

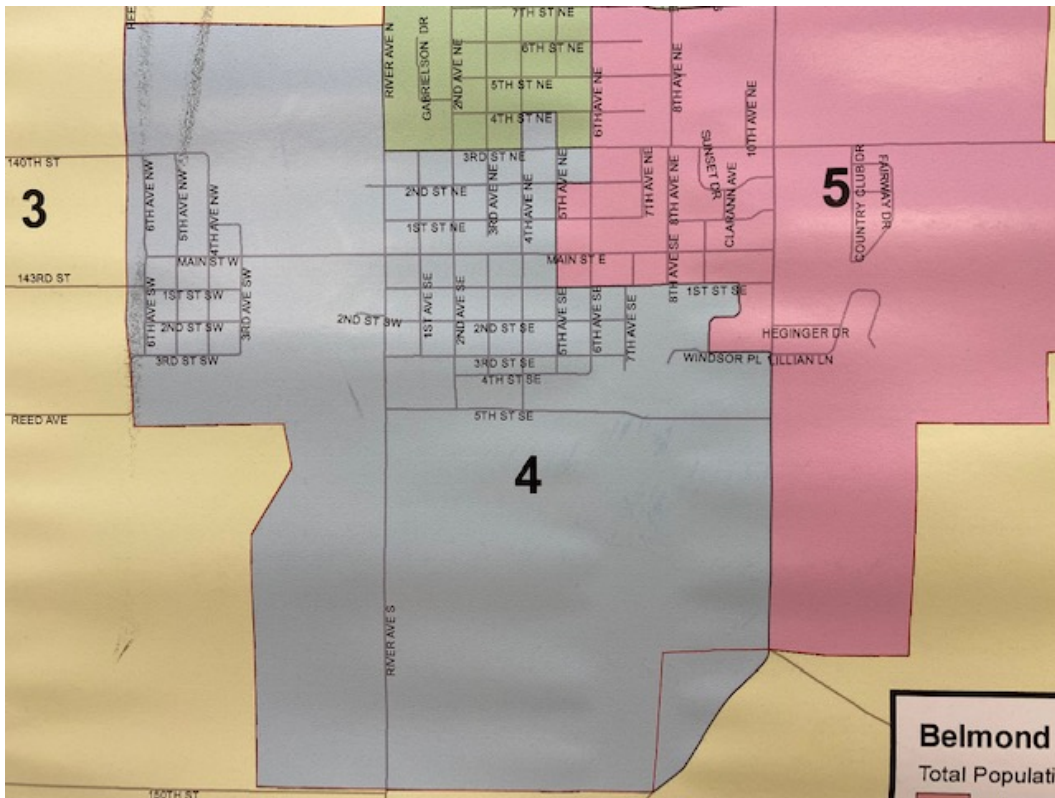
# School Board Elections 2021

## Board Seats

This year is an odd-number year (2021), so there will be a school board election this year. The vote will take place on the first Tuesday of November (rather than September): Tuesday, November 2, 2021.

Three seats will be up for election in 2021. Those three seats are as follows:

- At-large (Gary Berkland)
- At-large (Marc Schlichting)
- District #4 (Rick McDaniel)      In-town Belmond, south and west



The other four seats will be up again in 2023:

- District #1 (Sharon Barkema)      Rural north and west, including Klemme.
- District #2 (Ryan Meyer)          Rural northeast, including Goodell.
- District #3 (Jim Swenson)        Rural east, west, and south, including Rowan.
- District #5 (Michelle Murphy)    In-town Belmond, northeast.

**Recommended Action:**

I suggest the board open a dialogue on how it can best ensure the stability of the district and that progress continues on the work the board is pursuing.

**Key Dates for November 2021 School Board Elections:**

If you are preparing for the fall school board elections, these key dates can help.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Aug. 23, 2021	First Day for Candidate Filing: First day to file nomination papers with the board secretary.
Sept. 16, 2021	Candidate Filing Deadline: Last day to file nomination papers with the board secretary. Deadline is 5 p.m.
Sept. 21, 2021	Candidate Withdrawal Deadline: Last day for candidates to withdraw by filing a written request with the school secretary. Deadline is 5 p.m.
Nov. 2, 2021	School Election Day: Polls are open from 7 a.m.–8 p.m.
Nov. 8 or 9, 2021	Tier 1 Canvass of Votes: First Monday or Tuesday after the election, unless these dates fall on a legal holiday, then it pushes back one day. This is the only and final election canvass for school districts located within one county.
Nov. 15 or 16, 2021	Tier 2 Canvass of Votes: Second Monday or Tuesday after the election. This is the election canvass for school districts that span more than one county, and is the second and final election canvass for those districts.
Nov. 18, 2021	Organizational Meeting: No date is legally specified for the organizational meeting. It is the first regular meeting or a special meeting held before the first regular meeting following the final canvass. During this meeting, the board organizes for the new term.

IASB offers the following advice on the recruitment of school board members:

**What Your Board Can Do to Encourage School Board Candidacy**

- Announce vacancies at board meetings in May, June and July.
- Adopt a motion or resolution encouraging citizens to consider school board service as a meaningful way to contribute to the community.
- Publicly encourage candidacy at meetings of parent organizations or civic groups.
- Encourage candidacy from among board advisory committees.

**What Superintendents Can Do**

- Publicly encourage candidacy at meetings of parent organizations or civic groups.
- Submit articles to your local newspaper to motivate civic-minded citizens to consider board service.

**What Individuals Can Do**

- Talk about the intrinsic rewards of board service. Share what you have found personally rewarding and gratifying in your board service.
- Encourage people with interest and motivation to consider involvement in school activities, whether it is on an advisory committee, as a building volunteer or as a board member.
- Share your experiences and knowledge with potential candidates by answering their questions and making them aware of the responsibilities of the board.