

# **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 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

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