

ANNUAL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION BUDGET VOTE

- When the Annual School Board Election is in April, residents are able to vote on the Annual School Budget
- January - April, the Superintendent and BOE will hold Public Information Sessions to provide an overview of the proposed budget
- If the budget is not approved by the voters, the Village Council has approximately 4 weeks to review the budget and approve as submitted, or propose reductions
- The BOE can accept or reject the Village Council's recommended reductions
 - If the BOE rejects proposed reductions, the budget is sent to the NJDOE Commissioner for final approval with significant supporting documents and rationales by the Village Council and the BOE for their position on the budget.

ANNUAL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION BOE SEATS

- There are 5 school board seats in Ridgewood. School board members serve 3-year terms.
- Each year, 1 or 2 seats are up for election. Each year voters have the opportunity to vote for school board candidate(s).
- On the November 6, 2018 ballot there are two individuals running for one seat.
- By moving the election to April 2019, all BOE terms are extended by 6 months to comply with election law.

ANNUAL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION STATE LEGISLATION

- There are two bills in front of the New Jersey Legislature concerning school and municipal elections:
 - Assembly bill, A1517, would require all Boards of Education and non-partisan municipal elections to be held in November
 - Senate bill, S2464, continues the moratorium prohibiting moving the election from November to April
- In 2016 a “School District Annual Election Study Commission” was created to study this issue and report its findings. To date this Commission has not been empaneled and no members have been appointed.

ANNUAL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION PROMOTING ELECTIONS

- The Annual School Board Elections are publicized in the community via news organizations and District Communications.
 - RPS enews is available to all residents on an opt-in basis and can also be accessed by all via the RPS website.
- Any individual considering a run for the School Board is encouraged to visit the New Jersey School Boards website for information on becoming a School Board member.
- To run for the BOE, a candidate must:
 - be a US Citizen
 - be at least 18 years of age to qualify for office
 - be able to read and write
 - have been a resident of the municipality from which he/she is to be elected for at least one year preceding the date of the election
 - is not disqualified as a vote pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1
 - is not disqualified from membership for the conviction of crimes pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1
 - is a registered voter in the district
- Candidates must adhere to all state election requirements