

Policy

## Board Membership/Elections

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Code: **BBB** Adopted **5/17/1988** Latest Revised: **07/20/2023** Latest Review: **08/17/2023**

The members of the board must be elected at a general election held in an even-numbered year on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November in the year of the expiration of their respective terms.

*The members of the board must be elected in nonpartisan elections. A member of the board representing an election district must be a resident of the election district from which he/she is elected.*

The regular term of office for each board member is four years.

The term of office of every elected board member of the district must commence on January first of the year following election and continue until their successors are elected and qualify, one week following the certification of his/her election.

At the first meeting following commencement of a board member's term of office, he/she will be administered the oath of office by the district superintendent, the state superintendent, a judge, a notary, or a clerk of court.

Within one year of taking office, board members will complete the state-mandated orientation program on the powers, duties, and responsibilities of a board member.

*Adopted 5/17/88; Revised: 1/24/2002, 7/17/2008, 3/15/2012, 7/20/2017, 10/19/2017, 2/11/2020, 10/20/2022. Replaced ABCC & revised 7/20/2023*

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Legal References:

- A. S. C. Constitution:
  - 1. Article VI, Section 4 – Officers to take and subscribe oath.
  - 2. Article VI, Section 5 – Form of oath.
- B. S. C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
  - 1. Section 59-19-45 – Orientation required for board members.
  - 2. Section 59-19-315 – Commencement of board member's term of office.
- C. S. C. Acts and Joint Resolutions:
  - 1. 1975 Act 24 – Abolishes the office of county superintendent of education and the county board of education; devolves duties upon respective district boards.
  - 2. 2015 Act 101 – Amends Act 84 of 2011, as amended, relating to time and method for election of board members; reapportions election districts.
  - 3. 2017 Act 103 – Amends Act 84 of 2011, as amended, to extend board members' terms to four years; stagger the terms of the members; required elections at the general election held in an even-numbered year; and provide process for filling vacancies.

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## **Organization of the Board**

Code: **BD**    Adopted **2/1973**    Latest Revised: **07/20/2023**    Latest Review: **07/20/2023**

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The officers of the board are chair, vice-chair, and secretary. The officers are elected and sworn in annually at the board's organizational meeting in January.

Each officer will serve for a one-year term. Officers can serve no more than two consecutive terms.

### **Election Process**

The superintendent will serve as the presiding officer for purposes of electing officers.

Officers will be elected by a majority vote of the board. Voting will be conducted by ~~voice vote~~ **a show of hands**. Once the chair is elected, he/she will assume the role of presiding officer.

### *Nominations*

The superintendent or presiding officer will make a call for nominations for the officer position to be elected. Any board member may nominate any eligible member for the office, including him/herself. Nominations need not be seconded.

If a candidate accepts the nomination, his/her name will be included in the vote(s) for the officer position until such time as he/she may withdraw his/her name from consideration. If a candidate declines the nomination, his/her name is not included in the vote(s) for the position.

***Effective 1/18/2024, no officer will hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms and must have a break of at least two terms before being voted back into his/her original office.***

### *Voting*

Once the nominees for the specified position are clearly established, a vote will be taken. All board members who are participating in the meeting, including all nominees for the specified position, may cast a vote. In the event that there is only one nominee for an office, the board may conduct a voice vote to elect the officer.

When more than two nominees are on the ballot and no candidate receives a majority of votes, a runoff will be held between the nominees receiving the two highest vote counts.

### **Vacancies**

Vacancies in the above-mentioned offices will be filled by the board at its discretion.

Adopted 2/73; Revised 11/20/86, 10/20/88, 12/19/01, 5/14/08, 3/15/12, 3/10/22, 07/20/2023

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Legal References:

A. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-19-70 - Election of officers.