



DIRECTIVE 2022-42

July 22, 2022

To: All County Boards of Elections
Board Members, Directors, and Deputy Directors

Re: Designation of Districts for State Board of Education

SUMMARY

Ohio law requires the districts for the eleven elected members of the State Board of Education to be composed of three contiguous state senate districts and as such, every ten years these districts must be updated based upon “the most recent apportionment” of the General Assembly.¹ The law provides the General Assembly the first opportunity to establish the districts after that apportionment. Absent legislative action, the Governor has the authority to establish the new districts.² As the Ohio General Assembly did not establish new districts within the statute’s allocated period, the Governor issued a Letter of Designation on January 31, 2022, designating the district boundaries. Since the Governor’s Designation on January 31, 2022, neither the General Assembly nor the Governor have acted to create new State Board of Education districts based on legislative redistricting plans adopted by the Ohio Redistricting Commission after January 31. Therefore, the districts designated by the Governor on January 31, 2022 must serve as the new State Board of Education districts. The Secretary of State does not have the statutory authority to designate new State Board of Education districts.

This Directive provides instructions for implementing the State Board of Education district boundaries designated by the Governor and certifying candidate petitions for that office.

INSTRUCTIONS

I. DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Governor DeWine designated districts for the State Board of Education districts based on the Senate districts map adopted by the Ohio Redistricting Commission on January 22, 2022. The district legal descriptions, equivalency files (also known as block assignment files), and most populous county/filing location lists accompany this Directive. Boards of elections must work with their vendor(s) to reprogram their voter registration systems and central tabulating system to reflect the State Board of Education districts designated by the Governor on January 31, 2022. Boards must complete reprogramming as soon as possible. Petitions for candidates for the State Board of Education may not be reviewed for certification until the county’s voter registration system is

¹ [R.C. 3301.01\(B\)](#).

² [R.C. 3301.01](#) and [3301.02](#).

reprogrammed with the State Board of Education Districts. Note that this Directive applies only to the State Board of Education; no other office or district boundary should change.³

II. CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION FOR STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

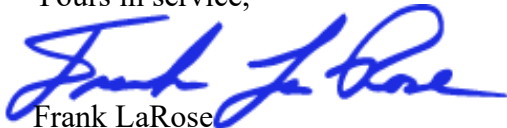
Candidates seeking to appear on the ballot for the office of Member of State Board of Education must file nominating petitions with their district's most populous county no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **August 10, 2022**.⁴ Write-in candidates for Member of State Board of Education must file their declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, **August 29, 2022**.⁵ This is not a change from the original 2022 election calendar.

Each nominating petition for Member of State Board of Education must be signed by at least 100 qualified electors residing in the district designated on the petition, and each candidate must be a qualified elector residing in the district they seek to represent.⁶

Members of the State Board of Education are nonpartisan. Boards of elections must certify the validity and sufficiency of candidates' petitions in nonpartisan races no later than Monday, **August 22, 2022**.⁷ Protests against candidates for Member of State Board of Education must be filed with the most populous county board of elections in the district by Friday, **August 26, 2022**. If a protest is filed, the election officials with whom it is filed must promptly fix the time and place for a hearing.⁸

Each board of elections director must share this Directive with its legal counsel, the county prosecuting attorney, and its voter registration system and voting equipment vendors as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact the Secretary of State's elections counsel at (614) 728-8789.

Yours in service,



Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

³ Boards may at times change precinct boundaries for the convenience of voters and the proper conduct of elections. See [R.C. 3501.18](#) and [Chapter 6 of the Election Official Manual](#) for more details.

⁴ [R.C. 3513.259](#).

⁵ [R.C. 3513.041](#).

⁶ [R.C. 3513.259](#).

⁷ [R.C. 3513.263](#).

⁸ [R.C. 3513.263](#).