

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



Prospective Board Candidate Workshop October 16, 2024



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Board Member Qualifications

To qualify for school board membership, an individual must be, as of the date of the election:

- A United States citizen;
- A resident of the State of Illinois and of the school district for at least one year preceding election;
- At least 18 years of age;
- A registered voter

To become a school board candidate one must:

- File a Statement of Economic Interests with the county clerk and obtain a receipt; these forms are available from the county clerk;
- Obtain and complete a nominating petition signed by at least 50 registered voters or 10% of the voters, whichever is less, and a Statement of Candidacy. Nominating petition forms and Statements of Candidacy are available from the county clerk or county board of election commissions.



Board Member Responsibilities

Board members are elected, unpaid volunteers who serve 4 -year staggered terms, and are elected to represent the voices and opinions of the school community. The Board of Education's job is to:

- ❖ Adopt policies on school operations and Board practices;
- ❖ Adopt and assess goals that meet the requirements and reflect the community's needs;
- ❖ Adopt a budget that provides resources necessary to pursue its goals;
- ❖ Select and evaluate the Superintendent, who manages the schools;
- ❖ Approve purchases, contracts, curriculum, textbooks, and personnel appointments;
- ❖ Negotiate with employee groups and approve their contracts;

The Board elects a President and Vice-President for a 2-year term. The Board Clerk/Recording Secretary is a District employee and acts at the direction of the Board.

Board members have no power or legal authority as an individual. They make decisions or give direction as a 7-member Board.



Foundational Principles of Effective Governance

1. The board clarifies the district's purpose
2. The board connects with the community
3. The board employs a Superintendent
4. The board delegates authority
5. The board monitors performance
6. The board takes responsibility for itself

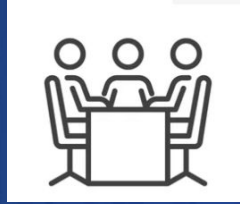


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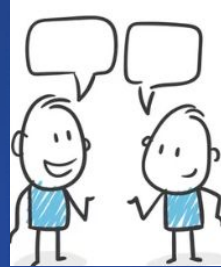
Work of a School Board Member



Prepares for the Board Meeting



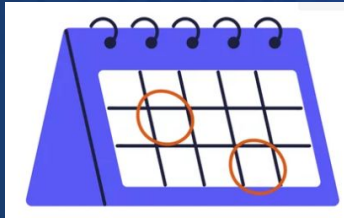
Attends every board meeting



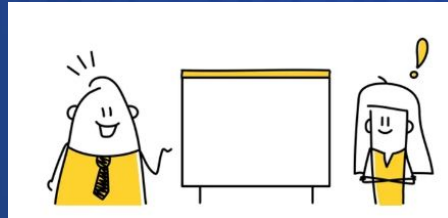
Shares thoughts before a decision is made



Advocates for Students



Attend District Events



Participates in Trainings



Stays current of education
issues: local, state and federal



Questions to ask yourself

1. Will you actively work to inspire all constituents to have confidence in local public schools?
2. Are you committed to focusing on a large range of district concerns rather than a single issue?
3. Are you committed to doing what is right for ALL students?

☐ YES
☐ NO
☐ MAYBE



Superintendent Responsibilities

The Superintendent oversees the daily operations of the District, implements policies, and works with a leadership team and staff to achieve District goals.

Primary responsibilities of the Superintendent include:

- ❖ Serve as Chief Executive Officer;
- ❖ Provides leadership to the Central Leadership Team;
 - Directors and Principal
 - Coordinators
- ❖ Provides updates to the Board of Education;
- ❖ Primary point of contact with the Board of Education;
- ❖ Communicates with the community on behalf of the Board of Education



Board Member Time Commitments

Committee of the Whole Meeting (1st Monday)

Regular Action Meeting (3rd Monday)

Miscellaneous Events

- ❖ Commencement, Homecoming, Student Celebrations, Board Workshops, Special Meetings, etc.

Board of Education Website

- ❖ Meeting Agendas/Minutes
- ❖ Board Briefs
- ❖ Board Policy Manual
- ❖ Video Archive
- ❖ FOIA Information
- ❖ Strategic Plan



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2025 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION DEADLINES



Candidates for the April 1, 2025 school board election **signed nominating petitions** due to the county clerk's office or the county board of election commissioners **between November 12 and 18, 2024.**



Last day to file
**objections to
nominating petitions**
(November 25)



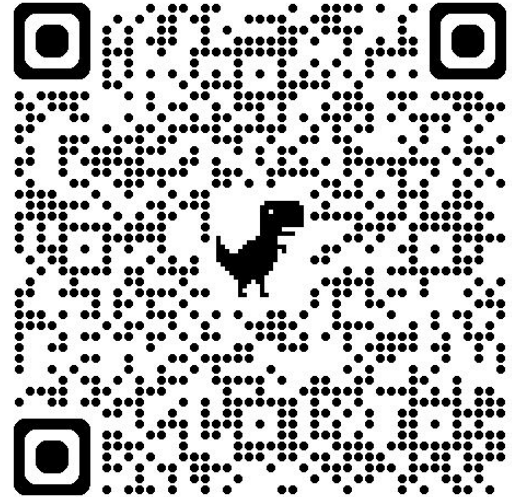
Last day to file a
**withdrawal of
candidacy form**
(January 23)



Last day to file a
**declaration of intent
as a write-in candidate**
(February 2)

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<https://www.iasb.com/memberships-and-divisions/school-board-elections/>



Upcoming IASB Webinars

October 17, 2024 (Noon)

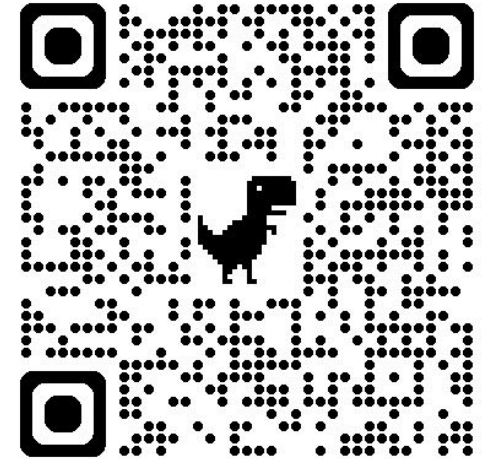
- ❖ How to Navigate Running for a School Board:
The Statement of Economic Interests

November 14, 2024 (Noon)

- ❖ How to Navigate Running for a School Board:
The Petition Filing

December 5, 2024 (Noon)

- ❖ How to Navigate Running for School Board:
Understanding the Board Member's Role



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Effective school board members are characterized by...

The ability to work as a member of a team with an open mind and to engage in discussion to arrive at a group consensus;

The willingness to spend the time required to become informed and do the homework needed to take part in effective school board meetings;

The desire to serve children and the community, and a strong belief in the values of public schools and educational success.

The recognition that the school district is a large operation and that the board is responsible for seeing that the district is run by highly skilled professionals.



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Q & A



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