

ELECTIONS

2027 Midterm School Board Elections

Midterm elections, also known as staggered elections, are held by approximately 350 school boards. These boards have chosen to operate under the staggered election cycle, with elections held every 18 months rather than electing all board members at once every three years.

In 2027, participating boards will campaign to encourage people to “get on board” and make a difference in their school communities. They will generally be seeking between one and three new board members to join those elected during the 2025 triennial elections.

The 2027 midterm elections will be held in March, with the election date set for **Wednesday 31 March 2027**. Boards in the staggered election cycle should appoint a returning officer at their October or November meeting and confirm their election date.

Opting into the staggered election cycle

Boards wishing to enter the staggered election cycle must do so before appointing their returning officer.

To create the required midterm vacancies, approximately half of the board members

elected in 2025 will need to step down. Those members may nominate themselves as candidates for the newly created midterm positions. Successful candidates will hold office until the following midterm election.

More information about the process is available [here](#).

Opting out of the staggered election cycle

Boards wishing to leave the staggered election cycle must still hold a midterm election in March 2027.

At the next triennial elections in May 2028, all board members will step down and every position will become a triennial position.

Election funding

Boards in the staggered election cycle will receive election funding through their operational grant. They will receive:

- 70% of the funding in January 2027
- The remaining 30% in April 2027, where a voting election was held

The 2027 election funding rates are:

- **Base rate:** \$735.40
- **Student rate:** \$8.43
- **Intermediate student rate:** \$12.60

Electronic elections

Boards wishing to run an electronic election must use an accredited provider. The two available providers are:

- Schooled Election Pilot
- My School Elections

Boards seeking advice about the midterm elections or appointing a returning officer can contact us on **0800 782 435**.

Ngā mihi,

The GovHub Team

Preferred Partners:



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**Te Whakarōpūtanga Kaitiaki Kura o Aotearoa
New Zealand School Boards Association**

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GovHub staff are here to support you.

Freephone 0800 782 435 or email:

govadvice@tewhakaroputanga.org.nz (for Governance matters)

eradvice@tewhakaroputanga.org.nz (for Employment matters)

For all membership enquiries, please email ea@twkka.org.nz.

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