**SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE: Candidacy Information Available**

Placed on district letterhead

 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: [District spokesperson]

 [NAME OF DISTRICT] **SCHOOL BOARD ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY INFORMATION**

[Month] \_\_, 2017—The [Name of district] School District has announced it has information available for citizens interested in running for a vacant seat on the board of education.

The [Name of district] Board of Education will have [number] vacancies in the April 25 Annual School Election, [spokesperson’s name] , [a spokesperson for the school board], announced today. A full term on the school board runs for three years. [In addition, note if any vacancies are for one-year or two-year unexpired terms.]

Candidates must file a nominating petition with the local school board in order to get their name on the ballot for the Annual School Election. The current deadline to submit the nominating petition is 4 p.m. Monday, March 6, 2017. The election is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2017.

Prospective school board candidates can obtain a “School Board Candidate Kit” online at [NJSBA/Membership](https://www.njsba.org/about/membership/school-board-candidacy/%20). Published by the New Jersey School Boards Association, the School Board Candidate Kit includes a nominating petition, information about legal qualifications for school board candidacy and the role of the school board member. Information about the New Jersey School Ethics Act and important dates in the school election process are also included in the kit.

“One of the most meaningful contributions that a citizen can make to their community is serving on their local board of education,” said Donald Webster, Jr., NJSBA president. “I encourage all interested citizens to consider school board membership. It doesn’t require a degree in education, or a background in politics. However, it does require a sincere interest in the community, its children, and their education.”