



AMERICAN ACADEMY
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Board of Directors Election Policy

This policy was approved by the American Academy Board of Directors on April 16, 2019

Purpose

If a vacancy on the AA Board of Directors is to be filled by means of a parent (or “Member”) election, such election shall occur in accordance with this policy.

Election Date

The election shall take place on the last Tuesday of the school year. The currently seated Board of Directors has the authority to change this date by a majority vote.

Board Election Committee

During the March Board meeting, the currently seated BOD shall, by majority vote, appoint and commission individuals to a Board Election Committee (“BEC”) for the purpose of organizing and administering the election of directors.

- a. The BOD shall determine the responsibilities and authorities, if any, of the BEC upon its commission.
- b. The BEC shall consist of the following individuals:
 - one currently seated Director of the BOD;
 - the Executive Director of Schools, or his/her designee from among his/her direct reports;
 - one current employee;
 - three parents or legal guardians of children currently enrolled (one from each American Academy campus) at least one of whom is a current member of the School Accountability Committee (SAC);
- c. No Candidate (as defined in the section titled “Candidacy” of this policy), spouse of a Candidate, or current director running for re-election shall be a member of the BEC.
- d. Once the BOD has appointed, and the individuals have agreed to serve on, the BEC, the members of the BEC shall, at their first meeting, determine a chairperson
- e. If a member of the BEC resigns their position on the BEC at any point prior to the election, the remaining members of the BEC may, if they so chose, appoint another individual to fill the seat.
- f. If, at any time, a majority of the currently seated BOD determines that the BEC is not adhering, in good faith, to its responsibilities and authorities, if any, the BOD may reschedule the election and, if necessary, begin the election process anew, in accordance with this policy.
- g. Current directors running for re-election shall not participate in any process of the appointment of BEC members unless a quorum is needed. Further, the director shall abstain from participation to the election process except in the role of Candidate.

Notice of Election

No fewer than one month prior to the election date, the BOD shall notify the school's Members that one or more seats on the BOD will be filled by Member election.

- a. The notice shall be provided by means of email communication as well as a posting on the American Academy (“AA” or “School”) website.
- b. The notice shall detail how many seats are up for election, the term length for each seat, and the effective beginning date of service.
- c. The notice shall refer to the requirements for candidacy, as detailed in the section titled “Candidacy” of this policy of this policy.

- d. The notice shall provide a statement that candidates must sign a "Candidate Intent & Acknowledgement" form prior to the election.
- e. The notice shall provide contact information for the BEC and a deadline by which individuals must submit their interest in candidacy.

Candidacy

The BOD shall notify the school's Members that one or more seats on the BOD will be filled by Member election and communicate the requirements to become a candidate.

- a. A candidate must meet the requirements specified in section 3.2 of the [American Academy Bylaws](#).
- b. A candidate must submit a letter of interest, accompanied by an abbreviated resume, to the BEC no later than the deadline specified by the BEC.
- c. Any candidate who meets the requirements must submit, to the BEC, a signed [Candidate Intent & Acknowledgement](#) form prior to the election.
- d. If a candidate fails to provide the necessary documentation to the BEC by the appropriate deadlines, the BEC may, at its majority discretion, disqualify the candidate from the election.
- e. A copy of the "Board Member Statement of Agreement" shall be made available for review by candidates.

Campaigning for Election or Re-Election to the BOD

- a. The BEC shall publish, to the Members, a list of candidates and their abbreviated resumes no later than 10 business days prior to the election.
- b. The BEC may, at its sole discretion, arrange at least one opportunity for the public to meet with the candidate(s), at which time questions may be asked of the candidate(s)
- c. Candidates will not be permitted to campaign on School property, or by use of School data other than as prescribed in this section of this policy. Any candidate who campaigns or solicits votes by any other method is subject to disqualification in the election, at the discretion of the BEC.

Eligible Voters

Eligible voters are those Members as defined by the AA Bylaws. Each eligible voter is allowed one vote per vacant seat on the BOD. No votes shall be counted from any Member who casts more votes than there are available seats.

