

POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date Submitted: February 16, 1999 Date Reviewed: February 21, 2006 October 21, 2008	Number: 100-14
Subject: Board of Education Membership	Date Approved: March 16, 1999, March 21, 2006 November 18, 2008 Date Revised: September 16, 2008 Date Effective: July 1, 1999, March 21, 2006 November 18, 2008

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish aspects of membership for the Board of Education. This policy discusses the following subjects:

- A. Composition of the Board
- B. Qualifications of Members
- C. Election of Members
- D. Term
- E. Vacancies
- F. Removal from Office
- G. Chairman

2. **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

A. Composition - The Somerset County Board of Education shall be elected and seat one member from each commissioner district in Somerset County.

B. Qualifications of Members

- (1) A member from a commissioner district must be a resident of that district.
- (2) A candidate for the Somerset County Board of Education must be a registered voter of Somerset County.
- (3) A member from a commissioner district who no longer resides in that district may not continue as a member of the Somerset County Board.

C. Election of Members - Members of the Board shall be elected at a general election as required by subsection (D) of this section.

D. Term and Vacancies

- (1) Each member serves for a term of 4 years beginning on January 1 after the member's election and until a successor is elected and qualifies.
- (2) The Governor shall appoint a qualified individual to fill any vacancy on the Board for the remainder of the term and until a successor is elected and qualifies.

E. Removal

- (1) The State Board may remove a member of the Somerset County Board of Education for:
 - (a) Immorality
 - (b) Misconduct in Office
 - (c) Incompetency
 - (d) Willful Neglect of Duty

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- (2) Before removing a member, the State Board shall send the member a copy of the charges against the Board member and provide an opportunity within 10 days for that Board member to request a hearing.
 - (3) If the member requests a hearing within the 10-day period:
 - (a) The State Board promptly shall hold a hearing, but a hearing may not be set within 10 days after the State Board sends the member a notice of the hearing.
 - (b) The member shall have an opportunity to be heard publicly before the State Board in his own defense, in person or by counsel.
 - (4) A member removed under this subsection has the right to a de novo review of the removal by the Circuit Court for Somerset County.
- F. Chairman** - At its first meeting at the beginning of each year, the Somerset County Board shall elect a chairman from among its members.