

SBE Region 5 Vacancy – Frequently Asked Questions:

Question#1: Is it possible for a person to serve on the State Board of Education and a local School Board at the same time?

Answer: No. RCW 28A.305.021 says that “No member of a board of directors of a local school district or private school may continue to serve in that capacity after having been elected to the state board.”

Question #2: The announcement says this appointed position is to serve out the remainder of an existing, appointed term with approximately 9 months left, at which point the person would need to run for election to stay on the Board. My question: What is the timeline of the next election cycle?

Answer: The timelines are set by OSPI’s Office of Professional Practice in late July of each year, and are publicized through a media release.

Last year’s timelines followed this approximate time frame:

- **Candidate filing period – Late July through end of August**
 - **Ballots sent out – end of October**
 - **Deadline for Ballots to be filled-out/postmarked – end of November**
 - **Vote tabulation – December 6th**
 - **Candidate takes oath/assumes office – January Board Meeting**
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Question #3: After the initial term is up, who elects the successor to this position?

Answer: The voters are sitting board members representing districts in the Western Region, which by statute includes Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum, and Whatcom counties.

Refer to RCW 28A.305.021.
