancies and voids in  
candidacy, primary election  
date changes

*Policy News*, October 2006

Changes in Election Law

**ADOPTED: January 11, 1979**

**REVISED: July 11, 2013**