

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Joseph Ripa
County Clerk

Christopher T. Morris
Deputy County Clerk

John W. Schmidt
Deputy County Clerk



Recording Division
Courthouse • Room 102 • 520 Market St
Camden NJ 08102-1375
856.225.5300 • 856.225.7100 (fax)
countyclerk@camdencounty.com

Election Division
Elections & Archive Center • 100 University Ct
PO Box 218 • Blackwood NJ 08012-0218
856.225.7219 • 856.374.6398 (fax)
electdiv@camdencounty.com

INSTRUCTIONS FOR NOMINATING PETITION FOR ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS

This information sheet is not meant to encompass all of the statutory and constitutional requirements for filing petitions but is to be used only as a guide. If you have any additional questions, you should seek legal counsel.

1. Completed nominating petitions shall be filed with the Camden County Clerk's Office not later than 4:00 pm on the last Monday of July. **Petitions are accepted:**

In Person, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm:
The Office of the Camden County Clerk
Camden County Elections and Archive Center
100 University Court, Blackwood 08012

By Mail*:
The Office of the Camden County Clerk
PO Box 218
Blackwood NJ 08012-0218

* It is highly recommended that petitions are filed in person; however, if you choose to mail the petition, it must be **received** prior to the deadline - postmarks are not acceptable.

2. At least ten (10) signatures shall be required to any petition.
3. The candidate's name, address and office he/she is seeking must be on the petition before circulation. **DO NOT CIRCULATE BLANK PETITIONS.**
4. More than one candidate can appear on the same petition. Full Term and Unexpired Terms are acceptable on the same petition. However, if one office is successfully challenged, the petition becomes invalid for all of the candidates.
5. The circulator of the petition **MUST WITNESS ALL SIGNATURES. DO NOT PASS PETITION TO A SECOND CIRCULATOR - USE A NEW PETITION.**
6. The circulator of the petition must execute the affidavit in Section C. **AFFIDAVIT MUST BE NOTARIZED.**
7. Each candidate **MUST FILE AN OATH OF ALLEGIANCE WITH THEIR PETITIONS. OATH MUST BE NOTARIZED.**
8. The Camden County Clerk's Office cannot notarize documents that are filed in our office.
9. Any registered voter at the time of signing can sign the petition.
10. Each registered voter can only sign one time for the same candidate and cannot sign more petitions than candidates to be nominated.
11. A candidate can sign his/her own petition and be the circulator.
12. Pursuant to P.L. 2018, ch. 66, all candidates for any public elective office must include a function e-mail address on their petition of nomination.

NOMINATING PETITION FOR ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS

To: Joseph Ripa, Camden County Clerk

A: NOMINATING STATEMENT:

We, the undersigned, are qualified voters of the below School District in Camden County, New Jersey or, in the case of a regional school district, qualified voters of the constituent district which the candidate shall represent on the below Board of Education of the Regional District in Camden County, New Jersey. We hereby endorse the following as candidate(s) for membership on the below named Board of Education and we hereby request that the name(s) of said candidate(s) be printed on the Official Ballot to be used at the ensuing election for the Board of Education to be held November _____, 20_____.
(Date of General Election)

School District: _____ **Municipality (if Regional District):** _____

Candidate Name	Residence Address	PO Address	Term (Full or Unexpired)	# of Years

DESIGNATION/SLOGAN: _____

No more than three words that convey the principles which the candidates represent, but no designation may contain the name, or a derivative or any part thereof, used as a noun or an adjective, of any political party that is entitled to participate in a Primary Election. Use of designation is optional.

B. SIGNATORIES:

We, the undersigned petitioners, hereby certify that the above candidate(s) is/are legally qualified under the laws of the State to be elected a Member of the above Board of Education.

At least ten (10) signatures, which may include that of the candidate(s), are required to nominate a candidate.

	Printed Name	Address	Signature
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Nominating Petition of: _____
(List all candidate names)

NOMINATING PETITION FOR ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS (CONTINUED)

C. AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR:

_____, circulator of this nominating petition, being duly sworn or affirmed according to the
(Name of Circulator)

law on oath, deposes and says: The present petition is signed by each of the signers thereof in his/her own handwriting; the signers are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, legally qualified to vote at the school district election for which the candidates are nominated; and that the petition is prepared and filed in absolute good faith for the sole purpose of endorsing each candidate and placing the candidate(s)'s name on the official ballot in order to seek election as a member of the Board of Education. The circulator further affirms that he/she is eligible to vote in the State of New Jersey, and meets the age, citizenship and residency requirements as required by New Jersey law.

(Circulator's Signature)

(Typed or printed name of Circulator)

SWORN OR AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS

_____ DAY OF _____, 20_____

*Signature of Notary Public, NJ Attorney or other person
authorized under New Jersey law to administer oath*

(Affix notary stamp here)

D. NOTICE

All candidates are required by law to comply with the provisions of "The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act," N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq. For further information, please call the Election Law Enforcement Commission, (609) 292-8700.

E. CANDIDATE'S ACCEPTANCE AND OATH OF OFFICE

Each candidate is required to complete a separate Acceptance and Oath of Office which can be found on the following pages.

Nominating Petition of: _____
(List all candidate names)

NOMINATING PETITION FOR ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTIONS (CONTINUED)

CANDIDATE'S ACCEPTANCE/OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, _____, a candidate for membership of the board of education named in the foregoing
(Candidate's Name)
petition, do hereby certify that I am qualified to be a member of the _____ Board of
(Name of School District)

Education; that I consent to stand as a candidate for election and, if elected, agree to accept and qualify into that office. I further affirm and declare I am not disqualified as a voter pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:4-1*, nor have I been convicted of a disqualifying crime pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18a:12-1*.

I further do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.

(Candidate's Signature)

(Typed or printed name of Candidate)

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*Signature of Notary Public, NJ Attorney or other person
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CANDIDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

Telephone: _____ Email Address _____

QUALIFICATIONS - Candidates filing a nominating petition for board membership must meet the following qualifications:

- a citizen of the United States of America
- at least 18 (eighteen) years of age to qualify for office
- able to read and write
- a resident of the municipality from which he/she is to be elected for at least one year preceding the date of the election
- not disqualified as a voter pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:4-1*
- a registered voter in the district
- not convicted of a disqualifying crime pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1*

No board of education member shall be directly or indirectly involved in any contract with, or claim against, the board.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Within 30 days of election or appointment to the board, a member must undergo a **criminal history background investigation** through the New Jersey Department of Education.
- The School Ethics Act and nepotism legislation impact the ability of board members who have relatives working in the school district to act in areas such as personnel and collective negotiations. Please consult your board secretary for details.
- Two or more candidates for any given term of office may notify in writing the County Clerk, at least seven days before the drawing date that they wish to have their names with their chosen designation, if any, bracketed together, so that their names and designation, if any, are selected as a group at the drawing and their names and designation are printed together on the ballot. The candidates shall determine among themselves the order in which their names are to appear within the bracket prior to so notifying.

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I further do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.

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