

County ISD Board Survey Results

1. How many members serve on your board?

| <i>Number of board members</i> | <i>Number of ISD's who responded with that number</i> |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 4 or less | 0 |
| 5 | 27 |
| 6 | 0 |
| 7 | 11 |
| 8 or more | 0 |

2. Are your board members elected by popular election or by area school boards?

| <i>Election methods</i> | <i>Number of ISD's using that method</i> |
|-------------------------|--|
| Popular election | 2 |
| Area school boards | 35 |

3. If they are elected by your school boards, do all the representatives from each board meet together at one specific time, or is there a range of time they can vote?

| <i>Voting methods</i> | <i>Number of ISD's using that method</i> |
|------------------------------------|---|
| All reps meet at one specific time | 28 |
| Range of time they can vote | 6 total (3 districts now use mail-in ballots) |

Summary:

Several districts mentioned that these meetings were posted and open to the public, however, public interest and attendance is low. When mail-in ballots are used, the results are tabulated at a public meeting and only the successful candidate is named. In districts where board members are given a range of time, some have as little as 15 minutes and others have up to 11 hours to cast their vote. The vast majority of school districts have a specific date and time each month for meeting and/or voting.

4. Are the votes counted in “public” with each district’s vote made known to the group, or are the votes tabulated and only the total number of votes for each candidate announced?

| <i>Announcement Method</i> | <i># of ISD’s using this method</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Each district’s vote made public | 3 |
| Only total number of votes made public | 27 |

Comments on this question:

“Although individual votes are noted in the minutes, the votes are private in the sense that only the total numbers of votes per candidate are disclosed at public meetings.”

“We are open to a variation of electing by publicly voicing the representatives votes, versus tabulating.”

“We have not made each district’s vote known to the group, but we would to that.”

5. If your method of board election is not outlined above, please provide a brief summary of your process.

Comments on this question:

“We had only one candidate for this election and he was the incumbent.”

“In our last two elections, candidates have run unopposed”

“For our last election, we had only two incumbents for two seats, so it was easy”

“There is an unwritten rule since there are 5 seats and 5 districts, each district will have a representative, so there is seldom more than one person “running” for election from one district”