



RUNNING FOR ELECTION TO A PUBLIC OR SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD

School Board elections will be held Wednesday, October 26, 2016 for all boards of education. This “Resource Package” is intended to help answer questions you may have about running for your board of education.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The first matter to consider is whether a candidate is qualified to run for a board of education. The required qualifications for a candidate are as follows:

- The candidate must be a Canadian citizen on the day they are nominated, and maintain their Canadian citizenship thereafter;
- The candidate must be at least 18 years of age on the day of the election;
- The candidate must have lived in the school division for at least three consecutive months immediately preceding the date they submit their nomination paper; and,
- The candidate must have lived in Saskatchewan for at least six consecutive months immediately preceding the date they submit their nomination paper.

Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 45

“CHECKLIST” FOR CANDIDATES

If you decide to run, on or before September 21, 2016 you must:

- Ensure you meet the required qualifications (listed on this page).
- Get a nomination form from your returning officer.
- Complete the nomination form, including signatures obtained from at least ten electors in the subdivision or at large area.
- Submit the nomination form to the returning officer before 4 p.m. on September 21, 2016.
- If you are seeking election to the board of education of the Saskatoon Public, Greater Saskatoon Catholic, Lloydminster Public, Lloydminster Catholic, Regina Public, Regina Catholic, Prince Albert Catholic or Saskatchewan Rivers School Divisions, you are required to provide a \$100.00 deposit with your nomination form. This deposit will be returned following Election Day, regardless of the percentage of votes that you receive. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 67, 68*

WINNER

RUNNING FOR ELECTION TO THE CONSEIL SCOLAIRE FRANSASKOIS

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

1. The candidate is a minority language adult, which requires that:
 - a) They are a Canadian citizen on the day they submit their nomination paper;
 - b) They are at least 18 years of age on the day of the election, and;
 - c) One of the following applies:
 - i. The candidate's first language learned and still understood is French;
 - ii. The candidate received their primary school instruction in Canada in French, other than French immersion; or,
 - iii. The candidate has a child who has received or is receiving primary or secondary school instruction in Canada in French, other than through a French immersion program.
2. The candidate is a resident of Saskatchewan and has been a resident of Saskatchewan for at least six consecutive months immediately preceding the date they submit their nomination paper, and
3. One of the following applies:
 - i. The candidate has a child enrolled in a fransaskois school in a francophone education area conducting an election;
 - ii. The candidate has a child who is receiving a home based education program that is registered with the Conseil scolaire; or,
 - iii. The candidate or their child is receiving a minority language instruction program which is registered pursuant to Section 181 of The Education Act, 1995 and who is assigned to a francophone education area for voting purposes.

- OR -

1. The candidate is a minority language adult, which requires that, they:
 - a) are a Canadian citizen on the date they submit their nomination paper;
 - b) are at least 18 years of age on the day of the election; and,
 - c) one of the following applies:
 - i. Their first language learned and still understood is French;
 - ii. They received their primary school instruction in Canada in French, other than French immersion; or,
 - iii. The candidate has a child who has received or is receiving primary or secondary school instruction in Canada in French, other than through a French immersion program.

- and -

2. The candidate is a resident in the particular francophone education area.

CONSEIL SCOLAIRE
FRANSASKOIS

“CHECKLIST” FOR CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR ELECTION TO THE CONSEIL SCOLAIRE FRANSASKOIS

If you decide to run, you must on or before September 21, 2016:

- Ensure you meet the required qualifications.
- Get a nomination form from your returning officer.
- Complete the nomination form, including signatures obtained from at least five voters in the francophone area.
- Submit the nomination form to the returning officer before 4 p.m. on September 21, 2016.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR CANDIDATES

Q. What is a Board of Education?

A. The province of Saskatchewan is divided into 28 geographical areas called school divisions; school divisions contain Kindergarten to Grade 12 schools. A board of education is a form of local government and has the legislative authority to govern the education services provided to children resident within the school division. Boards must consider various issues in making a decision, but in the end decisions are based on the best interests of all children in the school division.

