2026

January Special School Board Election Timeline

November 2025

November 28

Written Notice of January Special School Board Elections by Board of Education to Municipal Clerks and County Board of Election

(no less than 60 days prior to election)

N.J.S.A. 19:60-2

November 28

Secretary of the Board of Education Forwards Certified Statement Designating the Public Question to be Voted Upon to County Clerk

(By 10 a.m., 60 days preceding a special school election)

N.J.S.A. 19:60-4

December 2025

December 1

Publication of Notice of Mail-In Ballot Availability for January Special School Board Elections by County Clerks

(prior to the 55th day before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-6

December 7- January 5, 2026

Publication of Notice of January Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election

(once during the 30 days next preceding the voter registration deadline)

N.J.S.A. 19:12-7

January 2026

January 6

Voter Registration Deadline for January Special School Board Elections

(21 days before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:31-6

January 18 - January 24

Publication of Notice of January Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election (once during the calendar week prior to election)

N.J.S.A. 19:12-7

January 20

Publication of Challenge and Complaint Procedures for January Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election

(7 days before election)

N.J.S.A. 19:12-9

2026

January Special School Board Election Timeline

January 20

Deadline to Apply for a Mail-In Ballot by Mail for January Special School Board Election (not less than 7 days prior to election)
N.J.S.A. 19:63-3

January 21

Mailing of Sample Ballots for January Special School Board Elections

(on or before 12 noon on Wednesday preceding election)
(Consistent with requirements prior to the implementation of early voting which does not apply to school elections)

N.J.S.A. 19:14-25

January 22

Last Day for Testing of Electronic Scanning Equipment for Tabulation of Paper Ballots for January Special School Board Election

(A county board of elections may begin opening the inner envelopes for each mail-in ballot and canvassing each mail-in ballot from the inner envelope no earlier than five days prior to the day of the election-January 27) (notice to be given 48 hours prior to the start of testing)

N.J.S.A. 19:53A-8; 19:63-22 (b)

January 23

Deadline for Application to Receive January Special School Board Election Mail-In Ballots by Electronic Means for Qualified Overseas Civilian and Military Voters (4th day before election)
N.J.S.A. 19:59-4

January 26 – by 3:00 p.m.

Deadline for In-Person Mail-In Ballot Applications for January Special School Board Election (up to 3:00 p.m. on the day before election)
N.J.S.A. 19:63-3

January 26

Publication of Challenge and Complaint Procedures for January Special School Board Elections by County Boards of Election

(1 day before election) N.J.S.A. 19:12-9

January 27

January Special School Board Election (4th Tuesday in January)
N.J.S.A. 19:60-2

January 27

Deadline for Post Office Receipt of Mail-In Ballots from the January Special School Board Election

January 27

Deadline for in Person Submission of January Special School Board Election Mail-In Ballots to County Boards of Election or to Authorized Ballot Drop Boxes

(by 8:00 p.m. on the day of election) N.J.S.A. 19:63-16; N.J.S.A. 19:63-16.1e

2026

January Special School Board Election Timeline

January 29

Deadline for Receipt by County Boards of Elections of Mail-In Ballots by delivery of the United States Postal Service that DO NOT Bear a Postmark of Delivery

(no later than 48 hours (2 days) after the time of the closing of the polls for the election) **N.J.S.A. 19:63-22**

February

February 2

Deadline for Receipt of Timely Mailed Postmarked Mail-In Ballots to County Boards of Election (no later than 144 hours (6 days) after the time of the closing of the polls for the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:63-22

February 9

Deadline for Receipt of Cure Form to County Boards of Election

(no later than 48 hours (2 days) prior to the final certification of the results of the election) **N.J.S.A. 19:63-17**

February 11- 12 p.m.

Meeting of County Board of Canvassers for January Special School Board Election (15 days after the election) N.J.S.A. 19:19-1, N.J.S.A. 19:19-4, N.J.S.A. 19:19-6

February 14

Deadline for Preparation of Emergency and Provisional Ballot Reports by Each County Board of Elections for the January Special School Board Election

(3 days after the certification of the results of the election) N.J.S.A. 19:53B-21; N.J.S.A. 19:53C-21

February 14

Deadline for Recount Applications for January Special School Board Election (within 3 days after the certification of the results of the election)

N.J.S.A. 19:28-1

February 28

Deadline for Filing of Election Contest Petitions for January Special School Board Election (not later than 32 days after election)

N.J.S.A. 19:29-3