

New Jersey School Boards Association  
**APRIL ELECTIONS: IMPORTANT DATES**  
*2020 School Board Candidacy & Election Dates*

**CANDIDACY**

DATE	ACTION
Mar. 2	<b>4 p.m. is the deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions with the district</b>
Mar. 5	Deadline for filing in Superior court to protect school election candidate's rights.
Mar. 6	Deadline for filing objections to Nomination Petitions for school election candidates with the board secretary.
Mar. 7	Last day for a candidate to withdraw from the election. A signed, written notice must be filed with the board secretary.
Mar. 9	Deadline for board determination of objection to Petition of Nomination for school election candidates.
Mar. 9	Last day to amend a defective petition. The candidate may amend the petition to remedy the defect at any time before the date, but generally may not add signatures. The candidate may add his or her own signature if necessary to provide verification of the signatures on the petition, but only if the petition already contains
Mar. 11	Date for drawing of ballot position for school election candidates by the county clerk.
April 21	<b>Annual School Election</b> NOTE: Board members must complete criminal history record check through the New Jersey Department of Education within 30 days of election or appointment. The 30-day period commences upon the certification of election results or upon confirmation of the appointment.
Apr 30	Last day for incumbent board members to file Personal-Relative and Financial Disclosure forms with the executive county superintendent and board secretary. For newly elected or newly appointed school board members, the deadline is 30 days after taking office.
May 16	Term begins for newly appointed board members in Type I districts (those with appointed boards) other than cities of the first class (those with a population of more than 150,000).

**CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK**

Board members must complete criminal history Record Check through the New Jersey Department of Education within 30 days of election or appointment. The 30-day period commences upon the certification of election results or upon confirmation of the appointment. For information, visit <https://www.nj.gov/education/crimhist/contact.htm>.

**CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES**

The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) is the regulatory agency regarding campaign contributions. ELEC conducts Treasurer Training seminars.

Information about the seminars and all manuals and reporting forms can be found on the ELEC website at [www.elec.state.nj.us](http://www.elec.state.nj.us). Questions about campaign contributions should be directed to ELEC at (609) 292-8700.

School board candidates who receive any contribution (including their own funds), regardless of the amount, must appoint a treasurer and open a campaign bank account for the purpose of receiving contributions and making expenditures. This action must take place no later than the date on which that candidate first receives any contribution or makes or incurs an expenditure in connection with an election.

No later than 10 Days after establishing a candidate committee, appointing a treasurer and opening a campaign bank account, a candidate must file a Certificate of Organization and Designation of Campaign Treasurer and Depository form with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission. This form lists the candidate, chairperson (if one is appointed), treasurer and bank or depository information.

### **CAMPAIGN REPORTING SCHEDULE**

#### **Who is required to file?**

**Individual candidate:** Those expecting to spend more than \$5,100, or who receive more than \$300 in contributions (monetary, in-kind, or loan) from any one source.

**Joint campaigns:** The reporting thresholds for candidates conducting a joint campaign are \$9,700 for two candidates and \$14,000 for three or more candidates.

April School Board - **April 21, 2020**

	<b>Inclusion Dates</b>	<b>Report Due Date</b>
29-day Pre-election Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* - 3/20/20	3/23/20
11-day Pre-election Reporting Date	3/21/20 - 4/7/20	4/13/20
20-day Post-election Reporting Date	4/8/20 - 5/8/20	5/11/20

**October 15, 2020** – Last day to file first quarterly report for a candidate planning to participate in a future election. If a candidate does not plan to participate in a future election, the candidate must certify the 20-day post-election report as the final election fund report.

**April 8 – April 21, 2020** – Any contribution in excess of \$1,600 from any one source received between these dates must be reported within 48 hours of receipt. A similar reporting obligation is applicable for certain expenditures of more than \$1,600 made in this timeframe.

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\*NOTES: When an election deadline falls on a weekend, or holiday it is generally moved to the following working day.

The Commissioner of Education has the authority to make certain changes to the school board member election and budget development calendar. NJSBA will update the Candidate Kit as necessary.