

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

School Board members shall be elected for a three-year term in accordance with procedures established by ordinance for municipal elections or by state regulations for regional educational attendance areas.

Any person eligible to be a voter in the district is eligible for Board membership. However, a district employee elected to the Board must resign his/her position with the District in order to qualify for Board membership.

(cf. 9210 – Qualifications)

(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and other Benefits)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Whenever it is impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the Board, a runoff election shall be held in accordance with law.

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.08.041 Regional school boards

14.08.051 School board sections

14.08.061 Term of office

14.08.071 Elections

14.08.081 Recall

14.12.050 School board terms

14.12.080 Qualification of members

14.12.110 Single body as assembly and school board

14.14.140 Restrictions on employment

29.20.300 School boards

29.26.060 Runoff elections

39.50.020 Report of financial and business interests

Reviewed 3/2016

Reviewed 8/2020

Reviewed 2/2023

BB 9220 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Note: Pursuant to AS 29.20.300, the assembly serves as the school board for third class boroughs. Pursuant to AS 14.12.110, where the public school population is less than 500 the voters may provide by referendum that the borough assembly serve as the school board.

School Board members shall be elected for a three-year term in accordance with procedures established by ordinance for municipal elections or by state regulations for regional educational attendance areas.

Note: Pursuant to AS 14.14.140, a School Board member may not be employed by the school district.

Any person eligible to be a voter in the district is eligible for School Board membership. A district employee may seek election to the School Board but must resign his/her position with the district if elected.

Note: The following optional language is intended to avoid situations which may be viewed as a conflict of interest.

A School Board member should resign from the School Board before seeking to secure district employment. In no event shall a final decision for hire be made prior to receiving the School Board member's resignation.

(cf. 9210 - Qualifications)

(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and other Benefits)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Note: The following options should be revised or deleted as appropriate in light of applicable municipal ordinances or state regulations. AS 29.26.060 requires runoff elections for school boards unless otherwise provided by municipal ordinance. AS 14.08.071 authorizes regional school boards, by resolution, to request of the Lieutenant Governor that runoff elections not be held.

OPTION 1: Whenever it is impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the School Board, the School Board shall immediately notify the candidates who received the tie votes of the time and place where lots shall be cast to determine the winner.

OPTION 2: Whenever it is impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the School Board, a runoff election shall be held in accordance with law.

Note: If subject to the provisions of AS 39.50.020, elected municipal officers, including school board members, are required to file financial disclosure statements upon filing for office and annually after election.

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.08.041 Regional school boards

14.08.051 School board sections

14.08.061 Term of office

14.08.071 Elections

14.08.081 Recall

14.12.050 School board terms

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14.14.140 Restrictions on employment

29.20.300 School boards

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39.50.020 Report of financial and business interests

Revised 2/08

9/92

AASB Policy Reference Manual

RESIGNATION

A School Board member who wishes to resign may do so by submitting his/her written resignation to the School Board.

The Board shall declare the board member's seat vacant upon acceptance of the resignation. The Board may accept the resignation with a deferred effective date.

(cf. 9223 - Board Vacancies)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES
14.08.045 Vacancies

Reviewed 3/2016

Reviewed 8/2020

Reviewed 2/2023

BB 9222 RESIGNATION

Note: The following sample bylaw is provided for regional school boards based on A.S. 14.08.045 and should be revised as needed for other school boards.

A School Board member who wishes to resign may do so by submitting his/her written resignation to the School Board.

The School Board shall declare the board member's seat vacant upon acceptance of the resignation. The School Board may accept the resignation with a deferred effective date.

(cf. 9223 - *School Board Vacancies*)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.08.045 *Vacancies*

9/92

AASB Policy Reference Manual

BOARD VACANCIES

The School Board will declare a School Board seat vacant if the person elected:

1. fails to qualify for Board membership within 30 days of certification of the election,
2. refuses to take office,
3. resigns,
4. is convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude or a violation of the oath of office,
5. no longer resides within the boundaries of the district.

(cf. 9220 - School Board Election)

The school board shall declare a vacancy on the Board for any actions which disqualify a member from service in accordance with state laws and local ordinances.

Three consecutive unexcused absences from regular board meetings shall be sufficient cause for the Board to declare a Board vacancy.

(cf. 9121 - President)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings)

Qualifications

A qualified voter who has resided continuously in the city during the thirty days immediately preceding the election may be nominated for election to the School Board. Voter qualifications include:

1. has passed his/her eighteenth birthday;
2. has been a resident of the state for at least thirty days before the election;
3. has been a resident of the city for at least thirty days immediately preceding the election, and has been a registered voter with a residence address within the city for at least thirty days immediately preceding the election;
4. is a citizen of the United States;
5. is not disqualified from voting under Article V of the State Constitution; and
6. is registered to vote in state elections.

BOARD VACANCIES (continued)

Appointment to the Board

A vacancy on the Board shall be filled within 30 days of the vacancy by Board appointment. When making an appointment to the Board, the Board desires to draw from the widest possible number of candidates.

