

Santa Rosa City Schools

Board Bylaw

Board of Education Elections

BB 9220

Board Bylaws

Any person is eligible to be a member of the Governing Board, without further qualifications, if he/she is 18 years of age or older, a citizen of California, a resident of the school district, a registered voter, and not legally disqualified from holding civil office. Any person who has been convicted of a felony involving the giving, accepting, or offering of a bribe, embezzlement or theft of public funds, extortion, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any such crime, under California law or the law of another state, the United States of America, or another country, is not eligible to be a candidate for office or be a Board member except when he/she has been granted a pardon in accordance with law. (Education Code 35107; Elections Code 20)

A district employee elected to the Board shall resign his/her employment before being sworn in or shall have his/her employment automatically terminated upon being sworn into office. (Education Code 35107)

(cf. 9224 - Oath of Affirmation)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

The Board encourages all candidates to become knowledgeable about the role of board members. The Superintendent or designee shall provide all candidates with information that will enable them to understand the responsibilities and expectations of being a Board member, including information regarding available workshops, seminars, and/or training. The Superintendent or designee shall provide all candidates with the county election official's contact information and general information about school programs, district operations, and Board responsibilities.

~~To reduce costs associated with conducting elections, the Board may consolidate Board elections with the local municipal or statewide primary or general election. Board election procedures shall be conducted in accordance with state and federal law.~~

To reduce costs associated with conducting elections, the Board may consolidate Board elections with the local municipal or statewide primary or general election in accordance with Elections Code 1302.

In order to consolidate elections based on either circumstance described above, the Board shall adopt a resolution and submit it to the County Board of Supervisors for approval not later than 240 days prior to the date of the currently scheduled district election. (Elections Code 10404.5)

Whenever a regularly scheduled Board election is changed due to consolidation of elections, the terms of office of incumbent Board members shall be extended to align with the next applicable election. (Elections Code 10404.5)

(cf. 9110 - Terms of Office)

Electing Board Members

~~Board members may reside anywhere within the district's boundaries and shall be elected by all voters in the district.~~

The district is divided into trustee areas and each trustee area shall be represented by a Board member who resides in and is elected by voters residing within that trustee area. Trustee areas shall be balanced by population as required by state and federal law.

Prior to March 1 following the year in which the results of each decennial federal census are released, the Board shall adjust the boundaries of the district's trustee areas based on population figures as validated by the Population Research Unit of the Department of Finance. (Education Code 5019.5)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Campaign Conduct

All candidates, including current Board members running as incumbents, shall abide by local, county, state, and federal requirements regarding campaign donations, funding, and expenditures.

In order to help protect the public's trust in the electoral process as well as the public's confidence in the Board and district, the Board encourages all candidates to sign and adhere to the principles in the Code of Fair Campaign Practices pursuant to Elections Code 20440.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

Statement of Qualifications

In order to help defray the costs of campaigning for the Board, the district shall pay the cost of printing, handling, translating, and mailing candidate statements filed pursuant to Elections Code 13307.

Candidate statements shall be limited to no more than 200 words. (Elections Code 13307)

Tie Votes in Board Member Elections

Whenever a tie makes it impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the Board, the Board shall immediately notify the candidates who received the tie votes of the time and place where the candidates or their representatives should appear before the Board. The Board at that time shall determine the winner by lot. (Education Code 5016)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1000 Composition, and trustee area, county board of education
1006 Qualifications for holding office, county board of education
5000-5033 Elections
5220-5231 Elections
5300-5304 General provisions (conduct of elections)
5320-5329 Order and call of elections
5340-5345 Consolidation of elections
5360-5363 Election notice
5380 Compensation (of election officer)
5390 Qualifications of voters
5420-5426 Cost of elections
5440-5442 Miscellaneous provisions
7054 Use of district property
35107 Eligibility; school district employees
35177 Campaign expenditures or contributions
35239 Compensation of governing board member of districts with less than 70 ADA

ELECTIONS CODE

20 Public office eligibility
1302 Local elections, school district election
2201 Grounds for cancellation
4000-4004 Elections conducted wholly by mail
10400-10418 Consolidation of elections
10509 Notice of election by secretary
10600-10604 School district elections
13307 Candidate's statement
13309 Candidate's statement, indigence
14025-14032 California Voting Rights Act
20440 Code of Fair Campaign Practices

GOVERNMENT CODE

1021 Conviction of crime
1097 Illegal participation in public contract
12940 Nondiscrimination, Fair Employment and Housing Act
81000-91014 Political Reform Act

PENAL CODE

68 Bribes

74 Acceptance of gratuity

424 Embezzlement and falsification of accounts by public officers

661 Removal for neglect or violation of official duty

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 2, Section 2 Voters, qualifications

Article 7, Section 7 Conflicting offices

Article 7, Section 8 Disqualification from office

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1973-1973aa-6 Voting Rights Act

COURT DECISIONS

Rey v. Madera Unified School District, (2012) 138 Cal. Rptr. 3d 192

Randall v. Sorrell, (2006) 126 S.Ct. 2479

Sanchez v. City of Modesto, (2006) 51 Cal.Rptr.3d 821

Dusch v. Davis, (1967) 387 U.S. 112

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

85 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 49 (2002)

83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 181 (2000)

81 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 98 (1998)

69 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 290 (1986)

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Secretary of State's Office: <http://www.ss.ca.gov>

Fair Political Practices Commission: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov>

Institute for Local Self Government: <http://www.ca-ilg.org>

Bylaw SANTA ROSA CITY SCHOOLS

Adopted: July 25, 2018 Santa Rosa, California