School Board Governance and Operations

Elections

The annual school election shall be held between the second Tuesday in April and the third Tuesday in June. The School Board shall set the election date no later than the first regular meeting in January. The election may be combined with the annual municipal election or the Regular June Primary election, whenever possible. Members of the Board elected at such election assume their duties of office on the second Monday in July. All newly elected Board members must subscribe to an oath of office to be filed in the business manager’s office.

No candidate for elective Board membership may be nominated unless he/she is a resident voter of the School District and unless a nominating petition has been filed on his/her behalf with the Business Manager of the District in accordance with the time tables established for the current election year. A formal declaration of a candidacy shall be signed by the candidate before the circulation of the petition. The petition shall be signed by not less than twenty registered voters of the District. Petitions must be circulated within the scheduled time tables for the current election. There shall be added by either the signer or the circulator the signer's place of residence and date of signing. The petition shall be verified under oath by the person circulating it. The filing of the nominating petition shall constitute nomination and will entitle the candidate to have the candidate's name placed on the ballot for the term the candidate specifies only upon verification signed by the Business Manager that the nominating petition contains the minimum number of signatures and that the candidate is a resident voter.

No election will be held if only one nominating petition is filed for each Board vacancy to be filled and if there are no other questions to be submitted to the voters.

Following the election, within sixty days of the official canvass, the following information shall be included in the school board minutes:
1. The number of registered voters of the school district on the date voter registration closes;
2. The number of registered voters of the school district who voted in the election;
3. The percentage of registered voters of the school district who voted in the election; and
4. If the election was held in conjunction with either a regular municipal election or with the regular June primary.

If the annual election was not conducted because there was neither a contested vacancy on the school board nor any question submitted to the voters, a statement substantiating the reason for not holding the election shall be included in the school board minutes.
Registration of Voters

Every person resident of this state who shall be of lawful age, not otherwise disqualified, who shall have complied with the provisions of law relating to the registration of voters shall be entitled to vote at any election of this state.

The county auditor shall enter on the master registration list and include in precinct registration lists the names of all person who have registered with or have had their applications for registration received by any county auditor not less than fifteen days preceding such election.

Legal Reference: SDCL
Ch. 13-7 School District Elections
Ch. 12-4 Registration of Voters

Policy Board Action (formerly 9500)
Adopted 05-28-68
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