

# Our Stamford Board of Education

## Why It Matters

Whether you have children in the public schools or not, the school system is a reflection of our community's values. A strong school system can also affect property values. The Board of Education (BOE) plays a large role in setting the district's priorities through budget, staffing, and policy decisions. It is important to elect people who know about and are committed to public education and are able to work as part of a team to make decisions with the professionally-trained staff of the Stamford Public Schools. It is also helpful to elect people who can handle urgent crises as well as plan for the long term.

## This November's Election – 2019

Three of the nine seats are up for election this year, each to serve a three-year term. Voters are asked to vote for any three people on the ballot. Note that only six members of the Board can be from the same party. If after the votes are counted, one political party would have a total of more than six seats, the candidate with the most votes from the opposing party is elected to the third open seat.

There is a fourth seat up for "special election" for an interim Board member. This is needed to finish out the remaining year of a member who resigned. This seat will be determined on Election Day before the races for the full-term seats, according to state law. So the result for this interim seat will influence how many of the full term seats can be filled by each party.

## More on What It Is

The BOE:

- hires and evaluates the superintendent of schools
- establishes and monitors school policies for effectiveness
- prepares and adopts, with the help of the superintendent, an annual budget for submission to Stamford's fiscal boards
- listens to, and works to represent, the needs of the Stamford community with regard to Stamford Public Schools (SPS)
- informs the community of the goals, values, conditions, and requirements of the SPS.

Sources

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/titles.htm>

<https://www.stamfordpublicschools.org/district/board-education>

[https://library.municode.com/ct/stamford/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=CHCOSTCOFASTCO](https://library.municode.com/ct/stamford/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=CHCOSTCOFASTCO)

<https://www.ctinsider.com/local/stamfordadvocate/article/New-Stamford-school-board-seat-opens-up>