

# Chapter 331

## 1981 REPLACEMENT PART

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#### CROSS REFERENCES

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## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**331.002 Application of election laws to school elections; duties of county clerk.**

Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the provisions of the general election laws of this state, including ORS 255.005 to 255.035, 255.055 to 255.095 and 255.215 to 255.355, apply to all school district elections. The county clerk of the principal county of a school district shall be the election officer for school district elections. [1965 c 100 §106, 1971 c 660 §2, 1973 c 796 §32]

**331.005** [1957 c 310 §1; repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]

**331.010 Notice of certain elections. (1)**

Except as provided by ORS 255.005 to 255.035, 255.055 to 255.095, 255.215 to 255.355 and 294.421 (Local Budget Law), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, notice of school district organization and merger, school district budgets and school district purchasing shall be given only as provided in this section.

(2) The clerk of any school district in which a newspaper is published shall, whenever notice is required, publish the notice in one or more of the newspapers published in the district and having a general circulation in the district. If no newspaper is published in the district, the notice shall be published in some newspaper designated by the district school board and having circulation in the school district. The notice shall be published in at least two issues of each designated newspaper.

(3) The clerk shall record in his minute book the time and place of posting or publishing each of the notices required by subsection (1) of this section and the content of such notices. [Amended by 1957 c.310 §9, 1961 c 10 §1, 1965 c.100 §107; 1973 c 796 §33; 1979 c 519 §36]

**331.015** [1963 c 273 §2, repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]

**331.020** [Amended by 1961 c.361 §1; 1965 c.100 §108, repealed by 1973 c.796 §79]

**331.025 Challenging voters.** A challenge to a person's right to vote in any school election shall be conducted in the same manner as provided in the general election laws of this state. [1973 c 467 §2]

**331.030** [Amended by 1963 c.273 §3, 1965 c.100 §109; 1971 c.660 §3; repealed by 1973 c.796 §79]

**331.035 Contesting election.** The manner for a contest of a school district election shall be the same as provided in ORS 258.161

to 258.300. [1973 c 467 §4]

**331.040** [Amended by 1963 c 273 §4, 1965 c 100 §110, 1967 c.609 §13; part renumbered 331 045, 1971 c 660 §4, repealed by 1973 c 467 §5 and 1973 c 796 §79]

**331.045** [Formerly part of 331 040, repealed by 1973 c 467 §5 and 1973 c 796 §79]

**331.050** [1961 c 72 §1; repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]

**331.060 Limitations on elections where boundary change pending.** During the period following an election or other action resulting in a boundary change in a school district and prior to the date the change becomes effective, the district or districts from which an area will be separated as a result of the boundary change may hold elections for all legal purposes but the voters in the area to be separated as a result of the boundary change shall not be qualified to vote in any such election. The election on any measure in such district or districts shall not affect or encumber the area to be separated. [1965 c 100 §111]

ELECTIONS IN COMMON AND  
UNION HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICTS

**331.080** [Formerly 331 320, 1967 c 605 §5; 1967 c 609 §6, 1971 c.660 §5, 1973 c.796 §34, 1975 c 647 §29, repealed by 1977 c 681 §2]

**331.085** [1977 c 759 §1; renumbered 332.016]

**331.090 Director nominations and ballots; local school committee.** (1) The name of any qualified voter who resides in the district and, if the district is zoned, in a zone from which nominating petitions are accepted shall be placed on the ballot as a candidate for the office of school director of a common school district or union high school district upon filing with the filing officer a certificate of nomination signed by qualified voters residing in the district and, if the district is zoned, in the zone represented by the position for which the person is a candidate. Unless an acceptance of nomination by the nominee is filed with the filing officer not later than the 34th day prior to the date of such election, such nomination is void.

(2) All candidates shall be elected at large in the district.

(3) The candidate for the office of director of a school district who receives the plurality of the votes shall be elected.

(4) Candidates for the local school committees provided for in ORS 330.665 and 333.280

shall be nominated in the same manner as school directors except that the certificate of nomination shall be signed by qualified voters of the subdistrict or attendance area and shall be sufficient if it bears 10 such signatures. [Formerly 331.330, 1967 c 95 §1; 1969 c 133 §1; 1969 c 202 §4, 1973 c 796 §35, 1975 c 770 §11, 1977 c 829 §22, 1981 c 173 §48]

**331.095 Zoning of districts for nomination of board members.** (1) In common school districts all directors shall be nominated from zones, if zoning is approved by the qualified voters voting at an annual school election.

