

Information for Candidates and Trustees

School board trustees represent Island students, families, and community on each the [Public Schools Branch](#) (PSB) which oversees the English language school system and [la Commission scolaire de langue française](#) (CSLF) which oversees the French language school system.

What are the responsibilities of the English and French language school boards?

The PSB and CSLF are responsible for:

- Strategic planning and policy for public schools;
- Approving budgets and operational plans;
- Recruitment, employment, management and evaluation of school board staff;
- Transportation of students to and from school;
- Maintaining school facilities and ensuring safe learning environments;
- Delivering English/French as an additional language services; and
- Accountability to students, parents, community members, and the Minister for the performance and operations of the School Board.

School Boards are not responsible for developing curriculum.

What is the role of the school board trustee?

As outlined in the [Education Act Education Authority Regulations](#)([link is external](#)), trustees are required to attend meetings and carry out their duties in good faith; and comply with the Act and the Regulations, Ministerial directives, and the policies of the education authority.

Trustee duties include:

- Ensuring appropriate policies are in place to allow for the efficient and safe operation of the school board;
- Providing financial oversight for the school board operations;
- Providing strategic direction to the organization with respect to identifying high level priorities for the organization;
- Identifying capital needs for the organization;
- Liaising with education stakeholder groups on education matters affecting the school board; and
- Providing direction to the Director.

Trustees shall, in respect of meetings of the trustees:

- Establish policies and procedures respecting the conduct of meetings;
- Give public notice of the date, time, and location of each meeting; and
- Hold an annual meeting prior to the submission of the board's annual report to the Minister.

What experience would be best suited for the position of trustee?

Experience in the following areas would be considered assets:

- knowledge of the education system
- understanding of good business practices
- policy development experience
- strategic planning
- financial or business management
- human resource management

- board governance
- legal or risk management

How many trustees serve on each school board?

Public Schools Branch (PSB): 11 trustees

- Eight elected: one from each of the seven electoral zones across the province, plus one additional trustee from the Charlottetown electoral zone; and
- Three appointed: one Mi'kmaq representative and two appointed through [Engage PEI](#).

La Commission Scolaire de Langue Française (CSLF): Nine elected trustees.

- One trustee from each of Zones 2, 4 and 6; and
- Two trustees from each Zones 1, 3 and 5.

Am I eligible to run as a candidate for school board trustee?

You are eligible to be nominated and run as a candidate for trustee providing you are:

- a Canadian citizen;
- at least 18 years of age on the date of the election;
- a resident in the electoral zone in which you propose to run for at least six months before the election is called; and
- are eligible to vote in the school board election.

CSLF candidates have the additional requirement to be an eligible parent (or would be an eligible parent if the person had a child) as defined by the *Education Act* as: “a resident of the province who, under [section 23\(link is external\)](#) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, has the right to have his or her child receive French first language instruction in the province”.

Please note: You are not eligible to seek election as a trustee if you are:

- Currently an employee of the PSB or CSLF;
- An employee at the Department of Education and Early Years who has a potential conflict of interest;
- Someone previously disqualified from being a trustee; or
- A person who was found guilty or convicted of an indictable offense.

What is the length of term for a trustee?

Elected trustees serve a three-year term and may seek re-election. Appointed PSB trustees serve a two-year term and may serve two consecutive terms.

When does the term begin?

The term for PSB and CSLF trustees, both newly elected and re-elected, is effective November 1, 2025 to October 31, 2028.

What is the expected time commitment?

The boards usually meet publicly once a month in a school year. Depending on the agenda, a public meeting lasts 1-2 hours plus additional time for travel to and from the meeting. Additional meetings may be scheduled to discuss other items, i.e. Committee of the Whole and subcommittees.

Do trustees receive payment for service?

Trustee remuneration rates are the same for both English and French language school boards. The PSB receives \$42,779 to be allocated between the 11 elected/appointed trustees. The CSLF receives \$35,000 to be allocated between the nine elected trustees. Trustees are also compensated for travel to and from meetings, which is determined by each board.

Will I be protected by any insurance as a trustee?

Yes, it is standard practice for school boards to obtain 'board of director' insurance to protect trustees in the exercise of their duties.

How do I register to be a candidate?

As administrator of the upcoming school board trustee elections, Elections PEI will accept nominations for candidates from **September 8 to September 26 at 2:00 p.m.**

A candidate must live in the electoral zone they are seeking to represent and must have their nomination supported by ten or more eligible voters also living in the same electoral zone.

Nomination forms are now available on the [Elections PEI](#) site.

Who do I contact for more information?

For voting and nomination inquiries, please contact: [Elections PEI](#)(link is external)

Toll-free: 1-888-234-8683

Phone: 902-368-5895

Fax: 902-368-6500

info@electionspei.ca(link sends e-mail)

For school board election inquiries, please email: schoolboardelections@gov.pe.ca