

2026 Manitoba School Trustee Elections: Strong Interest Across Manitoba

Preliminary nomination data from Manitoba school divisions as of September 28, 2026, points to encouraging levels of engagement in this year's school trustee elections.

Across the province, the number of vacant trustee seats requiring appointment has notably decreased since nominations closed. More than 80 percent of school divisions reported no vacant seats, and all but two divisions saw fewer vacancies than in the 2022 election.

Interest in serving as a school trustee also appears to be rising. Approximately 60 percent of divisions reported fewer acclamations than in 2022, suggesting stronger candidate participation in both urban and rural communities.

Several divisions reported noteworthy information on electoral activity:

- The Winnipeg School Division saw five trustee seats filled by acclamation, compared to none in 2022.
- Northern Manitoba saw increased engagement, with elections in both Thompson and The Pas after no contests were held in those communities in 2022.
- Increased interest in divisions such as Hanover, Mountain View, and Lord Selkirk resulted in more trustee positions being contested through elections.
- At the same time, some divisions, including Pembina Trails, Louis Riel, and Sunrise, reported election activity that was similar to or lower than previous election cycles.

To support voter awareness and participation, MSBA has undertaken an extensive province-wide election awareness campaign. Efforts have included billboard advertising, newspaper advertisements, social media outreach, radio advertising, Folklorama and additional summer festival advertising, and promotional placements at Winnipeg Blue Bombers and Jets games. Together, these initiatives are helping increase public awareness of the important role school trustees play in public education and encouraging Manitobans to vote on October 28.

Overall, the nomination results and strong public awareness efforts reflect healthy community interest in school board governance and a growing commitment to democratic participation in public education across Manitoba.

As Election Day approaches, voters are encouraged to learn about local candidates, make a plan to vote, and help shape the future of public education in their communities..

ON OCTOBER 28
VOTE
for your local school trustee

MANITOBA
**School
Boards**
ASSOCIATION



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