

Interested in Running for the Board of Education?

Qualifications for School Board Candidate:

- Be a resident in the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District for at least one year prior to the day of election.
- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be able to read and write.
- A School Board member does not have to be a taxpayer. Employees of a school district may not be a member of the Board of Education. No more than one member of a family may be a member of the same Board of Education in any school district. Individuals removed from any office of any district within one year of the day of the election may not be elected to a Board of Education.

Nominating Petitions

The requirements for filing nominating petitions for a School Board vary depending upon the type of school district. Generally, candidates must submit a nominating petition to the School Board Clerk. The petition must be signed by at least 25 qualified district voters or two percent of the number of those who voted in the previous annual election, whichever number is greater.

The petition must include the following:

- Candidate's name and residence
- Vacancy in question
- Incumbent's name (if any)
- Residences of the persons who signed the petition
- Length of the term of office for which the candidate is being nominated

Blank petitions are often available from the Board Clerk. If a school district runs for seats "at large" such that each nominee is eligible for each vacancy, the nominating petition does not need to identify the specific incumbent's seat the nominee is seeking. This petition must be filed with the District Clerk at least 30 days (20 days in small city districts) before the election meeting, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Campaigning

Once the petition is filed, the next step is for the Board candidate to gather support. State law requires all candidates for election to a Board of Education to file a sworn statement with the Board Clerk disclosing their campaign expenses. Statements must be filed at three different times during the election period. If expenditures made by the candidate or by others on the candidate's behalf exceed \$500, a statement also should be filed with the Commissioner of Education. Expenditures of not more than \$25 may be made without the candidate's permission if the donor or donors file a sworn statement with the Board Clerk and the Commissioner stating that the candidate did not approve the expenditure. Details concerning these requirements may be obtained from your Board Clerk or from the Performance Improvement and Management Services (PIMS) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), New York State Education Department, Albany, NY 12234.

Election

By State law, School Board and budget elections, in all districts except the Big 5 (Buffalo, New York City, Rochester, Syracuse, and Yonkers), must be held on the third Tuesday in May.

Training

Once elected, Board members will be required by New York State law to fulfill mandatory training within their first year of service. This includes fiscal oversight training and governance skills training.

Questions

Contact the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District Board Clerk, Mrs. Kim Brown, at 585-289-3964 or email her at: kim.brown@redjacket.org