



Karsten Anderson <klanderson@rwps.org>

## Updates for July 6, 2021

1 message

**MSBA Leader Newsletter** <msba@mnmsba.org>  
Reply-To: msba@mnmsba.org  
To: klanderson@rwps.org

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# The Leader



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Hello Karsten,

*Check out highlights from this edition of MSBA's The Leader newsletter:*



**End of COVID-19 peacetime emergency might impact how school board meetings are held**

*By Terence Morrow, MSBA Director of Legal and Policy Services*

In late June, Governor Tim Walz and the Minnesota Legislature agreed to end the COVID-19 peacetime emergency on July 1. The emergency had been declared pursuant to [Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12: Emergency Management](#).

This decision may have implications for Minnesota school boards holding board and/or board committee meetings pursuant to [Minnesota Statutes 13D.021](#) (*Meetings during Pandemic or Chapter 12 Emergency*), which states that remote meetings may be held if several conditions are met, including:

The presiding officer, chief legal counsel, or chief administrative officer for the affected governing body determines that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted under section [13D.015 or 13D.02](#) is not practical or prudent **because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under chapter 12**.

**Note:** While the Chapter 12 emergency ended on July 1, a school board could determine that it will meet pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.021 *because of a health pandemic* and if the other conditions are met. Guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health may be useful for school boards seeking to determine whether a health pandemic is ongoing for purposes of holding a remote meeting under this statute.

**If your school board has returned to in-person meetings** (a quorum or more of the board is present in-person at the meeting), then the board may not rely upon Minnesota Statutes 13D.021 to allow one or more members to participate remotely.

Remote participation by a board member at an in-person meeting is permissible only if the requirements of [Minnesota Statutes 13D.02](#) (*Meetings Conducted by Interactive TV; Conditions*) are satisfied. [Click here to review the revised statute](#) (it was revised during the 2021 legislative session).

[Read more](#)

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## School districts with odd-year elections must publish notice of filing period in legal newspaper by July 13

**By Greg Abbott, MSBA Director of Communications**

The 29 school districts with odd-year elections — as well as the more than 40 districts with board vacancy special elections — will start their election season soon.

School districts will need to publish the notice of filing period in legal newspapers on or before July 13.

Note that if your district's legal newspaper is a weekly that publishes Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday, your election officer will need to publish this notice a week earlier. These notices must also be posted by July 17.

Filing periods this year will be July 27 through August 10.

[Read more](#)

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## Other news in this edition of The Leader

- Virtual MSBA Summer Seminar scheduled for August 5
- Minnesota's schools use educational Equity — NOT critical race theory
- Learn foundations of school board work with MSBA Phase I-II workshops
- Former MSBA executive director Richard Anderson passes away
- Next New Board Member Conversation meeting set for July 20
- MSBA Webinar Series: "Back to School" slated for 1 p.m. Thursday, July 15
- MSBAIT Matters: Learn how your workers' compensation "e-mod" is calculated
- Charter School Board Workshop set for August
- And much more



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