

Governing Board Elections

Any person is eligible to be a Governing Board member, without further qualifications, if they are 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state, 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 they have been granted a pardon in accordance with law. (Education Code 35107; Elections Code 20)

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

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.

Recalling A Board Member

A Board member may be recalled as permitted by Elections Code 11000. Proponents of a recall are required to serve, file, and publish or post a notice of intention to circulate the recall petition and to comply with other applicable law and formalities and county elections official directives. The petition, pursuant to Elections Code 11041, is required to be in the format provided by the Secretary of State and to include an estimate of the cost of conducting the special election, as determined by the county elections official, in consultation with the district.

Within 14 days after the meeting at which the Board receives a certificate of sufficiency of signatures on a recall petition from the county elections official, the Board shall order an election to be held to determine whether the Board member named in the petition shall be recalled. The election shall be held not less than 88, nor more than 125, days after the date that the Board orders the election. However, the election may be conducted within 180 days after the issuance of the Board's order to consolidate the election with a regularly scheduled election.

Recall elections shall be conducted in accordance with Elections Code 11381-11386.

Consolidation of Elections

To reduce costs associated with conducting elections, the Board may consolidate Board elections

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with the local municipal or statewide primary or general election in accordance with Elections Code 1302.

In addition, if a regularly scheduled Board election held other than on a statewide election date results in a decrease in local voter turnout of 25 percent or more compared to the average local turnout for the previous four statewide general elections, the Board shall take action to consolidate Board elections with statewide elections. (Elections Code 14051, 14052)

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)

Elections Process and Procedures

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.

Election for members for areas A and E shall be held in 2020 and every four years thereafter. Election of members for areas B, C, and D shall be held in 2022 and every four years thereafter. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes in each trustee area shall be elected to office.

Effective July 1, 2022, Board members will be eligible to serve a maximum of three terms as an elected Board member. The three-term limit shall not be applied retroactively to any individual who has served as a Board member in any term beginning prior to July 1, 2022. A Board member will not be deemed to have served an elected term if the member is elected to or appointed to fill a vacancy after a term begins, or if a Board member resigns or is removed from office before the term is completed.

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)

To ensure ongoing compliance with the California Voting Rights Acts, the Board may review the district's Board election method to determine whether any modification is necessary due to changes in the district's population or any of its racial, color, or language minority group composition. The

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review shall be based on the Superintendent or designee's report to the Board after the release of each decennial federal census.

When the district's election method is to be changed, the Board shall hold public hearings in accordance with Elections Code 10100 before adopting a resolution at an open meeting specifying the change(s), and shall, in accordance with Education Code 5019, obtain approval from the county committee on school district organization having jurisdiction over the district.

The election method or trustee-area boundaries in effect at the beginning of a Board member's term shall be used when any vacancy that occurs during that term is to be filled, even if, during the term, the district has adopted "by-trustee area" election method or trustee area boundaries have been adjusted.

Any petition for a special election ordered pursuant to Education Code 5091 shall contain the county election official's estimate of the cost of conducting the special election, expressed on a per-student basis. (Education Code 5091)

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.

A Board member shall not expend, and a candidate shall not accept, any public money for the purpose of seeking elective office.

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.

No candidate, person, or entity shall use the District's logo/seal/letterhead on any campaign materials.

Statement of Qualifications

Nomination papers shall be signed by no less than 20 registered voters qualified to vote and residing in the trustee area from which the candidate is seeking to run.

Candidate for the Board of Education shall pay the filing fee.

The candidate's statement of qualifications for the position of Member of the Board of Education of the Glendale Unified School District shall be limited to no more than 200 words.

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The District shall assume no part of the cost of printing, handling, translating, mailing, and/or electronically distributing candidate statements filed pursuant to Election Code 13307. As a condition of having candidate statements included in the hard copy and/or electronic voter's pamphlet, the district may require candidates to pay their estimated pro rata share of these costs to the district in advance pursuant to Elections Code 13307.

On the 125th day prior to the day fixed for the general District election, the Board secretary or his/her designee shall deliver a notice, bearing the secretary's signature and District seal, to the county elections official describing both of the following: (Elections Code 10509)

1. The elective offices of the District to be filled at the general election and which offices, if any, are for the balance of an unexpired term.
2. Whether the District or the candidate is to pay for the publication of a statement of qualifications pursuant to Elections Code 13307.

Tie Votes in Board Member Election

Whenever a tie makes it impossible to determine which of two or more candidates has been elected to the Board, the Board shall schedule a runoff election in accordance with law. (Education Code 5016)

Legal Reference: Education Code, Sections 1006; 5000-5033; 5220-5231; 5300-5304; 5320-5329; 5340-5345; 5360-5363; 5380; 5390; 5420-5426; 5440-5442; 7054; 35107; 35177; 35239
Election Code, Sections 20; 1302; 2201; 4000-4008; 10010; 10400-10418; 10509; 10600-10604; 13307; 13308; 13309; 14025-14032; 14050-14057; 20440
Government Code, Sections 1021; 1097; 12940; 81000-91014
Penal Code, Sections 68; 74; 424; 661
California Constitution, Article 2, Section 2; Article 7, Section 7; Article 7, Section 8
GUSD Action Report No. 8, March 31, 1998
Ballot Measure T, June 7, 2022

Policy Adopted: 12/04/1956

Policy Amended: 01/18/1977; 03/19/1985; 05/17/1994; 06/24/2003; 04/03/2007;
12/14/2010; 07/08/2014; 03/07/2017; 03/12/2019; 07/12/2022;

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02/07/2023

Formerly BP 9121, BP 9510