Election Process

- a. The BEC shall make available to the Members an electronic "ballot" for casting their vote(s) for each seat available in the election.
 - i. The method shall be tested prior to the election date.
 - ii. Open Election Hours: Members shall have access to the electronic ballot for a minimum of 24 hours prior to 11:59pm (MST) on the date of the election. The election shall close at 11:59pm on the election date. Any vote cast prior to, or after, the Open Election will not be counted.
- b. The BEC shall communicate to the Members the process(es), date(s) and time(s) by which Members may vote, as follows:
 - At least two times within the 30 days prior to the election date; and
 - At least one time within the 24 hours prior to the election date.
- c. Each ballot, whether electronic or paper, shall clearly state the number of open seats available. Each ballot shall list all eligible candidates who have met all requirements in this policy.
- d. Disqualified votes: Absentee votes will not be counted. Proxy votes will not be counted. No votes shall be counted from any Member who casts more votes than there are available seats. Any vote cast prior to, or after, the election hours and/or date(s) will not be counted.
- e. All votes shall be secret unless all candidates agree to forego secrecy.
- f. The Members' vote(s) shall be collected in confidence by members of the BEC, and no one else.

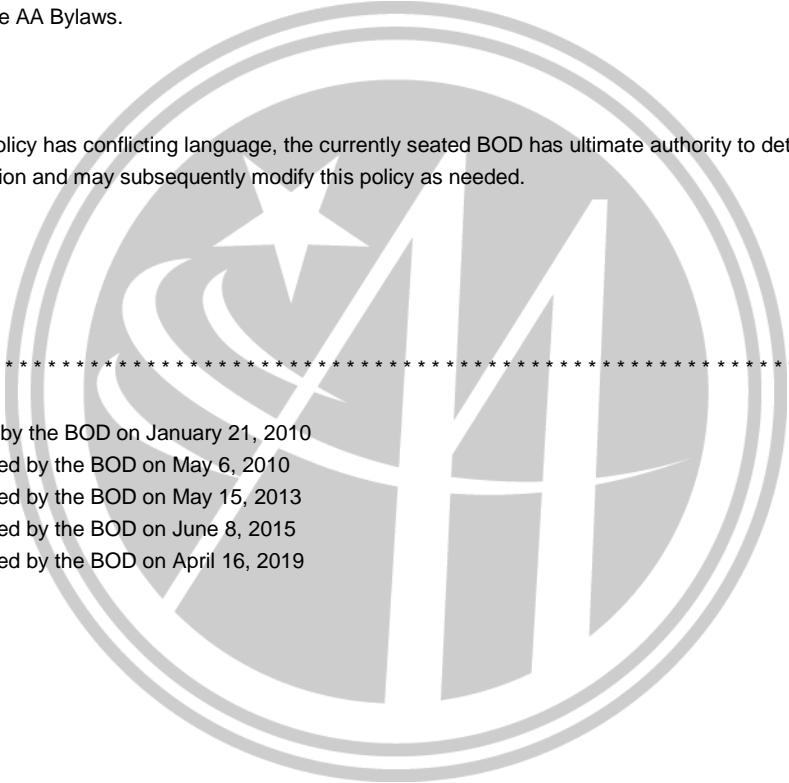
- g. The Members' vote(s) shall be tabulated in confidence by members of the BEC, and no one else.
- h. Upon closing of the election, the BEC shall tabulate the results. The candidate(s) receiving the most votes shall be elected as directors for the term defined by the AA Bylaws. The BEC shall certify the accuracy of the results prior to any announcements.
- i. The BEC chairperson, or his/her designee, shall contact the elected candidate(s), by phone and/or email, to notify him/her of the election results.
- j. The BEC shall announce the certified election results to the Members following notification of the candidates
- k. The newly elected director(s) shall be expected to attend the first regular meeting of the Board of Directors that is scheduled at the commencement of their term. In order to be seated to the Board of Directors, the candidate(s) must submit a signed copy of the "Board Member Statement of Agreement" form to the currently seated Board of Directors no later than the first meeting of the new term.

Vacancies

Vacancies of any seats on the Board of Directors which had previously been filled by Member election shall be filled in accordance with the AA Bylaws.

Authority

In the event this policy has conflicting language, the currently seated BOD has ultimate authority to determine an appropriate resolution and may subsequently modify this policy as needed.



POLICY HISTORY

- Original:* approved by the BOD on January 21, 2010
- Revision 1:* approved by the BOD on May 6, 2010
- Revision 2:* approved by the BOD on May 15, 2013
- Revision 3:* approved by the BOD on June 8, 2015
- Revision 4:* approved by the BOD on April 16, 2019