




Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Maryland Certified Teachers
Cheryl Bost, President, Maryland State Teachers Association
Diamonté Brown, President, Baltimore Teacher Union

FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

DATE: August 31, 2019

SUBJECT: Teacher Member Vacancy on the State Board of Education

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide notice of the teacher member vacancy on the State Board of Education (SBOE) to all certified teachers actively teaching in the State and all teachers' organizations representing teachers in the State for the purposes of collective bargaining. On May 24, 2019, Governor Hogan allowed Senate Bill 529/House Bill 87 State Board of Education – Membership – Teacher Parent Members to become a law without his signature. These bills have been codified in Education Article §2-202. This law increases the membership of the SBOE from 12 to 14 members by adding one certified teacher who is actively teaching and one parent of a student enrolled in a public school. Both the parent and teacher member terms are to begin January 2020.

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) will be conducting a statewide election in accordance with the emergency regulations adopted by the SBOE on August 27, 2019. The individual with the most votes will win the election and their name will be forwarded to the Governor for appointment to the SBOE. Eligibility requirements and the election schedule are summarized below.

Eligibility Requirements

Code of Maryland Regulation (COMAR) 13A.07.13.04B requires the following for an individual who wishes to serve as a teacher member on the SBOE:

- Be an active resident of Maryland;
- Hold a Maryland Educator Certificate in a teaching area;
- Be actively teaching in a Maryland public or non-public school;
- Have a minimum of five years of teaching experience;
- May not have had a Maryland Educator Certificate suspended or revoked by the MSDE; or have been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere for any criminal violation other than a minor traffic offense;
- Be current on all federal, state, or local debt without any delinquencies for income, property, or other taxes;
- Provide all of the information required by the nomination form; and
- Complete an ethics disclosure form. **Election Schedule**

August 31, 2019: Nomination Forms Available

Nomination form is attached to this memorandum and may be obtained on the MSDE website.

October 1, 2019: Date by which Candidates and Voters must hold Certification to Participate

Candidates: If your Maryland certificate expired on June 30, 2019, and has not been renewed and you wish to nominate yourself as a candidate, you are required to work with your Local School System (LSS) (if employed in a LSS) or MSDE (if employed in a nonpublic school) to renew your certificate prior to the submission of your nomination.

Voters: Due to the compressed timeline as required by the statute, this expedited election presents a unique situation as it falls during the renewal period allowed in current certification regulation. All complete applications and renewals that were submitted by July 31, 2019, will be processed by October 1, 2019, allowing individuals to vote in the election.

October 6, 2019 - October 9, 2019: Nomination Period

Completed nomination forms must be submitted to sboe.teacherelection.MSDE@maryland.gov during this period. **Nomination forms will not be accepted before 12:00 a.m. on October 6, 2019, or after 11:59 p.m. on October 9, 2019.** Information pertaining to the nomination of candidates may be found in the attached regulations. The MSDE will not consider teachers as candidates if they fail to submit all of the information required by the nomination form.

November 1, 2019: Certification of Qualified Candidates

The MSDE will complete the review of nominees to determine eligibility of candidates.

November 6, 2019: Announcement of Candidates

The list of eligible candidates will be posted to the MSDE website by 5:00 p.m. on November 6, 2019.

November 10, 2019 – November 17, 2019: Election Period

All teachers, as defined in COMAR 13A.12.02, with an active certificate on October 1, 2019, will be eligible to cast one vote in the election. Additional information regarding the online election process will be available closer to the election. Please continue to monitor the MSDE website for more information.

December 23, 2019: Announcement of Election Results

Results will be announced on the MSDE website and will include the total number of votes received for each candidate.

Please monitor the MSDE website for updated information pertaining to the upcoming election. Information pertaining to the teacher election will be available on the home page of the MSDE website at marylandpublicschools.org.

Enclosures: COMAR 13A.07.13 – State Board of Education Teacher Member Election
Nomination Form
SBOE Member Responsibilities