



Let's Talk About School Boards

WHY THESE POSITIONS ARE IMPORTANT

Public schools are important parts of our communities! While many state and federal laws affect how our schools are run, our local school boards make decisions that **affect our kids and our communities every day.**

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM?

School boards are elected from the local community to make sure that their school district reflects the priorities and values of their community. They handle the **big picture** – like creating policies, managing the budget, and hiring a Superintendent.

The Administrative team in the district manages the entire district and determines the how, or the **day-to-day operations**. The administration implements the board policies - creating practices and procedures, creating the budget priorities and making curriculum and textbook recommendations. And finally, they hire the support staff and teachers in the buildings.



OHIO SCHOOL BOARD FACTS

- To be eligible to run for your local school board, you must be: at least 18 years old, a US citizen, a resident of the district, and a registered voter in your district.
- School board members serve four year terms.
- School board members are paid per meeting that they attend. They can receive up to \$125 per meeting.
- There are more than 3,000 school board members across the state.



Ready to do more? Turn over for additional resources.



Ways to Get Involved In Your School District

WHAT ABOUT RUNNING FOR A SCHOOL BOARD SEAT?

You're more qualified than you might think! Active parents and engaged community members make great board members – no political experience required. Or if it's not an option for you, do you have friends or family members who might be interested?

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

You can support candidates who share your values. After the August filing deadline, reach out to candidates you support and ask how you can help with their campaigns. Successful teams are made up of many dedicated volunteers. Whether you're great at social media, planning events, or talking to your neighbors, there's a way for everyone to use their talents to support great candidates.

You can attend the monthly School Board meetings. They are open to the public, by law, and many of them are recorded for later viewing. You can **speak** at the School Board meeting during the public comment portion about issues that are important to you. Typically, you can make a 3-minute statement and provide written materials to the board, but they will not participate in a back and forth conversation at the board meeting.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- *Honesty for Ohio Education* provides updates on laws that affect public schools in Ohio. Follow them on social media or sign up for their newsletter on their website.
- The *School Board School* website has lots of helpful information for candidates and their campaign teams.
- Get your contacts added to Red Wine & Blue's *Rally* tool now so that you can share information about school board races this fall.



Let's get ready to make a difference in our local races in November!