

**NOMINATING PETITION FOR SCHOOL BOARD
ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2026**

Completed nominating petitions shall be filed with the County Clerk on or before **4:00 p.m.** on **July 27, 2026**. TO:

Christopher J. Durkin, Essex County Clerk, 495 Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd, Justice Building Suite 130 Newark, NJ 07102

A. NOMINATING STATEMENT:

We, the undersigned, are qualified voters of the _____ School District of Essex County, New Jersey.

We hereby endorse the Candidate(s) as a candidate(s) for membership on the Board of Education representing

(Municipality) _____ for the (Full or Unexpired) _____ term of

(Number of Years) _____ years, and we hereby request that the name of said candidate(s) be printed on the Official Ballot to be used at the ensuing election for the Board of Education to be held on **November 3, 2026**.

CANDIDATE NAME(S)	ADDRESS	CITY	E-MAIL ADDRESS
1. _____			
2. _____			
3. _____			

B. SIGNATORIES:

At least 25 signatures, one of which may be the candidate(s) are required to nominate a candidate.)

We, the undersigned petitioners, hereby certify that the said candidate(s) is/are legally qualified under the laws of the State to be elected a **Member(s) of the** _____ **Board of Education.**

(Person Circulating Petition must complete Oath on Reverse Side)

Printed Name	Address	Signature
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____

The above candidate(s), having been endorsed for the office mentioned in this petition, does hereby request that there be printed opposite his/her/their name on the said School Board Ballot the following designation:

Printed Name	<u>Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>
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11.		
12.		
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30.		

The above candidate(s), having been endorsed for the office mentioned in this petition, does hereby request that there be printed opposite his/her/their name on the said School Board Ballot the following designation:

(Must Not Exceed Three Words)

****A separate affidavit page must be filled for each petition signature page****

C. AFFIDAVIT

_____, being duly sworn or affirmed according to the law on his/her

Print Name of Witness (person circulating petition)

oath deposes and says: That the petition is signed by each of the signers thereof in his/her own handwriting; that the said signers are, to deponent's best knowledge and belief, legally qualified to vote at the school district election at which the candidate(s) shall be voted for, and that the said petition is prepared and filed in absolute good faith for the sole purpose of endorsing the candidate(s) therein named and placing the candidate(s) name on the official ballot in order to secure his/her/their election as a member of the Board of Education. The circulator further affirms that he/she is eligible to vote in the State of New Jersey, and he/she meets the age, citizenship and in-residency requirements as required by New Jersey law.

SWORN OR AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED
BEFORE ME THIS _____ DAY OF

_____, 20_____

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS
(Person circulating petition)

NOTARY'S SIGNATURE

My Commission expires _____

D. NOTICE: All candidates are required by law to comply with the provisions of "The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act," N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq. For further information, please call the Election Law Enforcement Commission, (609) 292-8700.

E. CANDIDATE(S) CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE/OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am qualified to be elected a Member of the _____ Board of Education;
Municipality

I consent to stand as a candidate for election and, if elected, agree to accept and qualify into that office.

I further do solemnly swear (or affirm) and declare I am not disqualified as a voter pursuant to N.J.S.A 19:4-1 and I have not been convicted of a disqualifying crime pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1.

I further do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
(Print Name of Candidate) (Print Name of Candidate) (Print Name of Candidate)

SWORN OR AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED
BEFORE ME THIS _____ DAY OF

_____, 20_____

NOTARY'S SIGNATURE

My Commission expires _____

1. _____
(Signature of Candidate)

2. _____
(Signature of Candidate)

3. _____
(Signature of Candidate)

QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates filing a nominating petition for board membership must meet the following qualifications:

- He/she is a citizen of the United States of America.
- He/she must be at least 18 (eighteen) years of age to qualify for office.
- He/she must be able to read and write.
- He/she has been a resident of the municipality from which he/she is to be elected for at least one year preceding the date of the election.
- He/she is not disqualified as a voter pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1.
- He/she is not disqualified from membership for the conviction of crimes pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1*
- He/she is a registered voter in the district.

NO BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER SHALL BE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INVOLVED IN ANY CONTRACT WITH, OR CLAIM AGAINST THE BOARD.

- ** Within 30 days of election or appointment to the board, a member must undergo a **criminal history background investigation** through the New Jersey Department of Education.
- The School Ethics Act and nepotism legislation impact the ability of board members who have relationships with school district employees to act in areas such as personnel and collective negotiations. Please consult your board secretary for details.

Date: _____

**THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE NOMINATING
PETITION IN ORDER FOR THE CANDIDATES TO BE
GROUPED!**

The Honorable Christopher J. Durkin
Essex County Clerk
495 Dr. MLK, Jr. BLVD
Justice Building-Suite 130
Newark, New Jersey 07102

We, the undersigned candidates for nomination for the office of Members of Board of Education in the Municipality of _____ have filed joint petitions with the slogan _____ and we request that we be placed on the same line of the ballot with candidates using this slogan.

We also request that our names on the Annual School Board Election ballot be shown in the order below.

Respectfully submitted,

Print Name of Candidate

Signature of Candidate

Print Name of Candidate

Signature of Candidate

Print Name of Candidate

Signature of Candidate

ESSEX COUNTY
KEY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION
DATES 2026

***On or Before Monday, July 27th by 4pm** - Deadline to file petition with County Clerk' Office.

*** Deadline for Submission of of School Board Bracketing Request Letter to County Clerk: August 3rd**

August 6th: Deadline for Amendments to Defective Petitions

***Monday, August 10th** -Ballot draw for position - Call for location of draw.

***Friday, August 14th** - Deadline for withdrawal of School Board Candidates.

N.J.S.A.18A:12-15 (signed into law 12/27/13)

f. By a majority vote of the remaining members of the board after the vacancy occurs in all other cases.

Each member so appointed shall serve until the organizational meeting following the next annual election unless the member is appointed to fill a vacancy occurring within the 60 days immediately preceding such election if the annual election is held in April, or occurring after the third Monday in July if the election is held in November, to fill a term extending beyond such election, in which case the member shall serve until the organizational meeting following the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, and any vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled at the annual election or the second annual election next succeeding the occurrence of the vacancy, as the case may be.'

(cf: P.L.1996, c.153, s.1.)