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Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators

MASA Legislative Update

Brought to you by: 

November 8, 2024

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Summary

Along with **former President Trump's election win** on Tuesday, **control of the Senate will also shift** to the Republicans in January. However, with several races still too close to call, **it remains unclear whether Republicans will maintain their majority** in the House of Representatives, or if Democrats will take over.

In Michigan, the House flipped to a Republican majority, breaking the two-year Democratic trifecta. This sets the stage for **a busy "Lame Duck" session** in December, with the **State Legislature set to shift to a divided government** in January.

While the election has been front and center this week, there was some **action on the Senate floor** on Thursday, as well as **House leadership elections**. More in-depth details are provided below.

As always, please [contact MASA](#) with any questions or concerns.

State Election Results

House Republicans have regained control in Lansing, ending the Democratic trifecta that began in 2022. The new majority is 58-52, with Republicans flipping key districts statewide. On Thursday afternoon, the GOP held caucus leadership elections, where **Republican Minority Leader Matt Hall** was voted in as **the next Speaker of the House**. Current Speaker Joe Tate withdrew from the race for Minority Leader, clearing the way for **Rep. Ranjeev Puri's** election as **head of the Democratic caucus**. These changes are just the beginning, and **we'll keep you updated as more leadership roles and committee assignments are announced**.

The **Senate was not up for election this year and remains under Democratic control** with a 19-18 margin. However, once Senator Kristen McDonald Rivet (D) is sworn into her new position in Congress, the 35th State Senate District – which includes parts of Bay, Saginaw, and Midland counties – **will be vacant until a special election is held**.

With Republicans set to take control of the State House, **Democrats are likely to push for priority legislation**, which we **expect to result in a busy "Lame**

Duck” session in the weeks ahead. With a split Legislature starting in January, we may see slower progress on legislation in the coming year.

Former President Donald Trump Elected 47th President

In July, President Joe Biden announced he would not seek re-election and endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris as his successor. As a result, Harris launched a national campaign against former President Donald Trump, facing a tight 107-day timeline.

Leading up to Election Day, **national polls showed a close race**, with both candidates having nearly equal chances of victory. However, just hours after polls closed, it became clear that **Trump was outperforming his 2020 results**.

Currently, the electoral map shows Trump with 301 votes to Harris's 226. Arizona remains uncalled, but projections favor Trump to win their 11 electoral votes, bringing his total to 312, compared to Harris's 226. Although Trump lost the popular vote in 2016, he is now on track to win both the Electoral College and the popular vote, with approximately 73 million votes to Harris's 69 million. On January 20, 2025, **Trump will be sworn in as the 47th President of the United States**.

Federal Election Results

Michigan will be represented in the U.S. Senate by Democrats Elissa Slotkin and Gary Peters. Slotkin narrowly defeated Republican Mike Rogers for the seat vacated by Senator Debbie Stabenow, who is retiring after 24 years of service. Senator Peters will seek re-election in 2026. Although Michigan retains Democratic representation, **Republicans have secured the majority in the U.S. Senate**, with a few races yet to be called that will determine the final number.

Michigan’s entire U.S. House delegation was up for election this year, resulting in two new representatives. Republican Tom Barrett flipped the 7th District, winning Senator-Elect Slotkin’s former seat by defeating Democrat Curtis Hertel by nearly 17,000 votes. Meanwhile, the 8th District will remain Democratic, with Kristen McDonald Rivet defeating Republican Paul Junge by about 28,000 votes. McDonald Rivet succeeds Democrat Dan Kildee, who is

retiring after 12 years in office.

The Michigan Congressional delegation now stands as follows:

- **District 1:** Jack Bergman (R)
 - **District 2:** John Moolenaar (R)
 - **District 3:** Hillary Scholten (D)
 - **District 4:** Bill Huizenga (R)
 - **District 5:** Tim Walberg (R)
 - **District 6:** Debbie Dingell (D)
 - **District 7:** Tom Barrett (R)
 - **District 8:** Kristen McDonald Rivet (D)
 - **District 9:** Lisa McClain (R)
 - **District 10:** John James (R)
 - **District 11:** Haley Stevens (D)
 - **District 12:** Rashida Tlaib (D)
 - **District 13:** Shri Thanedar (D)
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State Board Election Results

Two seats were on the ballot for the Michigan State Board of Education, with **both Republican incumbents**, Nikki Snyder and Tom McMillin, **winning re-election with approximately 24% of the votes**, respectively. Each will serve a new eight-year term; however, the board's 6-2 **Democratic majority will be maintained** – for now.

Supreme Court Election Results

The Michigan Supreme Court elected two judges to the bench on Tuesday. Incumbent Justice Kyra Harris Bolden held onto her seat after being appointed to the court in 2022 by Gov. Whitmer. Additionally, University of Michigan Law Professor Kimberly Ann Thomas will replace retiring Justice David Viviano. Although Supreme Court seats are nonpartisan, candidates are chosen at political party conventions. **The Supreme Court will now have a 5-2 Democratic lean.**

Legislative Action This Week

The Senate held session on Thursday morning, voting 23-15 in favor of **a bill package aimed at increasing school bus safety.**

- [HB 4928](#) – Shannon (D): Allows a school district to collect the \$250-\$500 fines associated with a traffic stop for a vehicle passing a school bus or failing to stop.
- [HB 4929](#) – Carter (D): Allows a school district to enter into an agreement with a law enforcement agency to report a vehicle passing a school bus or failing to stop.
- [HB 4930](#) – Carter (D): Authorizes a school district to install or operate a stop-arm camera system on a school bus.

The three-bill package now moves to the House floor for consideration, where it is expected to pass.

This Week's Introduced Bills

[HB 6029](#) – Andrews (D): Revises limitations on mills levied for school operating purposes

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