San Leandro USD
Board Bylaw
Governing Board Elections

BB 9220
Board Bylaws

Any person is eligible to be a member of the Board of Trustees, 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)

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.

(cf. 9110 - Terms of Office)

Electing Board Members

Each Board member shall reside within the trustee area that he/she represents but shall be elected by all voters in the district.

The district is divided into six trustee areas. Trustee areas are made as equal as possible in total population as declared by the most recent US Census. Boundaries of a trustee area shall, so far as practicable, follow precinct boundaries as delineated by the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County. Trustees are nominated from each trustee area. One trustee is nominated from the district at large. If nominated from a trustee area, the candidate must be a resident of the trustee area. Candidates for the office of member-at-large shall be nominated by petitions signed by at least 20 registered voters circulated in the district at large. Candidates from the trustee areas shall be nominated by a petition circulated in their respective trustee area and signed by at least 20 registered voters.

To ensure ongoing compliance with the California and federal 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 review shall be based on the Superintendent or designee's report to the Board after the release of each decennial federal census.

If the Board determines that a change is necessary, it shall adopt a resolution at an open meeting specifying the change(s) and shall, in accordance with Education Code 5019 or other applicable provisions of law, obtain approval from the county committee on school district organization having jurisdiction over the district.

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

Campaign Conduct

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

The district shall assume no part of the cost of printing, handling, translating, or mailing of candidate statements filed pursuant to Elections Code 13307. As a condition of having candidate statements included in the 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

(cf. 9223 - Filling Vacancies)

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 SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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