

LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

22 August 2018

TO: Board Chair, Secretary-Treasurer and Superintendent, All Divisions and Districts

FROM: Heather Demetriooff, Director, Education and Communication Services

RE: School Board Election Resources

The purpose of this communication is three-fold: to provide a comprehensive overview of the resources available on our election page, to provide you with some new resources (attached), and to advise you of our upcoming initiatives regarding school trustee elections.

Our dedicated election page (<http://www.mbschoolboards.ca/elections2018.php>) serves as a single, convenient portal for both potential school trustee candidates and voters looking to learn more about the work of school boards. Information on this site includes:

- [School Boards and Trusteeship in Manitoba](#), our standard print document on the role of school trustees and the work of school boards, updated for 2018. We recommend that this link or hard copy of the document be provided to all candidates. It may be printed as required; if you prefer to receive hard copy, please contact the Manitoba School Boards Association office to request the needed number of copies.
- an [online version](#) of the candidate information sessions that will be presented in Winnipeg and Brandon on September 10 and 11.
- [10 Characteristics of Effective Board Members](#) and [Questions for School Board Candidates](#), two one-page documents intended to help candidates and voters to make informed choices during the election campaign.
- a link to a slide show featuring current Manitoba school trustees with their answers to the question "[Why Do You Serve?](#)"
- links to relevant provincial legislation ([The Public Schools Act](#) and [The Municipal Councils and School Boards Elections Act](#)).
- links to the [City of Winnipeg election page](#) and relevant publications.

School divisions and districts may find it helpful to include a link to the Manitoba School Boards Association election page on their own website, or to specific resources identified above. In addition, we would recommend that your website include information about the filing of nomination papers, with a contact for further questions, and a section where specific information about or provided by declared candidates can be posted.

We have also attached three documents for your use. These are:

- a short article, in the form of a news release, highlighting our upcoming (September 10 and 11) sessions for school trustee candidates. This is being distributed to our media contact list; you are welcome to post it to your own website, or forward it to your local media contacts.

- A poster advertising these same sessions.
- An advertisement for the actual elections, suitable for posting on your website or for inclusion in local online or print publications. This ad may be used as is, or can be easily modified to include your divisional website.

Finally, we will be collecting the names and contact information for all school trustee candidates, following the close of nominations on September 18. That information will be posted to our election page. We will be distributing a separate memo and form on this initiative in early September, and hope that we can once again count on your cooperation to ensure that our listing is complete.

Following the elections, we will again be holding a training session for new trustees, on November 29 and 30 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg. This session will be held in conjunction with regional meetings and workshops which will be of interest to experienced trustees and/or school board chairs. Program and registration packages will be sent to boards in the fall. School boards may wish to keep these dates in mind as they begin planning their own new trustee orientations, and may also wish to inform all candidates about both local and provincial post-election training opportunities.

I hope you find this information helpful in your local election awareness efforts. Please share it with your board colleagues and administration. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our offices.

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Attachments



Media Release

August 22, 2018

For Immediate Release

Information session for potential candidates in the October 24, 2018 school trustee elections

If you've ever thought about becoming a school trustee, or just wanted to find out more about what school boards do, now's your opportunity, thanks to free public information sessions being sponsored by the Manitoba School Boards Association.

According to Ken Cameron, president of the association, the purpose of these sessions is two-fold. "People often have technical questions about running in a school board election, questions about qualifications, nomination procedures, and what they can and can't do when it comes to campaigning," noted Mr. Cameron. "These sessions will answer questions that people have now, and will provide them with contact information for answers to any new questions that arise over the course of the nomination and election period."

Secondly, these sessions will provide an overview of the role of school trustees and school boards. "The role that school boards play in our public school system is an important one. School boards ensure that decisions concerning public schools remain locally informed and community-owned. Multiple studies have shown that well-informed and well-functioning school boards, doing the right things for the right reasons, have a very positive impact on student success" concluded Mr. Cameron. "Through these information sessions, we want to make sure that those who run for school board office have a clear understanding of what the job entails."

In-person information sessions are scheduled for Winnipeg and Brandon on September 10 and 11 respectively. The Winnipeg session will be held at the Norwood Hotel, and the Brandon session at the Victoria Inn. Both sessions will start at 7:00 p.m., and will run for approximately one hour. There is no cost to attend these sessions, and pre-registration is not required. Anyone not able to attend one of these in-person sessions is invited to view the online version posted to the association's website.

To learn more, contact the Manitoba School Boards Association at 204-233-1595 or 1-800-262-8836 (toll-free in Manitoba), or visit www.mbschoolboards.ca for more information.

Schedule at a glance:

Session 1:

Monday September 10, 7:00 p.m.
Norwood Hotel, 112 Marion St., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Session 2:

Tuesday September 11, 7:00 p.m.
Victoria Inn, 3550 Victoria Ave., Brandon, Manitoba

Media inquiries:

Karen Harrington, Communications Officer

Tel: 204-594-5178 or 1-800-262-8836 Email: kharrington@mbschoolboards.ca

School Boards

Leadership, Service &
Advocacy for Kids
Learning & Communities

School Trustee Elections - October 24, 2018

School Board Candidate Information Sessions

Interested in running for your school board, but want to learn more?
Plan on attending a candidate information session!

7:00 p.m., Monday, September 10, 2018
Norwood Hotel, 112 Marion St., Winnipeg, MB

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 11, 2018
Victoria Inn, 3550 Victoria Ave., Brandon, MB

Can't make either of these sessions? Visit mbschoolboards.ca
for information about school boards and school trustee elections.

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School Trustee Elections - October 24, 2018

*What happens in the boardroom matters in the classroom,
and what happens in the classroom matters to everyone.*

On October 24, cast your vote for school trustee.



MANITOBA

School Boards
ASSOCIATION

To learn more, visit your local school division
website or mbschoolboards.ca