

Executive Director
Julie M. Henderson, Ed. D.

Board of Directors
Charlayne Myers, Board Chair
Miguel Mendez
Jeffrey Rainey
John Slavik
Christina Ferrell
Fardowsa Jama
Nekey Oliver

Hennepin Schools
2123 Clinton Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Office: (612) 843-5050 | Fax: (612) 871-2406
info@hennepinschools.org
www.hennepinschools.org



February 04, 2021

Dear Parents, Staff, and Board Members;

Hennepin Schools (HS) is in its ninth year of operation. According to Minnesota Statute charter school law 124E.07 and HS's bylaws, we are proceeding with its annual election. As of today, HS board is in full compliance with MN state statute. Its current sitting board consists of 7 members (3 community members, 2 teachers, and 2 parents). As for this election, three positions are open for election (two parent members and one non-parent community member). The board, staff, and families of HS are indebted to all the board members for the great service they provided to our school in the past and, hopefully, in the future.

ELIGIBLE CANDIDATE:

Only parents and legal guardians of HS students are allowed to run for the parent board member seats. The HS board will have two open seats for the 2021-22 school year.

Any community member who is not a parent or a staff of Hennepin Schools may register to run for the board. Teachers, parents, and legal guardians of HS students are not eligible to run for the non-parent community member seat; however they are eligible to *nominate* community members to run for the open seat.

All potential board members will be required to pass a background check *before* being added to the March 2021 ballot, as required by law.

ELIGIBLE VOTERS:

Staff members employed at the school, including teachers providing instruction under a contract with a cooperative, members of the board of directors, and all parents or legal guardians of HS students enrolled in the school are the voters eligible to elect the members of the school's board of directors. Each family is eligible for two votes regardless of the number of students enrolled at HS. Your participation is crucial to the mission of the HS. **The election will take place on March 4 and 5, 2021 at parent-teacher conferences.**

On the next page is a detailed outline for the 2021 board election plan and timeline, and the HS board nomination form is attached to this letter.

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Outline for 2021- HS Board Election Plan and Timeline:

Overarching Goals: Open, Transparent, and Compliant

The following steps will be used to ensure HS Board Elections are compliant with MN state statute 124E.07:

- 1- Sitting board took the following actions:
 - a. Based on terms of current board members, HS Executive Committee of the board determined that three seats are open for election (two parent members and one non-parent community member).
 - b. The Board has appointed an Election Commissioner, Lulzim (Luli) Axhijaj, Educational Leadership Consultant, at its January 12, 2021 Board Meeting.
- 2- The HS Election Commissioner will ensure the following take place:
 - a. Announce (website, Talking Points, mailer home/translated) the board nomination window, the Election Day, and provide application process including nomination form at least 30 days before the election dates (February 4, 2021).
 - b. Accept and receive nominations and candidates' Resumes and Bios (Feb. 4 - Feb. 19, 2021).
 - c. Determine candidate eligibility for election based on MN charter School Statute 124E.07. (includes a candidate background check-*ongoing*).
 - d. Finalize election ballot, (February 24, 2021).
 - e. Disseminate eligible candidates' bios to all HS families and staff (website, Talking Points, mailer home), (February 26, 2021).
 - f. Conduct the election, (March 4 and 5, 2021/parent/teacher conferences)
 - g. Communicate detailed results with parents and staff (website, Talking Points, mailer home/translated) (March 19, 2021).
 - h. Ensure new board members are aware of new board training requirements and their start date of taking office.
- 3- HS Administration will:
 - a. Inform all board members of HS board meeting dates of 2021/2022 fiscal year.
 - b. Welcome newly elected board members who will take office July 1, 2021 for a three-year term.

For any questions or concerns, please email hselections2021@hennepinschools.org or call at 612-812-1367.

Thank you,

Lulzim (Luli) Axhijaj, Election Commissioner, Educational Leadership Consultant

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Candidate Nomination Form for 2021 HS Board Election

To Apply:

Send a completed candidate form via email to hselections2021@hennepinschools.org; by US mail; or drop off at the HS front office to the attention of Election Commissioner **by February 19, 2021 (5:00 PM)**. A completed candidate form includes:

- 1- Full Name (First-Last):
- 2- Phone Number:
- 3- Email address:
- 4- A letter (not to exceed 1 page, double spaced, font size 12) explaining why you want to become a board member and assurance of no Conflicts of Interest.
- 5- Include a resume (2 pages maximum).
- 6- Include a bio to be included in the election ballot (Not to exceed 250 words).
- 7- Include a photo for media purposes (Optional).
- 8- Include a completed Background Consent Sheet (Attached).