



SENATE BILL 248: Change No. of Members on Nash Co. Bd. of Ed.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	May 17, 2023
Introduced by:	Sens. Barnes, B. Newton	Prepared by:	Jessica Sammons
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 248 would decrease the size of the Nash County Board of Education from eleven members to seven members and would require the members of the Nash County Board of Education to be elected from the same electoral districts used to elect members of the Nash County Board of Commissioners.*

CURRENT LAW: The Nash County Board of Education ("Board") consists of 11 members elected for four-year staggered terms. Members are elected from single-member electoral districts. All candidates must reside in the district in which the election is held, and the seat is voted on by the qualified voters residing within that district.

Elections for Board members are non-partisan, with results determined according to the election and runoff method. G.S. 163-293. Candidates seeking election file a notice of candidacy from noon on the first Friday in July until noon on the first Friday in August. The election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, and the runoff, if needed, is held on the first Tuesday in December. Members elected take office on the second Monday in December following their election.

AMENDMENT ANALYSIS: The bill would do the following:

- Decrease the number of members serving on the Board to seven members, beginning in 2026.
- Require the electoral districts for the Board to be the same electoral districts used to elect members of the Nash County Board of Commissioners.
- Amend the filing period to be from noon on the first Friday in July through noon on the third Friday in July.
- Provide that the five members elected to the Board in 2022 would continue to hold at-large positions on the Board until the end of their term or a vacancy occurs due to resignation or other causes, resulting in 12 members serving on the Board for two years.
- Require all members of the Board to be elected in 2024. To implement staggered terms, members would be elected in 2024 and thereafter as follows:
 - In 2024 and every four years thereafter, one member from each of Districts 1, 3, and 4 would be elected to serve a four-year term.
 - In 2024, one member from each of Districts 2, 5, 6, and 7 would be elected to serve a two-year term. In 2026 and every four years thereafter, one member from each of Districts 2, 5, 6, and 7 would be elected to serve a four-year term.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held beginning in 2024.

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Legislative Analysis
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BACKGROUND: S.L. 1991-391 (SB 612) merged the Nash County and Rocky Mount City School Administrative Units to create the Nash-Rocky Mount School Administrative Unit. The Nash-Rocky Mount School Administrative Unit includes all of Nash County and the portion of the City of Rocky Mount located in Edgecombe County.

On July 1, 2020, the "Nash-Rocky Mount School Administrative Unit" was re-named the "Nash School Administrative Unit," and the "Nash-Rocky Mount Board of Education" was re-named the "Nash Board of Education." Section 5 of S.L. 2016-14.