The following information has been provided for candidates wishing to serve as school trustees.

(1) What do Trustees do?
(2) Qualifications for a successful trustee.
(3) General information to candidates.
(4) Electoral Subdivisions and map of the jurisdiction.
(5) Nomination Paper and Candidate’s Acceptance Form.

Information material, applicable sections of the Local Authorities Election Act and nomination forms for school trustees may be picked up at

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools Administration Office
5515 – 47A Avenue, Wetaskiwin, Alberta

Should there be any further inquiries or information required, please contact Sherri Senger, Returning Officer at (780) 352-6018.

Completed nomination forms must be returned to Sherri Senger, Returning Officer at:

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools Administration Office
5515-47A Avenue, Wetaskiwin, Alberta

on

Monday, October 5, 2015 between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon.

The Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools has no deposit requirement for School Trustee candidates. Any person may hand in completed nomination papers. It is not necessary that candidates present them in person. Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools requires seven (7) trustees as follows:

Electoral Subdivision #3 - one trustee
**“What do Trustees do?”**

Effective School Boards are essential to the success of the education system. School Boards govern their school system, maintaining standards set by provincial legislation. Trustees are elected to serve the community, share control and create self-reliance and trust on the part of all that are touched by the local education system. Given the crucial role of schools in our community, it is important to have a strong group of trustees who are committed to public education.

The Board of Trustees of Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools (WRPS) shape today’s students’ into tomorrow’s citizens. They control the direction and quality of local public education and make decisions that impact the economic, social and cultural life of a community. School boards make decisions about how education is delivered locally. Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools Policies and Guidelines directly impact the development of the children in the community. In short, the decisions WRPS Trustees make affect all residents, whether they have children in school or not. It is vital to have good candidates running for the school board, WRPS encourages people with an interest in children and a vision for public education to consider running for the office of trustee in the upcoming election.

The Board’s roles include:

- planning for the jurisdiction, setting priorities for the system in light of community wishes, available resources and sound educational practice
- setting goals for the jurisdiction, ensuring education stays in step with today’s world
- evaluating the chief executive officer, the Superintendent of Schools
- adopting an annual budget for the school system
- developing policy to guide the administration and employees toward division goals
- communicating with the community and staff on behalf of the jurisdiction
- educating others, with a goal of ensuring education is given a high priority by the public and to keep the community aware of the jurisdiction’s achievements
- gathering information in order to make sound decisions
- adjudicating in policy disputes
- lobbying all levels of government on behalf of education
“What are the qualifications of a successful trustee?”

Individuals don’t need to be an “education expert” to be a school trustee. The ideal school board includes trustees from all walks of life. The role of the trustee is not to serve as a professional educator or act as the spokesperson for a particular interest group. Rather the effective school trustee represents the wishes of all parents, students, and community members.

Trustees put the needs of children first. They run for office because they are committed to making things better for all Alberta’s children.

Trustees, acting individually, have no authority to make decisions. The School Board, in public meetings, has the power to make decisions that affect schools in the jurisdiction. Trustees must act as team players.

Trustees must be effective communicators to the community about wants and needs and ensure the public is kept up-to-date of the Board’s plans and decisions.
**General Information to Candidates**

**Terms of Office:**

- If elected at a general election – shall hold office for a term of four years.
- Holds office from the Organizational Meeting following the general election to the Organizational Meeting of the Board after the next general election.

**By-Election Day:**

- By - Election Ward 3

  **2015 – November 2**

**Nomination Day:**

- Shall be 4 weeks before election day

  **2015 – October 5**

- Receive nominations between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

**Form of Nomination:**

- Shall be on prescribed form, signed by at least 5 electors eligible to vote in the election and resident of the jurisdiction on the date of signing nomination.

- Candidate must provide written acceptance, (prescribed form) accompanying nomination form.

**Withdrawal of Nomination:**

- If more than required number of candidates is nominated, any nominee may withdraw within 24 hours after close on nomination period. Withdrawal in writing to the Returning Officer.

**Eligibility:**

Any person may be nominated if he/she is:

- eligible to vote in that election,

- has been a resident of the local jurisdiction and the ward, if any, for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding nomination day

- is not otherwise ineligible or disqualified
Ineligibility:

A person is not eligible to be nominated as a candidate in any election under the Local Authorities Election Act. See sections 22, 23 and 24 of the Local Authorities Election Act for more detail.

The most common reason for ineligibility are:

- An employee of any school district, school division, charter school or private school on nomination day cannot run for the office of school trustee – unless they take a leave of absence for this purpose. Employees may notify their employer that they are taking a leave of absence without pay on or before the last working day before nomination day.
- An auditor of the jurisdiction (for which the office is sought) on nomination day may not be a candidate.
- An individual who does not meet the residency requirement on nomination day may not be a candidate.
- A candidate must not otherwise be ineligible or disqualified as provided under section 22 of the Local Authorities Election Act.
Electoral Subdivisions and Map (See attached) of the Jurisdiction:

Public School Trustee 1 Rural Electoral Division No. 3

Electoral Subdivision #3 (Ward 3)
All that portion of the County of Wetaskiwin contained within the boundary as follows:

- Commencing at the north east corner of the north west quarter of Section 33, Township 47, Range 25, West of the 4th Meridian and proceeding south along Highway #2 to the south boundary of the County;
  - then
  - West along the south boundary to Secondary Highway #771;
  - then
  - North along Secondary Highway #771 to the south east corner of the north west quarter of Section 22, Township 46, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian;
  - then
  - North along the west boundaries of Sections 22 and 27, Township 46, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian;
  - then
  - South east along Pigeon Lake to the north east corner of the south east quarter of Section 13, Township 46, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian;
  - then
  - South to the north west corner of Section 9, Township 46, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian;
  - then
  - Following the south, east and north boundaries of the Pigeon Lake Indian Reserve No 138A;
  - then
  - North west along the Pigeon Lake boundary to the south west corner of the south east quarter of Section 14, Township 47, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian;
  - then
  - North along the County boundary to the north boundary;
  - then
  - East along the north boundary to the point of commencement.

For more information visit the WRPS Website www.wrps.ab.ca

The following information may be useful for prospective candidates and is located on the Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools website.

Strategic Education Plan
Budget
Audited Financial Statements
Policy Manual
Administrative Procedures
Board Minutes
Board Agendas
School Boards are subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act).

The personal information that is being collected under the authority of the Local Authorities Election Act will be used for the purposes authorized under that Act.

It is treated in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

If you have any questions regarding this collection contact Sherri Senger, Returning Officer of the Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools at 5515-47A Avenue Street, Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 3S3, phone (780) 352-6018.