

COUNTY OF MUSKEGON

KAREN D. BUIE, COUNTY CLERK

Election/Campaign Finance
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2026 FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS

WHERE TO FILE

Local School District Board Members file and, if applicable, withdraw their candidacy with the following offices:

File with Muskegon County Clerk

Fruitport Community Schools
Holton Public Schools
Mona Shores Public Schools
Montague Area Public Schools
Muskegon Public Schools
Oakridge Public Schools
Orchard View Public Schools
Ravenna Public Schools
Reeths-Puffer Schools
Whitehall Public Schools

File with City Clerk

Muskegon Heights Public School Academy
North Muskegon Public Schools

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY REQUIRED OF ALL CANDIDATES

All candidates must submit an Affidavit of Identity when filing for office. Under Public Act 394 of 1984, a candidate who fails to file an Affidavit of Identity as required cannot be placed on the ballot. PA 217 of 1999 requires any candidate filing an Affidavit of Identity to state on the form that at the date the affidavit was executed, "all statements, reports, late filing fees, and fines required of the candidate or any candidate committee organized to support the candidate's election under the Michigan Campaign Finance Act have been filed or paid." Therefore, a candidate may not have any outstanding notices of Failure to File or late fees with any filing official in the State.

Nominating Petitions or Filing Fee:

- See the attached table for the minimum/maximum signatures required for your school district according to the 2020 Federal census of qualified and registered electors of the school district OR a \$100.00 nonrefundable filing fee. Filing fee must be paid via certified check, money order or credit card – personal checks will NOT be accepted.
- Candidates **must** use School District Nominating Petitions if filing nominating petition signatures in lieu of the \$100.00 nonrefundable filing fee.

WHEN TO FILE

Candidates must file no later than **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21, 2026.**

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

A candidate who seeks a school board position in a school district with a pupil enrollment count of 2,401 or more is subject to the filing requirements of the Act.

A candidate who seeks a school board position in a school district with a pupil enrollment count of 2,400 or less is not subject to the filing requirements of the Act as long as he or she does not spend or receive more than \$1,000.00 for the election.

Information is available in our office Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CANDIDATE WITHDRAWAL

Candidates must withdraw, in writing, with their filing official by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 24, 2026.

QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a citizen of the United States and a qualified and registered elector of the school district the candidate seeks to represent by the filing deadline.

FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

A candidate who wishes to seek election to the office of Local School District Board Member with write-in votes must file a Declaration of Intent with the appropriate filing official no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 23, 2026.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Muskegon County Elections
Muskegon County Clerk
1903 Marquette Avenue, Suite A104
Muskegon, MI 49442
elections@co.muskegon.mi.us
(231) 724-6425

Petition Signature Requirements by District - Muskegon County

District	District Population	Student Population	# of signatures required	Statement of organization required - file with County Clerk	Filing official	Elections Held	Term
Fruitport	13671	2635	40 min 100 max	yes	County Clerk	Even Year November	4-year
Holton	5744	833	6 min 20 max	no	County Clerk	Even Year November	4-year
Mona Shores	20214	3914	40 min 100 max	yes	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Montague	4738	1407	6 min 20 max	no	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Muskegon	30657	3308	100 min 200 max	yes	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Muskegon Heights	8757	660	6 min 20 max	no	City Clerk	Even Year November	4-year
North Muskegon	3375	1034	6 min 20 max	no	City Clerk	Even Year November	4-year
Oakridge	9415	2026	6 min 20 max	no	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Orchard View	11125	2069	40 min 100 max	no	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Ravenna	4822	995	6 min 20 max	no	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Reeths Puffer	18780	3545	40 min 100 max	yes	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Whitehall	10809	1980	40 min 100 max	no	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
MAISD	over 10,000		40 min 100 max	no	County Clerk	Odd Year June	6-year
Muskegon Community	under 1.5 million		40 min 100 max	yes	County Clerk	Even Year November	6-year
Petition forms for School Board Office are available at the County Clerk's Office.							
<u>A \$100 non-refundable filing fee may be paid in lieu of petition signatures.</u>							
District Population is based on most recent federal census.							
Student Population from MAISD - MISchool Data							
For updated information regarding district population after the 2020 census contact MAISD							
Updated 12/15/2026							