State Board of Education



## What is the State Board of Education?

of Ohio

The <u>State Board of Education</u> is a group of 19 <u>members</u>. These include 11 members who are elected to represent the state's 11 educational districts across the state and eight members who are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate to represent the state as a whole. The Superintendent of Public Instruction serves as secretary of the State Board of Education, and the chairs of the education committees of the Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate serve as non-voting ex officio members.

## How long is an elected or appointed member's term? Are there term limits?

State Board of Education members are appointed or elected to a four-year term. Yes, there are term limits, as members can only be elected or appointed for two consecutive terms. If a member is appointed for their first four-year term, but not reappointed for another term, they can campaign to be elected for a second four-year term.

# Are State Board of Education members political actors?

No, they are not partisan officials. Candidates do not have their party affiliation listed on the ballot.

## What are the responsibilities of the State Board of Education?

- Education Administration: The Board is responsible for the adoption of requirements for educator licensure, educator discipline, and school district territory transfer decisions, among other things.
- **Committee Membership:** Members of the State Board of Education are able to take part in various <u>Board committees</u> that support a wide variety of initiatives across the state. Committees provide guidance and policies on pertinent topics ranging from student curriculum, dropout prevention, and specific student population resources to educator licensure and pending legislation. The State Board can also create committees to tackle current issues, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and remote learning.
- **Legislation Review:** The State Board of Education considers pending legislation that that would impact education and Ohio's public school system. The Ad Hoc Legislative Committee within the Board has the option to develop resolutions in support or opposition for this type of legislation for the Board's consideration.
- **Community Support:** The State Board of Education holds the responsibility of receiving feedback from the public during meetings. Community members can attend meetings or contact their district Board representative to express ideas, concerns, and thoughts regarding the state's public education system.
- Much of the Board's policymaking authority was transferred to the Department of Education and Workforce, per changes made in House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly.

#### When does the State School Board meet?

The State Board of Education meets on the second Monday and Tuesday of each month, generally. Ohio Sunshine Law requires that these meetings be open to the public, except executive session and quasi-judicial discussion. Community members can watch these meetings live or archived sessions on The Ohio Channel.

#### What are the requirements for running for State Board of Education?

- Candidates must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old, and be a resident and registered voter in the state of Ohio. Appointed members must live in the education district they represent.
- To obtain a spot on the ballot, State Board of Education candidates must file a <u>petition</u> signed by at least 100 qualified voters.

