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February 20, 2021

**SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION FLASH #3**

# Running for School Director

*in Pennsylvania*



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SCRANTON**  
A JESUIT UNIVERSITY



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# Candidate Eligibility

- At least 18 years of age as of the date of the November election
- Good moral character
- Resident of the school district for at least one year prior to the November election
- No record of conviction for any felony offense, or any misdemeanor offense involving dishonesty or “moral turpitude”
- Cannot hold a federal government position or a state/local government position that is funded entirely by federal sources
- Active-duty military are not eligible
- Cannot be employed by their school district during their term of office
- Cannot hold another local government elective office simultaneously

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# Getting on the ballot

- Partisan election
- Obtain at least 10 signatures on a nominating petition for your party (D or R)
- People who sign must be registered in your party too
- People who sign must live in the school district/region
- Can cross-file to run in both the Democratic and the Republican primaries - a member of the party you are not registered in must circulate a petition

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# Filing paperwork

- Submit petition(s) and a copy of the statement of financial interest with the county board of elections
- Submit the original statement of financial interest with the school district's school board secretary

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# Serving as a school director

- Four-year terms, beginning and ending the first Monday in December after the municipal election
  - five directors elected in one election
  - four directors elected two years later
- This is an unpaid elected position

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# School Board Election Flash Series

#1 Responsibilities of School Boards

#2 Responsibilities of School Directors

#3 Running for School Director

#4 Community Impact



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# Resources

- Pennsylvania School Boards Association  
[www.psba.org](http://www.psba.org)
- Lackawanna County Department of Elections  
[www.lackawannacounty.org](http://www.lackawannacounty.org)
- Ready to Run<sup>®</sup> NEPA at The University of Scranton  
[www.scranton.edu/readytorun](http://www.scranton.edu/readytorun)
- League of Women Voters of Lackawanna County  
[www.lwvlackawanna.org](http://www.lwvlackawanna.org)

Join the League!



“

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”*

**Margaret Mead**

Anthropologist