



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

New Haven Board of Education 2021 Student Elections: Requirements & Information

Important Dates and Steps in the Process

- **Thursday, March 25th** - Registration and Petition Forms available online.
- **Wednesday, April 21st at 4 p.m.** - Petitions must be turned in to your **High School Designee**
- **Monday, April 26th – Tuesday, May 11th** - Citywide campaigning period
- **Monday, April 19th** - Candidate Meeting (Location TBD) at 4 p.m.
- **Wednesday, April 28th** - Candidates' Forum (Location and time TBD)
- **Wednesday, May 12th/ Thursday, May 13th/ Friday, May 14th** Elections at all NHPS high schools

Candidate Eligibility

- **Candidates must be (1) a resident of New Haven, (2) a current 10th grade student who will be in the 11th grade for the 2021-2022 academic year, AND (3) enrolled in New Haven Public Schools.**
- One current 10th grader ("rising junior") will be elected and serve a two year term from July 2021- June 2023.

Candidate Responsibility

- Students must be willing to make a **substantial time commitment** for the length of their term in office (junior and senior year). The Board of Education meets twice a month, including summers, at **5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of the month. Meetings can last multiple hours.** Members are also invited (but not required) to attend committee meetings.
- Student members will participate in discussions on the Board of Education. However, due to state law, students will not have a vote on decisions made by the Board.

Petition Process

1. Interested candidates can access a **REGISTRATION FORM** beginning **Thursday, March 25th**.
 - The registration form contains: office sought, election date, candidate information (name, address, phone, email, school, graduation year, student ID), statement of intent, and eligibility verification.
2. Upon receipt of the registration form, the Superintendent's Office will immediately verify the candidate's high school enrollment and New Haven resident status.
3. Once the candidate's eligibility is confirmed, the Superintendent's Office will immediately issue **PETITION FORMS** to the candidate.
 - The petition form includes: petition process information (office sought, date of election, deadline for petition submission), candidate information (name, school), circulator information (student ID number, name, date of birth, school), signer information (signature, printed name, student ID number, date of birth, graduation year, school), and a statement of authenticity.
 - These forms **can be duplicated**.
4. Candidates are allowed to have **CIRCULATORS**, who are individuals that will assist in gathering signatures on the petition forms. Circulators:
 - Must be currently enrolled in a New Haven public high school, but do not need to be New Haven residents.



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- Must include their student ID number, name, date of birth, and school name on the circulator section of the petition form.
5. **Petitions must be submitted to your High School Designee by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 21st.**
- Prior to submission, candidates must collect **100 ELIGIBLE signatures (50 students from your high school and 50 students combined from other New Haven Public Schools High Schools)**. Petition signatures will be validated by the Board of Education. [this has not traditionally been COSE's responsibility]
6. **Signer and Voter Eligibility**
- **All New Haven public high school students, regardless of grade level and residency, are eligible to sign petitions and vote.** The New Haven residency and grade level requirements only apply to candidates.