

ELECTION RULES AND PROCEDURES 2011

This document is to be used as a general guide for the elections of the EA/PSSP Bargaining Unit Executive. The Constitution, By-Laws and Policies of the EA/PSSP Bargaining Unit and The Constitution and By-Laws of the Provincial OSSTF shall remain as the official guideline. This document is for further clarification and may be amended by the Bargaining Unit Executive when the Election Committee recommends any changes.

ORDER OF ELECTION AND HOW TO BECOME A CANDIDATE

As per By-Law 5.6, the election for the Bargaining Unit Executive, excluding the three (3) Area Representatives, shall be in the order listed in Article 5 of the Constitution. This list is as follows:

1. **President**
2. **1st Vice President/Grievance Officer**
3. **2nd Vice President/Administrative Officer**
4. **Treasurer**
5. **Secretary**
6. **Educational Services Officer**
7. **Educational Assistant (EA) Workgroup Representative**
8. **Professional Student Services Personnel (PSSP) Workgroup Representative**

As per By-Law 5.4, Candidates who intend to run for any of these positions may submit their name on the Nomination and Consent Form, supported by two (2) other Member's signatures, to the Secretary of the Bargaining Unit, at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the election. Names received by this date will be included in the list of candidates made available to members prior to the AGM.

As per By-Law 5.5, candidates may also be nominated "from the floor". This nomination shall be submitted on the Nomination and Consent Form at least five (5) minutes prior to the election for the position the candidate is running for.

As per by-Law 5.8, a defeated candidate shall be considered for other offices remaining for election if they choose.

Immediately prior to the election for each position, the Chair shall read the list of members running for that position.

SPEECHES AT THE AGM

Each candidate, for every position, will have up to three (3) minutes to make a speech prior to the ballot for that position. The only exceptions shall be for candidates who have already spoken while running for another Executive position. In this situation, that candidate shall only have up to one and a half (1.5) minutes to make a speech for the new position.

BALLOTING

As per By-Law 5.7, the majority vote of those Members present, qualified to vote and voting shall elect the members of the Bargaining Unit Executive to be elected at the AGM and according to By-Law 5.2, this vote shall be conducted by secret ballot.

During balloting for elections the doors will be tyled. Each upcoming ballot shall be announced by the Chair one (1) minute before the tiling of the doors.

All official announcements of election results shall include the number of ballots cast and the number of spoiled ballots.

Following the official announcement of results for each ballot, in the absence of an immediate call for a recount within three (3) minutes, the ballots shall be destroyed.

COUNTING VOTES

The ballots for any election shall be counted by members assigned by the Chair of the Elections Committee, after the balloting is closed. Each candidate may choose a scrutinizor to observe the ballot count. The scrutinizor shall ask permission from the Chair of the Election Committee to have the ballots re-counted if the scrutinizor believes the ballots were miscounted.

The official results of a ballot shall be announced by the Chair.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A FURTHER BALLOT IS NEEDED

Where there are multiple candidates for a particular position, further balloting may be required to determine who get s elected. The following By-Laws from the Provincial Constitution shall serve as a guideline.

- 17.6.3** In any election, where after a particular ballot a further ballot may be necessary, the following shall be dropped from succeeding ballots:
- 17.6.3.1** In all cases, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes.

- 17.6.3.2** Any other candidates receiving fewer than thirty percent (30 %) of the vote, in order from lowest to highest, unless further deletions would result in there remaining only the same number of candidates as there are positions available.
- 17.6.3.3** The remaining candidate with the lowest number of votes provided that only one candidate has been dropped, satisfying By-Law 17.6.3.1 and By-Law 17.6.3.2 above, has been dropped.
- 17.6.3.4** In the event of a tie for the lowest number of votes, both candidates with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, unless this would result in the election of the remaining candidate(s). In this case both candidates will remain on the ballot.
- 17.6.3.5** In the event of a tie for the last elected position, a further ballot will be held between these two candidates. If a tie occurs a second time, the candidates will draw lots to determine which candidate stays on the ballot or is elected.
- 17.6.4** In the election for a single position, failing a majority for any candidate, candidates shall be dropped from the ballot according to By-Law 17.63 and a further ballot shall be held.
- 17.6.10** The phrase "receive(s) a majority of the votes" shall be interpreted to mean that the candidate's vote total exceeds one-half (i.e. 50 %) of the number of delegates present, qualified to vote and voting.

CAMPAIGN REGULATIONS

Each candidate may distribute at their own expense, election campaign information and materials (e.g. pamphlets, buttons, posters, stickers, pencils, pens, t-shirts, etc.) prior to the AGM.

These campaign materials shall not be displayed by the candidate or supporters or made available at the AGM meeting. Should these campaign materials be present at the AGM, they will be removed.