

DATE: June 12, 2012
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Feasibility of Term Limits for School Trustees (Trustee Request #206)
ORIGINATOR: Tash Taylor, Director, Executive and Board Relations
REFERENCE: May 22, 2012 Public Board Meeting (Trustee Janz)

ISSUE

The following information was requested: Provide information on the feasibility of implementing term limits for school trustees.

BACKGROUND

N/A

CURRENT SITUATION

The only way that term limits for school trustees could be imposed is through legislation. The *School Act* has no such provision, nor does either version of the proposed *Education Act*. The *Local Authorities Elections Act* limits terms of office to three years, and does not limit the number of terms that a trustee may seek and/or hold office.

For members of council under the *Municipal Government Act* and school board members under the *School Act*, the *Local Authorities Elections Act* states the following:

Term of office

9(1) *A person elected under this Act, unless otherwise disqualified from remaining in office, holds office from the beginning of the organizational meeting of the elected authority following the general election to immediately before the beginning of the organizational meeting of the elected authority after the next general election.*

(2) *A person elected to an elected authority to fill a vacancy caused other than by the passage of time, holds office from when the person takes the oath of office for the remainder of the period the person's predecessor would have held office, had that predecessor continued in office.*

General term of office

10 (1) *The members of an elected authority elected at a general election hold office for a term of three years and a general election shall be held every third year commencing with the year 1983.*

(2) *If a declaration is made under section 34(1) with respect to every office of the elected authority, those declared elected may hold an organizational meeting before the date of the general election.*

(3) *Despite subsection (1), an organizational meeting held pursuant to subsection (2) terminates the term of office of the members of the elected authority elected at the previous general election.*

KEY POINTS

- It is not feasible for term limits to be implemented for school trustees due to current legislation.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

N/A

ES:ee