

## POSITIONS AND POLICIES ON EDUCATION

Number of Members and Terms of Office

FILE CODE

9110

### Board Member Term of Office

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that the current three-year term for board members should be maintained. While NJSBA recognizes the many problems engendered by rapidly changing membership, and appreciates the importance of having consistent school policy to allow educational and organizational initiatives a chance to work, it believes that extending the present term would have the overriding disadvantage of discouraging candidates for board office. *[Authority: DA 5/76-CR (Competency), DA 11/98-SR, DA 11/03-ER(A)]*
- B. **The NJSBA believes** that the term of office of members of boards of education of county vocational schools should expire July 1, and a newly appointed member of a board of education of a county vocational school should be appointed during the month of June and should assume office on July 1. *[Authority: DA 6/85-13, DA 11/98-SR, DA 11/03-SR, DA 5/08-SR, DA 5/13-SR]*

### Board Size

**The NJSBA believes** the number of board members should be a local option since each district is most familiar with its own characteristics and can most appropriately balance its desire for efficiency and representation. *[Authority: DA 6/85-13, DA 11/98-SR, DA 11/03-SR, DA 5/08-SR, DA 5/13-SR]*

### Membership of Special Services School Boards

**The NJSBA believes** that the County Board of Chosen Freeholders should be able to appoint six or eight public members to the board of education of a county special services school district, provided that changes in the number of members shall not occur more than once every three years. *[Authority: DA 6/79-29, DA 6/93-SR, DA 11/98-SR, DA 11/03-SR, DA 5/08-SR, DA 5/13-SR]*

### Reapportioning Membership on Regional Boards

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that whenever a change in census produces a realignment of regional board members and election imbalances are created in any one year for one or more constituent districts, the constituent districts should be able to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner should have the statutory authority to hear the appeal and to change the length of term or terms of the necessary number of board members to provide a better balance, by either extending a term or terms to four years or shortening a term or terms to two years. *[Authority: DA 5/75-15, DA 11/98-SR]*
- B. **The NJSBA believes** that revised periodic estimates of New Jersey population should be used, in addition to federal census figures, to apportion regional districts every five years. *[Authority: DA 5/74-14, DA 11/98-SR, 11/03-SR, DA 5/08-SR, DA 5/13-SR]*

### Membership of County Vocational School Boards

**The NJSBA believes** that the board of education of a county vocational school should consist of five, seven or nine members, as determined by the appointing authority, and that the appointing authority should not be permitted to change the number of board members more than once every three years. *[Authority: DA 5/76-11, DA 11/98-SR, DA 11/03-SR, DA 5/08-SR, DA 5/13-SR]*

**Cross References:** 1410 Local units  
6130 Organization plan

**Key Words:** term, membership, boards, vocational