



# New Jersey School Boards Association

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Important 2011 School Board Candidacy & Election Dates

#### CANDIDACY

##### March 8, 2011

4 p.m. is the deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions

##### March 14, 2011

Last day for a candidate to withdraw from the election. A signed, written notice must be filed with the board secretary.

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 ten valid signatures.

##### April 27, 2011

Annual School Election

##### April 30, 2011

Last day 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 2 - 14, 2011

Newly elected board members are sworn in at annual board organizational meetings.

NOTE: Board of County Canvassers does not meet until May 2. Conducting a reorganization meeting before the canvassers certify the election results is not recommended.

##### May 16, 2011

Term begins for newly appointed board members in Type I districts (those with appointed boards) other than cities of the first class.

NOTE: This information is accurate as of Jan. 6, 2011.

Proposed state legislation could change the school board member election, budget development and governance calendar. NJSBA will provide members with updated information on its website, [www.njsba.org](http://www.njsba.org), if necessary.

#### CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES

*The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission 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 any expenditure in connection with an election.
- No later than 10 days after 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 \$4,000, or who receive more than \$300 in contributions from any one source or any cash contributions.

**Joint campaigns:** The reporting thresholds for candidates conducting a joint campaign are \$7,600 for two candidates and \$11,000 for three or more candidates.

**March 29, 2011** – Last day to file the 29-Day Pre-Election Report

**April 18, 2011\*** – Last day to file the 11-Day Pre-Election Report

**May 17, 2011** – Last day to file the 20-Day Post Election Report

**October 17, 2011\*** – 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 14 – April 27, 2011** – Any contribution in excess of \$1,200 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 \$1,200 made in this timeframe.

\* When an election deadline falls on a weekend, it is automatically moved to the following Monday.