Boards of education have an obligation to provide educational services and operate schools. Boards involve their communities by informing, listening, and considering the communities' values when making decisions.

The Education Act, 1995 - 85, 86, 87 and 88

Q. What is a “Trustee”?

A. An individual member of a board of education is sometimes referred to as a “trustee.” A trustee, acting individually, has no authority to make decisions. A trustee works as part of a team, the board of education. Only the board in public session has the power to make decisions that affect schools. In addition, School Community Councils are a form of local engagement which involves parents and the community in school improvement. The Councils are legislated by the Government to be in place for every school in Saskatchewan and must include elected and appointed members. For more information or to run for your school council, contact your school division office. *The Education Act, 1995 - 140.1, 140.2*

Q. How do I know if I’m eligible to run for a board of education?

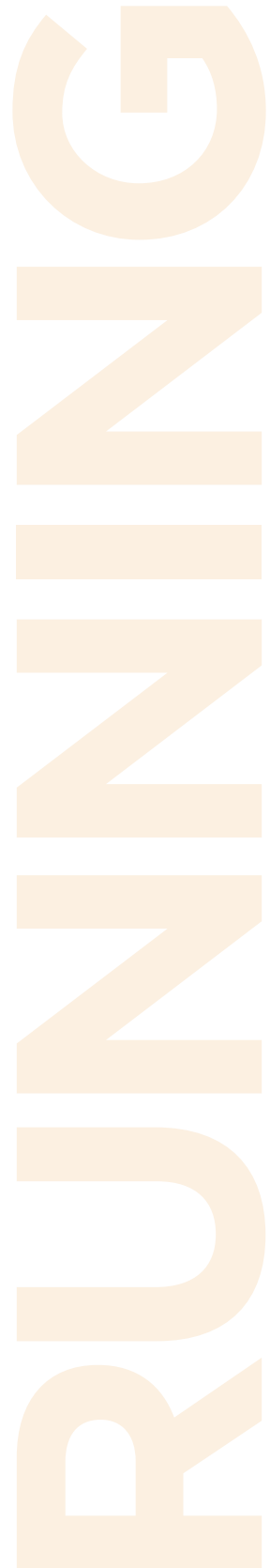
A. The required qualifications for candidates for public and separate boards of education and the conseil scolaire fransaskois are outlined above in this document.

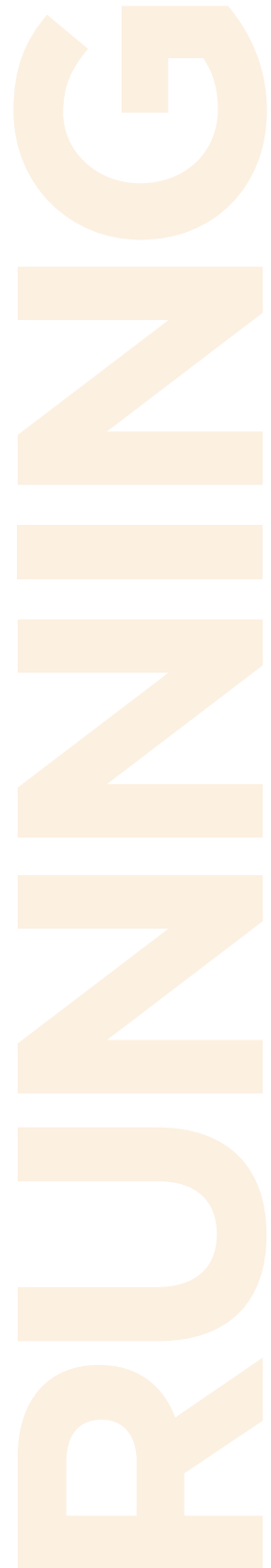
Q. Can I live in one school division and run in another?