(2) The election may be requested by petition or if a majority of the members of the district school board decide that zoning would better serve the interests of the qualified voters of the district.

(3) A petition for zoning must be signed by a number of qualified voters equal to 10 percent or at least 1,000 persons, whichever is the lesser, of the qualified voters voting for the office of school director at the last annual school election in the district.

(4) A district that has been zoned under this section may abolish zones in the same method as they were established.

(5) Nothing in this section applies to school districts with more than 300,000 population. [1969 c 202 §1]

**331.097 Establishing and revising zones.** If the district is zoned, the district school board shall divide each common school district into the necessary number of zones as nearly equal in population, as shown by the latest federal census, as practicable, taking into account attendance areas where possible. The board shall readjust zone boundaries if necessary to comply with this section, upon any change in the boundaries of the district. [1969 c.202 §2]

**331.102 Assuring zone representation.** (1) A school board director shall be eligible for reelection in an election subsequent to zoning under ORS 331.095 only if he resides in a zone which is not represented on the board.

(2) Any vacancy occurring on a school board before all zones are represented thereon shall be filled from among residents in an unrepresented zone, the zone to be determined by the board by lot. [1969 c 202 §3]

**331.105 Position numbers to be used for candidates in unzoned districts.** (1) As used in this section, "school board member" means a school board member of a common or union high school district or an education service district.

(2) The positions of school board members, and their respective successors in office, shall be designated by numbers as Position No. 1, Position No. 2, and so on.

(3) In all proceedings for the nomination or election of candidates for or to the office of a school board member in school districts that are not zoned, every petition for nomination, declaration of candidacy, certificate of nomination, ballot or other document used in connection with the nomination or election shall state the position number of the position to which the candidate aspires, and his name shall appear on the ballot only for the designated position. Each voter has the right to vote for only one candidate for each position, and the candidate for each position receiving the highest number of votes for the position is considered nominated or elected, as the case may be. [1969 c 359 §1, 1975 c 770 §12]

**331.106 Nomination and election of directors in union high school districts.** (1) In all union high school districts, all directors shall be nominated and elected pursuant to ORS 331.090 and 332.016.

(2) In any union high school district that is zoned:

(a) A school board director of a union high school district shall be eligible for reelection in an election after October 4, 1977, only if the director resides in a zone which is not represented on the board.

(b) Any vacancy occurring on a union high school district board before all zones are represented thereon shall be filled from among residents in an unrepresented zone, the zone to be determined by lot if more than one zone is unrepresented. [1977 c.474 §1]

### ELECTIONS IN DISTRICTS WITH 300,000 OR MORE POPULATION

**331.110** [Amended by 1965 c.100 §117, 1967 c.605 §6; 1973 c.796 §36, repealed by 1979 c.519 §38]

**331.115 Definitions for ORS 331.120 and 331.160.** As used in ORS 331.120 and 331.160, "principal county" means the county in which the chief administrative officer of

the school district maintains his office. [1973 c 796 §31]

**331.120 Election of directors.** At each regular biennial election, school directors in districts of 300,000 or more according to the latest federal census shall be elected for a term of four years to succeed the directors whose terms of office expire on June 30 of that year. All such elections of school directors shall be held as provided by ORS 255.005 to 255.035, 255.055 to 255.095 and 255.215 to 255.355. [Amended by 1957 c 608 §230; 1965 c.100 §118, 1967 c.605 §7; 1971 c.749 §81, 1973 c 796 §37; 1977 c 149 §2]

**331.130** [Amended by 1965 c 100 §119; 1967 c.605 §8; repealed by 1979 c.519 §38]

**331.140** [Amended by 1961 c.361 §2; 1965 c 100 §120; 1967 c 605 §9, 1979 c 316 §19; repealed by 1979 c.519 §38]

**331.150** [Amended by 1961 c 361 §3; 1965 c.100 §121; 1967 c.605 §10; 1973 c 796 §38; 1979 c 190 §414; repealed by 1979 c.519 §38]

**331.160 Consolidation of precincts; polling places and election boards.** The registrar of elections of the principal county in which a common school district having a population of 300,000 or more according to the latest federal census is located shall in consolidating election precincts provide for not less than 200 polling places and not less than 200 election boards. [Amended by 1961 c.10 §2; 1965 c.100 §122, 1967 c.605 §11, 1973 c 796 §39]

