

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)

Trustee Elections Bylaw No. 29

Adopted: April 28, 2026

A bylaw to establish procedures for the conduct of trustee elections.

The Board of Education of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen) wishes to establish procedures for the conduct of trustee elections.

Accordingly, the Board of Education of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen), in an open meeting of the Board, enacts this Trustee Elections Bylaw No. 29.

1. Scope of Bylaw

- 1.1. This bylaw applies to both general elections and by-elections, except as otherwise indicated.

2. Trustee Electoral Areas

- 2.1. In School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen), trustee elections are held in the following trustee electoral areas:

Name	Composition of Trustee Electoral Area	Number of Trustees
Trustee Electoral Area No. 1	Portion of Area D and Area I of Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen lying within School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)	One
Trustee Electoral Area No. 2	Town of Oliver and Area C of Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen	Two
Trustee Electoral Area No. 3	Town of Osoyoos and Area A of Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen	Two
Trustee Electoral Area No. 4	Village of Keremeos and Areas B and G of Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen	Two

3. Definitions

- 3.1. The terms shall have the meanings assigned by *the School Act*, the *Local Government Act* and the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, except as the context indicates otherwise.
 - 3.1.1. “Board” means the Board of Education of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen).
 - 3.1.2. “by-election” means a trustee election other than one conducted as part of a general school election, to fill a vacancy on the Board in any of the circumstances described in section 36 of the *School Act*.
 - 3.1.3. “Chief Election Officer” means the person appointed to perform the duties of chief election officer as set out in the *School Act*, *Local Government Act* and *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.
 - 3.1.4. “local government” means, as applicable, the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen (RDOS), the Town of Oliver, the Town of Osoyoos and the Village of Keremeos.
 - 3.1.5. “General Voting Day” means the date on which general voting for a trustee election is to take place, whether part of the general school elections or a by-election.
 - 3.1.6. “Minister” means the Minister of Education and Child Care.
 - 3.1.7. “RDOS” means the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen.
 - 3.1.8. “School District” means School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen).

4. Application of Local Government Bylaws

- 4.1. Where the Board enters into an agreement with a local government under Section 38(4) of the *School Act*, under which all or part of a school trustee election is conducted by the local government in conjunction with a local government election, the elections bylaws of the local government, as they may be amended from time to time, except for any bylaws determining the minimum number of nominators, the order of names on the ballot, the resolution of tie votes after judicial recount, requiring a nomination deposit, or any other matter on which the local government bylaws may not apply to a trustee election, apply to any trustee election carried out under that agreement, to the extent authorized by Section 38(5) of the *School Act*, in accordance with the following:
 - 4.1.1. Trustee Electoral Area No. 1 (Okanagan Falls and Apex Mountain Resort): The elections bylaws of the RDOS apply for the purposes of school trustee elections and electors of Area D of RDOS,
 - 4.1.2. Trustee Electoral Area No. 2 (Oliver): The elections bylaws of the Town of Oliver apply for the purposes of school trustee elections and electors of the

Town of Oliver, and the elections bylaws of the RDOS apply for the purposes of school trustee elections and electors of Area C of RDOS,

- 4.1.3. Trustee Electoral Area No. 3 (Osoyoos): The elections bylaws of the Town of Osoyoos apply for the purposes of school trustee elections and electors of the Town of Osoyoos, and the elections bylaws of the RDOS apply for the purposes of school trustee elections and electors of Area A of RDOS, and
- 4.1.4. Trustee Electoral Area No. 4 (Keremeos): The elections bylaws of the Village of Keremeos apply for the purposes of school trustee electors of the Village of Keremeos, and the elections bylaws of the RDOS apply for the purposes of school trustee elections and electors of Areas B and G of RDOS.

5. Voters List

- 5.1. Voting in a trustee election shall be limited to only those electors registering to vote at the time of voting.

6. Nomination Deposit

- 6.1. No nomination deposit is required for nomination for the office of school trustee.

7. Number Of Nominators

- 7.1. The minimum number of qualified nominators for a trustee candidate is two.

8. Required Advance Voting Opportunities

- 8.1. Unless the Board is exempted from the requirement by Order of the Minister of Education and Child Care, an advance voting opportunity will be held on the tenth day before General Voting Day.
- 8.2. Unless the Board is exempted from the requirement for a second advance voting opportunity by Order of the Minister of Education and Child Care, or unless s. 8.3 applies, a second advance voting opportunity will be held as follows:
 - 8.2.1. for general school elections where the Board is conducting the election, three days before General Voting Day; or
 - 8.2.2. where a local government is conducting the election in accordance with s.4, the date specified in the bylaws of the local government conducting the election as they may be amended from time to time; or
 - 8.2.3. for by-elections, three days before General Voting Day.

