> What makes a great school board member?

WHO ARE SCHOOL DIRECTORS?

Washington state's public school districts are governed by publicly-elected school boards. These board members—called "school directors"—are citizens just like you! They are parents and grandparents, young people and senior citizens, and diverse community members from all walks of life. There is great value in diversity on a school board. Each member brings their varying experiences and backgrounds to inform good decision making with a spirit of teamwork.

A statewide survey conducted by WSSDA shows that its members run for school board for two primary reasons: to give back to their community and to help children get a good education.

WHAT DOES A SCHOOL BOARD DO?

School directors work together to oversee the school district. As a board, their primary responsibilities are:

- Hire, supervise and evaluate the superintendent
- Set the vision, mission and strategic goals for the district
- Review, revise and adopt policies
- Establish and oversee the budget
- Serve as community representatives
- Monitor the district's progress toward its goals



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Become a voice for Washington students



How do I learn more about serving on my local school board?

Start by checking with your local school district. Also, the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) provides training, policy and legal resources, and legislative advocacy support to school board members across the state.

Here are some hefpul resources:

- Learn the ins and outs of being a school director. Download *Leading with Purpose: A Guide for Effective School Board Members*
- If elected, here are ways to support your continued learning through WSSDA: wssda.org/professionaldevelopment
- More WSSDA publications, like the School Funding FAQs and the Washington School Board Standards, are available at wssda.org/publications.

WANT TO BE A SCHOOL DIRECTOR?

For information on how to file, check the Washington Secretary of State's website sos.wa.gov/elections under the Candidates tab, call (360) 902-4180 or (800) 448-4881, or email elections@sos.wa.gov.

- Find out which positions are up for election and verify that you are eligible to run for the office. You must be a registered voter and live within your school district boundaries. Some school director positions require that you live within a certain director area, so check to be sure you're qualified. Your local county elections department or school district office can help verify that you are eligible.
- File during filing week, May 5–9, 2025. Candidates may file for an office online or in person at the local elections office.
- Be aware of state requirements for all candidates and elected officials to file a financial disclosure statement and report all campaign finances to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission (PDC). Annual filing is required if elected. More information can be found at pdc.wa.gov/learn.

KEY 2025 DATES FOR SCHOOL DIRECTOR CANDIDATES:

Filing week	Primary election	General election
May 5-9	July 18 - August 5	October 17 - November 4

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