A. No. The candidate must live in the same school division in which he or she will stand for election. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 36(1)(d)(ii)*

Q. Can I live in one sub-division and run in another?

A. Yes. However, while a candidate does not have to live in the sub-division in which they are running, all of their nominators must be from that sub-division. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 45 and 67(3)(f)*



**Q. Can I be a candidate if I work for a school division or the Conseil des écoles fransaskoises?**

A. Yes, but you must be placed on a leave of absence immediately upon your nomination. If elected, you will be deemed to have resigned from your employment on the day before the day you are declared elected. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 26.1(3), 43(3) and 43(4)*

Q. Can I be a candidate if I work for another school division?

A. Yes. There is no conflict of interest if your employer is a different Board of Education.

Q. Can I run for public school trustee if I am Roman Catholic?

A. It depends. You can run as a candidate for the public school board if you meet all of the qualifications outlined in this document. However, if you reside in an area where there is also a Roman Catholic Separate School Division and you are going to vote in the election for the separate school board, you will then be an “elector” in the separate school division and can no longer qualify to run in the public school election. You can qualify as an elector in only one school division. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 36 and 42*

Q. Can a non-Roman Catholic run for the Roman Catholic school board?

A. No. Only “electors” in the Roman Catholic Separate School Division can be candidates for election to the Roman Catholic Separate School Board. To qualify as an elector in that separate school division, the individual must declare that he or she is a member of the minority religious faith that established the Separate School Division. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 36*

Q. I pay taxes to the Roman Catholic school division in my area. Can I run as a candidate in the public school board election?

A. Yes. The issue of which school division you pay your taxes to is not related to your eligibility to vote or run as a candidate. To qualify to run for the public school board, you must meet certain criteria outlined in this document. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 42 and 45*

Q. My children attend school in a different school division than the one in which I want to run. Can I run for election in a different school division?

A. Yes. The school(s) your children attend is not related to your eligibility to run as a candidate. To qualify to run for the school board, you must meet certain criteria outlined in this document. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 42, 45*

Q. Can I run for the board of education and for another office (for example, city council or the provincial Legislature)?

A. Yes, but you cannot be nominated for more than one sub-division within a school division. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 70(1)(c) and 70(3)*

Q. Can a candidate who is running for the board arrange a public forum of candidates? Or should it be set up by another person who is not a candidate?

A. Yes, candidates can arrange public forums but it is preferable that a public forum be established by an independent third party or body. Candidates are not required to attend public forums.

**Q. How do I get nominated to run for the board?**

A. Interested candidates must complete a nomination form. These forms can be obtained from the returning officer for your school division. Candidates have until September 21, 2016 at 4 p.m. to submit the nomination form to the returning officer. If there are fewer candidates than vacancies, the returning officer will hold a call for further nominations.

You are required to include on your nomination form the signatures obtained from at least ten electors in the sub-division or at large area in which you plan to run. When you pick up your nomination form, discuss with the returning officer exactly what is needed for your nomination. *Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 67, 78*

Q. If I am successful, what will be the responsibilities of the board?

A. The key work of boards of education includes planning and developing policy to achieve positive results for students of the school division. The Education Act, 1995, prescribes the authority of boards of education. *The Education Act, 1995 - 85, 86, 87, and 88*

Q. What will be my term of office?

A. Boards of education serve a four-year term, so successful candidates elected on October 26, 2016, will serve until October of 2020. *The Local Government Election Act, 2015 - 10*

Q. How much time will I have to devote to being a trustee?

A. People often suggest that being a school board member involves "one meeting per month." Don't believe it! Trustees spend an average of six to ten hours per week on school board-related business.

In addition to regular board meetings, trustees participate in committee meetings, planning meetings and Saskatchewan School Boards Association events.

If a candidate is successful in the October election, there will be organizational meetings held by the new boards. The Saskatchewan School Boards Association Fall Assembly and AGM is November 13-15, 2016 in Saskatoon.

Q. Is there compensation for being a board member?

A. Yes. Rates are set by each individual board. *The Education Act, 1995 - 81, 82, 83 and 84*