8.3. Pursuant to section 107(2) of the *Local Government Act*, in trustee electoral areas where the population is 5,000 or less, the required advance voting opportunity will be held on the tenth day before General Voting Day and no other advance voting opportunity will be held.

9. Additional Advance Voting Opportunities

9.1. The Chief Election Officer may establish dates for additional advance voting opportunities for each trustee election and may designate the voting places and the voting hours for these voting opportunities.

10. Mail Ballot Voting

10.1. Where the Board carries out a trustee election, there shall be no mail ballot voting.

11. Use of Voting Machines

11.1. The use of automated voting machines, voting recorders, or other devices for voting in a school trustee election conducted in conjunction with a local government election is authorized in accordance with the procedures for voting, the form of ballot, and the procedures, rules, and requirements for counting of votes which are established by the bylaw adopted by that local government pursuant to Section 112 of the *Local Government Act*.

11.2. Where the Board carries out a trustee election, there shall be no use of voting machines.

12. Resolution of Tie Votes After Judicial Recount

12.1. In the event of a tie vote after a judicial recount, the tie vote will be resolved by lot in accordance with the *Local Government Act*.

13. Public Notice Posting Places

13.1. For the purpose of trustee elections conducted by the Board, the following are designated as “public notice posting places” for the purposes of section 50 of the *Local Government Act*:

13.1.1. the School Board Office entryway, and

13.1.2. the school entrances in Cawston, Keremeos, Okanagan Falls, Oliver, and Osoyoos.

14. Publication By Means Other Than Newspaper

14.1. The Board designates the following means of publication of notices required to be published pursuant to section 94.2 of the Community Charter:

14.1.1. The Board of Education website at <https://www.sd53.bc.ca>

14.1.2. the Regional District of the Okanagan-Similkameen website at <https://www.rdos.bc.ca>

15. Access To Candidate Nomination Documents and Campaign Financing Disclosure Statements

15.1. The Board authorizes public access to nomination documents of the trustee candidates during the regular office hours at the School Board Office from the time the nomination documents are delivered until 30 days after declaration of the election results;

15.2. The Board will make available to the public, without charge, during the regular office hours at the School Board Office, the disclosure statements or supplementary reports required to be made available by the BC Chief Electoral Officer on an Elections BC authorized website, other than:

15.2.1. a mailing address or residential address of a significant contributor, or

15.2.2. a telephone number, mailing address, or residential address of a candidate, until 5 years after general voting day for the election to which the trustee's disclosure statements and supplementary reports relate by providing a copy of that information for inspection.

15.3. The Board will, on request, provide a copy or other record of trustee candidates' disclosure statements and supplementary reports for as long as they are required to be available to the public under this bylaw for a fee of \$0.50 per page.

15.4. Before providing the services under this section, other than to a Board officer or employee acting in the course of their duties, the Board may require the person requesting the service to:

15.4.1. satisfy to a Board official that any purpose for which personal information is to be used is permitted by the *Local Government Act* and section 63 of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, and

15.4.2. provide a signed statement that the individual, and if applicable, any individual or organization on whose behalf the first individual is accessing, inspecting or obtaining the copy or other record will not use the information included in the copy or other record except for a purpose permitted under the *Local Government Act* or the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.

16. Title

16.1. This bylaw may be cited as ‘School District No. 53 Trustee Elections Bylaw No. 29.’

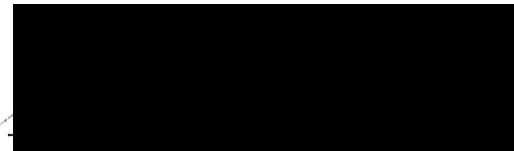
17. Repeal

17.1. School District No. 53 Trustee Elections Bylaw No. 28 is hereby repealed.

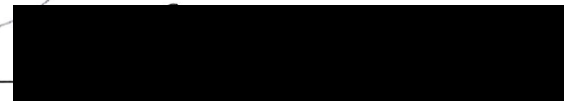
Read a first time the 28th day of April 2026

Read a second time the 28th day of April 2026

Read a third time, passed and adopted this 28th day of April 2026



Chairperson of the Board



Secretary-Treasurer