

**A. QUALIFICATIONS**

Any person possessing the qualifications for election to public office as provided in Article VI, Section 6 of the Constitution of North Carolina and who is a qualified voter and resident of the election district from which he or she seeks to be elected is eligible to serve as a member of the board of education.

Any person elected or appointed to the board and also employed by the board must resign his or her employment before taking office as a member of the board.

**B. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF OFFICE**

The board of education will consist of nine members. All terms will be for four years with the terms staggered so that as nearly equal to one-half as possible will expire every two years. All elections are nonpartisan and are to be held at the time of the November general election in even-numbered years.

The names of the candidates shall be printed on the ballot without reference to any party affiliation. The nonpartisan plurality election method shall be used with the results determined as provided in G.S. 163-292.

One member of the board shall be a bona fide resident of the attendance area of Old Fort Elementary School; one shall be a bona fide resident of the attendance area of Pleasant Gardens Elementary School; one shall be a bona fide resident of the attendance area of North Cove Elementary School; one shall be a bona fide resident of the attendance area of Nebo Elementary School; and one shall be a bona fide resident of the attendance area of Glenwood Elementary School. The other four members shall be bona fide residents of the attendance areas of Marion Elementary School, West Marion Elementary School and Eastfield Elementary School.

Voting for each member of the board shall be countywide and shall not be confined to the attendance area of which the candidate is a resident.

**C. OATH OF OFFICE**

Before taking office, newly elected board members will take and sign the following oath or affirmation at a time set by the Clerk of Court prior to the organizational meeting held on the first Monday in December following their election:

"I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the State of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as a member of the McDowell County

Board of Education, so help me God."

If a board member enters on the duties of his or her office before taking, subscribing and filing the oath of office, he or she will be ejected from office.

Legal References: N.C. Const. art. VI, §§ 6 and 7; G.S. 14-229; 115C-35, -37; 1987 N.C. Sess. Laws 322; 1995 N.C. Sess. Laws 107

Cross References:

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