The Board shall:

1. Advertise the vacancy in suitable local media.
2. Solicit applications or nominations of any legally qualified citizen interested in serving on the Board.
3. Provide candidates with appropriate information regarding Board member responsibilities.
4. Announce names of candidates and accept public input either in writing or at a public meeting.
5. Interview the candidates at a public meeting.
6. Select the provisional appointee by majority vote at a public meeting.

The person appointed shall hold office until the next regularly scheduled election for district Board members and shall be afforded all the powers and duties of a Board member upon appointment.

(cf. 9210 – Qualifications)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.08.041 Regional school boards

14.08.045 Vacancies

14.08.081 Recall

14.12.070 Vacancies

14.14.080 Declaring a school board vacancy

29.26.240 - 29.26.360 Recall

Reviewed 3/2016

Reviewed 8/2020

Reviewed 2/2023

BB 9223 BOARD VACANCIES

Note: The following provisions apply to school boards pursuant to AS 14.08.045. Item 1 below could apply to a write-in candidate whose qualifications were not verified prior to election or to a district employee who fails to resign her/her employment after election.

The School Board may declare a regional school board seat vacant if the person elected:

1. fails to qualify for School Board membership within 30 days of certification of the election,
2. refuses to take office,
3. resigns,
4. is convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude or a violation of the oath of office while serving as a School Board member,
5. no longer resides within the boundaries which he/she was elected to represent and a two-thirds vote of the School Board declares the seat vacant.

(cf. 9220 - School Board Election)

Note: The following is provided for borough and city school boards and may be revised as appropriate.

The school board shall declare a vacancy on the School Board for any actions which disqualify a member from service in accordance with state laws and local ordinances.

Note: AS 14.14.080 allows a school board to declare a board vacancy when a member fails to attend three consecutive regular board meetings without being excused by the School Board President.

Three consecutive unexcused absences from regular board meetings shall be sufficient cause for the School Board to declare a School Board vacancy.

(cf. 9121 - President)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings)

Appointment to the School Board

Note: The following optional bylaws may be deleted or revised as desired.

A vacancy on the School Board shall be filled within 30 days of the vacancy by School Board appointment. When making an appointment to the School Board, the School Board desires to draw from the widest possible number of candidates.

The School Board shall:

1. Advertise the vacancy in suitable local media.
2. Solicit applications or nominations of any legally qualified citizen interested in serving on the School Board.
3. Provide candidates with appropriate information regarding School Board member responsibilities.
4. Announce names of candidates and accept public input either in writing or at a public meeting.

5. Interview the candidates at a public meeting.

6. Select the provisional appointee by majority vote at a public meeting.

The person appointed shall hold office until the next regularly scheduled election for district School Board members and shall be afforded all the powers and duties of a School Board member upon appointment.

(cf. 9210 - *Qualifications*)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.08.041 *Regional school boards*

14.08.045 *Vacancies*

14.08.081 *Recall*

14.12.070 *Vacancies*

14.14.080 *Declaring a school board vacancy*

29.26.240 - 29.26.360 *Recall*

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9/92

AASB Policy Reference Manual

COMPENSATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Board members receive compensation in the form of \$25 per month for each month of service. The Board President receives an additional \$15 per month or \$40 total per month. Each board member is also included in the Public Employee's Retirement System (PERS) providing they are eligible under State regulations.

The Student Representative will receive compensation in the form of a \$250 scholarship for service to the Board. The scholarship will be awarded after providing documentation of a successful first quarter/semester at the postsecondary educational institution attending.

Per diem is provided when a board member is required to be away from home on Board authorized trips, using the district's per diem rate. Other normal travel expenses are also paid.

At any time that a board member is called upon to perform duties or attend meetings that will cause him/her to lose salary, a request for payment in lieu of salary may be made to the district. Such compensation shall be equivalent to the normal take home pay of the individual.

(cf. 9240 - Board Development)

Health and Welfare Benefits

Board members, except the Student Representative, may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees.

Board members who elect to participate in the district insurance program shall pay the full cost of coverage.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.14.140 Restriction on employment

Reviewed 4/2016

Reviewed 9/2020

Reviewed 2/2023

BB 9250 REMUNERATION, REIMBURSEMENT, AND OTHER BENEFITS

Note: A.S. 14.14.140 authorizes the School Board to compensate its members as provided by board resolution. The following optional bylaw may be revised or deleted to reflect district philosophy and needs.

Stipend

OPTION 1: The School Board views School Board service as a voluntary contribution to the community and does not approve compensation for School Board members under current circumstances.

OPTION 2: The School Board recognizes the time and personal effort School Board members give to the district. Each member of the School Board may receive a monthly or per meeting stipend as determined annually by School Board resolution.

Reimbursement of Expenses

School Board members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in attending any meetings or in making any trips on official business of the school district when so authorized in advance by the School Board.

(cf. 9240 - School Board Development)

Health and Welfare Benefits

School Board members may participate in the health and welfare benefits program provided for district employees.

OPTION 1: The district shall pay the cost of all premiums required for School Board members electing to participate in the district health and welfare benefits program.

OPTION 2: School Board members who elect to participate shall pay the full cost of coverage.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.14.140 Restriction on employment

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AASB Policy Reference Manual