

SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR REQUIREMENTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Overview: A school board is composed of 9 school directors and the Superintendent as the 10th non-voting member. The School Board is the governing authority of a school district. A school board is elected by the residents of Cheltenham and oversees the functioning of the Cheltenham School District. As the governing body, a school board steers the strategic direction of the school district and ensures its actions align with the district's mission, vision and goals. The board adopts an annual budget, assesses local taxes, adopts policy, and approves the hiring and compensation of personnel, most directly that of the Superintendent.

Eligibility requirements¹: To qualify for election or appointment to a school board, a candidate must meet the following requirements

- Be at least 18 years old by the November election
- Be a citizen of Pennsylvania
- Be a resident of the school district for at least 1 year before the November election
- Not have any felony or misdemeanor convictions related to dishonesty or moral turpitude
- *Be a registered Democrat²*
- *Obtain nominating petition signatures from 10 Democratic voters who reside in Cheltenham³*

Responsibilities: The school board governs by:

- ✓ Approving the district vision, mission and goals
- ✓ Adopting and monitoring the district budget
- ✓ Adopting policies for district operations
- ✓ Monitoring student achievement and making data driven decisions
- ✓ Annually evaluating the superintendent
- ✓ Engaging with the school community and keeping the superintendent informed
- ✓ Providing oversight with solicitor guidance of district compliance with laws, regulations and codes

Term: 4 years

¹ Section 322 of Public School Code of 1949 Act 14 as amended May 11, 1982, P.L. 396, No. 115 and repealed in part June 26, 1989, P.L. 47, No. 10.

² Only applies if the school board candidate is seeking endorsement by the Cheltenham Democratic Committee

³ Only applies if the school board candidate is seeking endorsement by the Cheltenham Democratic Committee. The 2025 Petition period is February 18-March 11, 2025.