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**SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES FILING DEADLINE IS JULY 25**

CANDIDATES seeking school board seats have until 4 p.m., Monday, July 25 to file their nominating petitions at the Ocean County Clerk's Office in order to have their name placed on the Nov. 8 General Election Ballot, according to Ocean County Clerk Scott M. Colabella.

Nominating petitions for School Board can be obtained in person at either the Ocean County Clerk's Main Office, at the Ocean County Courthouse, Election Services, Room 107 at 118 Washington St., Toms River, or at the Ocean County Southern Service Center, 179 South Main St., Manahawkin. The offices are staffed from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

"The Ocean County Clerk's Office makes every effort to inform potential candidates of approaching filing deadlines," said Ocean County Freeholder Director John P. Kelly, who serves as liaison to the County Clerk. "Through the office's website, social media, and other avenues, County Clerk Colabella provides the information needed by both candidates and voters."

Colabella noted that all Ocean County school districts now hold their Board of Education elections in November.

"A law signed by the Governor in 2014 moved the petition filing deadline for school board candidates from June to the last Monday in July to provide candidates with more time to submit their petitions," Colabella said.

A total of 70 school board seats will appear on the November ballot in various school districts throughout Ocean County. A complete listing of all candidates who file petitions for school board will be available shortly after the July 25 deadline at [www.oceancountyclerk.com](http://www.oceancountyclerk.com) or [www.facebook.com/oceancountyclerk](http://www.facebook.com/oceancountyclerk).

School board candidates seeking additional information on the petition filing process can contact the Ocean County Clerk's Election Office at (732) 929-2153.

"It's important for candidates to get their paperwork in on time," Colabella said. "That is what guarantees their place on the ballot."