

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA

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FILLING BOARD VACANCIES

When a vacancy occurs on the board during a board member's term of office, the remaining board members by majority vote shall select a person to fill the vacancy, in accordance with the following procedures.

1. Vacancies must be filled within 60 days of the date on which the vacancy first exists.
2. A public notice of the vacancy shall be filed with the district's official newspaper(s).
3. Any qualified elector interested in the vacancy shall file a board-approved application with the board by the deadline set by the board. If no persons have filed credentials by the closing of the application period, that application period shall be extended for two weeks.
4. Prospective applicants may be interviewed by the board at a regular or special board meeting.
5. At a regular or special board meeting, names of all persons who have properly filed credentials for the position are placed on paper ballots. Each board member shall sign his/her ballot. After counting the votes, the board clerk reports the vote tally to the president, and records the numerical round of balloting on the ballots and enters them into the public record. Balloting continues until an applicant receives a majority of the votes cast. As any ballot left blank is presumed to signify that the affected board member finds no listed applicant to be acceptable, blank ballots are to be counted in determining whether majority support has been obtained.
6. If no applicant received a majority on the first ballot and the names of more than two applicants appeared on that ballot, the ballot for the second round will be limited to the two applicants who received the most votes initially, except that in the case of a tie vote among the top two vote-getters, the second ballot should also include any additional applicant(s) still in contention by virtue of the tie. In that event, further runoff balloting shall be conducted until the field is narrowed to two.
7. Once the field has been narrowed to two, if after two additional rounds neither applicant is selected, the board may choose another method of selection. That method consists of two board members selected by the board as a whole to meet, confer and make a recommendation to the board on an applicant by the next regularly-scheduled board meeting.

If a vacancy has not been filled by an appointment made within 60 days of the date on which the vacancy first exists, the Board will attempt to fill the vacancy using the following procedure:

1. If a duly-elected successor (i.e., elected at a Spring Election) will be taking office in the seat that is currently vacant within the next 60-day period that follows the initial 60-day period of the vacancy, no other appointee shall serve in the vacant seat in the interim.
2. If the vacancy is not filled by the duly-elected successor in office pursuant to the previous paragraph, then at a regular Board meeting held no later than 45 days after the end of the initial 60-day period of the vacancy, the Board shall attempt to appoint a qualified elector to fill the vacancy by a majority vote. If after 5 rounds of voting the Board still has been unable to fill the vacancy, then the chairperson of the meeting shall declare a deadlock and immediately call for nominations in order to break the deadlock by the random selection of a nominee.
3. A nominee must be a qualified elector who has submitted a board-approved application to fill the vacancy in question and who has not withdrawn from consideration. Each Board member who is present at the meeting may nominate, or support the nomination of, only one nominee.
4. Each nominee, if any, whose nomination is supported by at least two Board members (inclusive of the Board member who initially made the nomination) will be included in the random selection process. Any nominee selected as a result of the random process is thereby selected to fill the vacancy.
5. If, for any reason (including the lack of any identified potential appointee), the vacancy is still unfilled 105 days following the date on which the vacancy first existed, then the procedures listed above shall be repeated at regular Board meetings held at approximately monthly intervals until either the vacancy is filled or there are fewer than 60 days before a duly-elected successor will take office in the vacant seat.

For purposes of this policy, a regular Board meeting is any Board meeting that is convened pursuant to lawful authority (e.g., a meeting scheduled by a specific vote of the Board, the regular monthly meeting(s) established by a Board decision or under a Board policy, etc.) other than a meeting that has been scheduled and convened upon the call or request of an individual board member.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 17.03 Wisconsin Statutes
 17.26, 19.01, 120.06(4), (12)
 2015 Wisconsin Act 63

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/s/John Sobota
Clerk