



# Goffstown School Board

## Running for School Board

The following information provides prospective candidates with a better understanding of the role, responsibilities, and time-commitment required of school board members. All candidates must file the official application during the designated filing dates typically beginning in mid-January.

### Purpose & Mission

- The Mission of the Goffstown School District is to provide the opportunity for each student to obtain a substantive, challenging, and appropriate education consistent with the student's abilities, offered within a safe environment, and serves as a foundation for lifelong learning.
- The Board sets the vision and direction for the district — through policies, long-term goals, and oversight — but does not run day-to-day operations.

### Key Responsibilities:

- Adopt district-wide policies that govern how schools operate in compliance with federal and state laws.
- Establish and oversee the annual school district budget — allocating resources to support educational priorities.
- Hire and evaluate the Superintendent (the only district employee under the supervision of the Board).
- Set academic standards and educational goals; ensure the district's curriculum, programs, and services align with those goals.
- Provide oversight and accountability: monitor student achievement, district performance, financial health, and compliance with laws/regulations.
- Serve as a link between the community and the schools: communicate with stakeholders, listen to concerns, and represent the public interest.

## How the Board Operates

- The Board is comprised of nine elected members who serve staggered three-year terms.
- The Board acts as a single entity: Individual members do not have the authority to act on behalf of the board alone — decisions come through majority vote.
- The Board-Superintendent relationship is a partnership: the Board governs; the Superintendent administers day-to-day school operations.
- The Board focuses on strategic planning, long-term goals, and outcomes.

## Goffstown School Board Meeting Expectations

- The Board typically meets the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m., in person at the Goffstown High School Media Center.
- Board members are assigned to two or more subcommittees, requiring additional meeting hours.
- Typical school board meetings are between 2-3 hours in duration, while subcommittee meetings range from 1-2 hours. Meeting preparation times vary based on subcommittee assignments and the nature of meeting agendas.
- Goffstown School Board members are also SAU 19 School Board members (comprised of both the Goffstown and New Boston School Boards). The SAU 19 School Board typically meets three times a year in October, December, and April.

## If Elected — What Happens Next

**Election & Recount Period:** After the vote, there is a required recount period (or waiting time) before your election victory is official. See [NH RSA 671:32 Recount; Tie Vote](#) and [NH RSA 669:30](#)

**Oath of Office:** Once the recount period expires and results are certified, newly elected members should contact Goffstown Town Hall to be formally sworn into office by either the town or school clerk. (603-497-8900).

**Assumption of Duties:** Upon being sworn in, new board members are able to participate in board meetings, subcommittee assignments, and all business. Contact the SAU 19 office (603-497-4818) for more information regarding new school board member orientation and onboarding.