

7 August 2020

December 2020 school trustee mid-term elections Board Chair and Principals Memo 1

Kia ora,

Our records show that your school is due to hold mid-term elections in December 2020. If this is not the case, please contact us so that we can update our records.

NZSTA is committed to supporting boards and schools to run successful elections.

Throughout the election period, we will provide regular updates and resources to ensure schools have all the information they need to promote participation in the election and attract candidates who reflect the diversity within their community.

Updated regulations

An amendment has recently been passed to the Education (School Trustee Elections) Regulations. These new regulations come into effect from 1 September 2020.

Please note: the proposed changes will **NOT** apply to the Student trustee elections in September 2020 or any by-election that has commenced prior to 1 September 2020.

2020 mid-term elections will follow the new regulations.

The key changes are that the election's timeline has been extended and the requirements around using the postal system have been removed. You can read the full amendment [here](#).

We are in the process of creating an amendment to the Returning Officers' Handbook and updating the [trustee election website](#). We will let you know as soon as these updates have been completed.

Recommended election date

Friday 4 December 2020 is the recommended election date. If your school chooses to use this date, the following table gives you all the key dates you need to meet. You can also create your own timetable using our [election planner tool](#)):

Event	Date
Select Returning Officer by	Friday 2 October 2020
Close Main Roll	Noon Friday 9 October 2020
Call for Nominations by	Sunday 11 October 2020
Close Supplementary Roll	Noon Friday 30 October 2020
Nominations Close	Noon Sunday 1 November 2020
Voting Papers issued by	Friday 6 November 2020
Election Day (voting closes)	4pm Friday 4 December 2020
Accept postal votes	Wednesday 9 December 2020
Count Votes	Thursday 10 December 2020
Board Takes Office	Friday 11 December 2020

Next steps for boards

Boards need to start planning for the elections now.

Put it on the agenda for your next Board meeting and look to confirm your election date, discuss appointing a Returning Officer and develop a plan for promoting the elections in your community.

NZSTA can help with all of these steps on our dedicated [elections website](#).

Number of parent representative positions

Boards need to provide their returning officer with correct information about the number of parent representative positions to be filled in their mid-term elections.

If you are unsure how many positions need to be filled at the 2020 mid-term elections refer to the [trustee election website](#) or [contact](#) our elections team.

Contact the NZSTA Elections Team

Our team is here to support your board during the trustee elections:

- Trustee elections website www.trustee-election.co.nz
- NZSTA Election Advice Line 0800 ELECTION (0800 353 284)
- Email electionsadvic@nzsta.org.nz

Kind Regards,

NZSTA Elections Team