

**Eden Prairie School Board**

# **Candidate Information Session 2020**



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# Welcome

Thank you for your interest  
in becoming an  
Eden Prairie School Board Candidate



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# Eden Prairie School Board

Authority  
Responsibility  
Accountability



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# Eden Prairie School Board **Authority**

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The Eden Prairie School Board receives its authority to act from the State of Minnesota as listed in Minnesota State Statute 123B.09.

The Board only has authority when acting **as a whole**. Individual board members have no authority in and of themselves.



# Eden Prairie School Board **Responsibility:** To Govern

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## Governance responsibilities include:

- Set the vision for the District
- Hire the Superintendent to bring the vision about; evaluate at least yearly
- Connect with the community
- Set policies based on community values and monitor progress to reach those goals
- Approve the District budget
- Advocate for public education



# Eden Prairie School Board **Accountability**

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The Board is accountable to the State of Minnesota to oversee the fulfillment of State Mandates regarding education of PreK-12 students.

The Board is accountable to the voters of Eden Prairie School District for the education of the community's youth and use of taxpayer funds to do so.



# Eden Prairie School Board Structure



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# The School Board:

**The Board is comprised of:**

Seven Directors (elected or appointed) and

One ex-officio non-voting member, the Superintendent.





# Board Meetings:

## **Board Business Meetings and Workshops:** (2 to 4 hrs/meeting)

- Generally, the Board holds one Business Meeting and one Workshop each month (with some exceptions due to holidays or state statute)

## **Board Committee Meetings:** (1 to 2 hours per meeting)

- Each member serves on at least one, but usually two committees that meet as arranged

## **Outside organizations:**

- Directors may also be appointed to other District or professional organizations, meeting times as announced



# School Board Director Compensation

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- Directors currently receive \$400 per month as determined annually by the board.
- Board Directors are not employees of the District, and are therefore ineligible to receive employee benefits.
- The cost of many of the District and Community events attended by Board Directors are covered by the board budget.



# Eden Prairie School Board

## Candidate Filing and Election Facts



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# Candidate Eligibility Requirements

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At least 21 years old

Eligible voter

School district resident for at least 30 days prior to election

Not convicted of a felony

Not have a conflict of interest (see next slide)



# Conflict of Interest Statement

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## Eden Prairie School Board Policy

Governance Process Policy Title: [4.5 School Board Members' Code of Conduct](#)

4.5.2.3 School Board members will not use their School Board position to obtain employment in the district for themselves, family members, or close associates. *A School Board member who applies for employment will first resign from the School Board.*

2017 Minnesota Statutes - **123B.195 BOARD MEMBERS' RIGHT TO EMPLOYMENT.**

Notwithstanding section [471.88, subdivision 5](#), a school board member may be newly employed or may continue to be employed by a school district as an employee only if there is a reasonable expectation at the beginning of the fiscal year or at the time the contract is entered into or extended that the amount to be earned by that officer under that contract or employment relationship will not exceed \$8,000 in that fiscal year. Notwithstanding section [122A.40](#) or [122A.41](#) or other law, *if the officer does not receive majority approval to be initially employed or to continue in employment at a meeting at which all board members are present, that employment is immediately terminated and that officer has no further rights to employment while serving as a school board member in the district.*



# 2020 School Board Election Facts

School Board Directors are elected from among School Board Candidates during the November General Election.

This election cycle, there are **3 seats up for election**.

Each of the 3 seats is for a **4 year term**.



**2020 Election date: Tuesday, November 3rd**

# Strong Candidate Characteristics

An interested resident who meets eligibility criteria and who is:

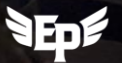
- **Motivated** by the best interests of **EACH** student
- **Passionate** about public education
- Able to make difficult **decisions**
- A strong **communicator** who is willing to listen
- A believer in the **democratic** process
- **Willing** and able to spend time and energy on Board business
- **Committed** to governance training
- **Collaborative** and willing to support the decision of the board publicly and privately



# Next Steps:

## State Mandated

## Suggested



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# State Mandated action

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## **File an “Affidavit of Candidacy” with the school district clerk**

Filing period: July 28, 2019 - August 11, 2020 at 5 pm.

Filing fee \$2.00.

You will receive a packet of information regarding campaign regulations and other documents to help you connect with Eden Prairie Voters.



# Suggested action: Get informed

**Access the District Website** <http://www.edenpr.org>

Click on “Community,”

Click on “School Board”

Click on dropdowns for information

**Attend School Board meetings**

Dates and times are posted on the website

**Access the Minnesota School Board Association website**

<http://www.mnmsba.org/>



# Things to consider:

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## You may find it helpful to:

Draft a statement of **why** you want to be a School Board Director.

Obtain a high quality headshot for publication.

Determine a budget, document all expenses.

Determine a fundraising strategy, document all income.

Gather a support team: Campaign manager, Treasurer,

Designer (website, social media, print).

Order campaign signs and literature, follow statute for posting and distribution.



**Best of luck to you in  
the upcoming  
election!**



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