**331.170** [Amended by 1965 c.100 §123; 1967 c.605 §12; 1973 c.796 §40; repealed by 1979 c.519 §19]

**331.180** [Amended by 1965 c 100 §124, 1967 c.605 §13, repealed by 1973 c 796 §79]

**331.310** [Repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]

**331.320** [Amended by 1955 c.386 §3; 1957 c.622 §1; 1965 c.100 §12; renumbered 331.080]

**331.330** [Amended by 1955 c.386 §4; 1957 c.622 §2, 1965 c.100 §113; renumbered 331.090]

**331.340** [Repealed by 1955 c.386 §8]

**331.350** [Amended by 1955 c 386 §5; repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]

**331.360** [Repealed by 1955 c.386 §8]

## RECALL ELECTIONS

**331.410 Recall of school directors.** Every district school board director, including members of education service district boards, is subject to recall by the qualified voters of the school district for which he is elected or appointed. [Amended by 1965 c.100 §114]

**331.420** [Amended by 1955 c.234 §1; 1965 c.100 §115; repealed by 1965 c.172 §7]

**331.425** [1965 c.172 §1; repealed by 1975 c.770 §14 (331.426 enacted in lieu of 331.425)]

**331.426 Recall petitions.** (1) A petition for recall of a school director shall be filed with the officer with whom a petition for nomination to such office should be filed.

(2) The petition shall be signed by not less than the lesser of:

(a) Fifteen percent of the qualified voters of the district; or

(b) Twenty-five percent of the number of voters from the district who voted at the preceding election for justice of the Supreme Court for that position for which the greatest number of votes were cast at the preceding general election.

(3) Every sheet of each petition containing signatures shall be verified on the face by the affidavit of the person who circulated the sheet, stating that every person who signed the sheet did so in his presence and that he believes that each signer stated his correct residence address and is a qualified voter.

(4) In those districts where qualified voters must be registered electors, the petition, before filing, shall be submitted to the county clerk who shall compare the signatures of the persons signing the petition with the signatures of registered electors on the register of electors and shall certify the number of signatures he believes to be genuine.

(5) The district shall pay the expense of calling and conducting the election. The election shall be conducted in the district from which the district officer was elected, in accordance with the law governing election of district officers. [1975 c.770 §15 (enacted in lieu of 331.425); 1977 c 644 §6]

**331.430** [Amended by 1965 c.100 §116, repealed by 1965 c.172 §7]

**331.435** [1965 c.172 §2; repealed by 1975 c.770 §49]

**331.440** [Amended by 1955 c.234 §2; 1957 c.310 §10; repealed by 1965 c.100 §456]

**331.445 Limitations on recall.** (1) No petition for the recall of a school director shall be accepted for filing unless the director against whom the petition is filed has served at least six months of the term of office for which he was elected.

(2) After one recall election has been held, no further recall petitions shall be accepted for filing against the same director during the

term of office for which he was elected unless the petitioners pay the school district the amount of its expenses for the preceding recall election. [1965 c 172 §3]

**331.450** [Amended by 1955 c.234 §3, repealed by 1965 c 172 §7]

**331.455 Filing of petition does not make director ineligible to serve.** A school director is not ineligible to continue performance of his official duties by reason of his being the public officer against whom a recall petition has been filed. [1965 c.172 §4]

**331.465 Resignation of director before election; election procedure.** (1) If the school director resigns his position within five days after the date on which the petition is filed, the resignation shall take effect on the day it is submitted. If the director does not resign, a special election shall be called to be held in the district within 25 days of the date on which the petition is filed to determine whether the school director shall be recalled.

(2) As nearly as is practicable and in a manner consistent with section 18, Article II

of the Oregon Constitution, the election procedure and the method of determining the result shall be the same as is provided by law for the election of school directors in the district.

(3) The ballot used in the recall election shall contain a statement of not more than 200 words giving the reasons for demanding the recall and a statement of not more than 200 words giving the director's justification of the conduct of his office. [1965 c.172 §5]

**331.510** [Amended by 1957 c.622 §3, 1963 c 34 §1, repealed by 1965 c.100 §456]

**331.520** [Repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]

**331.530** [Repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]

**331.540** [Repealed by 1965 c.100 §456]

**331.550** [Repealed by 1965 c.100 §456]

**331.990** [Repealed by 1965 c 100 §456]