



# 2014 School Election Deadlines

The following is a mock timeline using June 10, 2014, as an example election date. If you have a different election date, compute your schedule in accordance with state law cited below. Also, please be aware of the following 2011 amendment to North Dakota school election law: "For school board elections held in conjunction with county elections, the county election boards shall administer the election in the same manner as the county or state election." NDCC 15.1-09-13 (4)



## MARCH 2014

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### March 8, 2014

Thirty days before the filing deadline for candidate names to be printed on the ballot, an official notice of this deadline must be published in the official newspaper of the city or county. (NDCC 15.1-09-09)

### April 1- June 30, 2014

The board of a school district shall hold an election each year between April first and June thirtieth to fill all vacancies, including those caused by the expiration of terms of office. (NDCC 15.1-09-22)

### April 7, 2014

An individual seeking election to the board of a school district shall prepare and sign a document stating the individual's name and the position for which that individual is a candidate. A candidate shall also file a statement of interests as required by section 16.1-09-02. . . the document must be filed with the school district business manager, or mailed to and in the possession of the business manager, by four p.m. of the sixty-fourth day before the election. (NDCC 15.1-09-08)

### May 1, 2014

At least forty days before the election, the business manager shall prepare and cause to be printed, or otherwise uniformly reproduced, an official ballot containing the names of all individuals who have indicated their intent to be candidates by meeting the provisions of section 15.1-09-08. (NDCC 15.1-09-11)

### May 6, 2014

At least thirty-five days prior to the annual election, the board of each school district shall designate one or more precincts for the election. The board shall arrange the precincts in a way that divides the electors of the district as equally as possible. (NDCC 15.1-09-13 (1))

### May 6, 2014

At least thirty-five days prior to the annual election, the board of each school district shall designate one or more polling places for the election. The board shall locate the polling places as conveniently as possible for the voters in the precinct. (NDCC 15.1-09-13 (2))

### May 27, 2014

At least fourteen days before the date of an annual or special school district election, the school board shall publish a notice in the official newspaper of the district stating the time and place of the election and the purpose of the vote. (NDCC 15.1-09-09)

### June 10, 2014

School board election

### June 16, 2014

On the sixth day after the election, the school board shall meet to canvass all election returns and shall declare the result of an election. (NDCC 15.1-09-15)

### June 17-19, 2014

Within three days after the canvass by the school board for a school district election, the business manager of the school district shall provide to each elected individual written notice of the individual's election and of the duty to take an affirmation or oath of office. (NDCC 15.1-09-17)

### June 17-26, 2014

Within ten days after the canvass by the school board, the business manager shall certify the individuals elected and their terms to the county superintendent of schools. (NDCC 15.1-09-17)

### June 17-26, 2014

An individual elected as a member of or appointed to a school board shall take and file with the school district business manager an affirmation or oath of office within ten days after receiving notice of the election or appointment and before commencing duties. (NDCC 15.1-09-25)

## MAY 2014



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## APRIL 2014

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## JUNE 2014



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# North Dakota Election Law Update

Several changes to North Dakota's election laws were made during the 2013 Legislative Session. Please carefully review the changes to the North Dakota Century Code and ensure that you are using the most current copy of the School Code that includes the 2013 revisions.

Voters are now required to show identification that includes the individual's residential address and date of birth. N.D. Cent. Code §16.1-05-07.

- If an applicant for an absent voter's ballot does not possess an approved form of identification, the application must also be signed by another qualified voter. N.D. Cent. Code §16.1-07-06.
- Except for the applicant's date of birth and motor vehicle driver's license or nondriver identification card number, the application for an absent voter's ballot is an open record. N.D. Cent. Code §16.1-07-06.
- Candidate filings must be filed with the school district

business manager, or mailed to and in the possession of the business manager, by four p.m. on the sixty-fourth day before the election. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-08.

- Each school board that enters into an agreement with the county to share election costs and responsibilities must notify the county auditor, in writing, at least sixty-four days before the election of the offices to be filled at the election and any measures to appear on the ballot. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-24.
- At least thirty-five days prior to the annual election, the board of each school district shall designate one or more polling places for each precinct. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-13
- For school board elections not held in conjunction with county elections, the board shall appoint two election judges and two election clerks for each polling place. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-13.

- At the conclusion of the canvass of votes on election night, the judges and clerks of the election shall sign the returns and file them with the business manager of the school district. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-14.
- On the sixth day after the election, the school board shall meet to canvass all election returns and shall declare the results of the election. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-15.
- Within three days after the canvass by the school board, the business manager shall provide to each elected individual written notice of the individual's election and of the duty to take an affirmation or oath of office. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-17.
- Within ten days after the canvass by the school board, the business manager shall certify the individuals elected and their terms to the county superintendent of schools. N.D. Cent. Code §15.1-09-17.

## USDA Agrees to Permanently Modify National School Lunch Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has agreed to enact permanent changes to the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program requirements in response to demands by Senator John Hoeven (ND) and Senator Mark Pryor (AR).

"A one-size-fits-all approach to school lunch left students hungry and school districts frustrated with the additional expense, paperwork and nutritional research necessary to meet federal requirements. These are exactly the changes included in our Sensible School Lunch Act," Hoeven said.

In December 2012, USDA made

temporary changes to the School Lunch Program in response to a letter led by Hoeven and Pryor and signed by other senators. Hoeven and Pryor then wrote legislation, which is likely to pass this month, to make the changes permanent. The senators' legislation, the Sensible School Lunch Act, has broad, bipartisan support and the backing of the national School Nutrition Association. In response to their legislation, the USDA will now make the changes permanent administratively.

Hoeven and Pryor said their effort was prompted by numerous correspondences from

parents, school board members, superintendents, and community members. Previously, the senators got the agency to lift its strict limitations on caloric intake of grains and starches, as well as protein, but only for the 2012-2013 school year.

"I'm glad the USDA followed our lead and made these much-needed administrative changes that will give our school districts the permanent flexibility they need to keep our kids healthy and successful," Pryor said.

Other senators who cosponsored the legislation include Senator Heidi Heitkamp (ND).