

By-Laws

SUBJECT: ABSENTEE BALLOTS

In order to promote the involvement in School District elections by those qualified voters who otherwise may find themselves unable to be personally present at the polling place, the Schalmont Central School District Board of Education provides for absentee balloting for the election of members of the school board, the adoption of the annual budget and such other propositions as may appear on the official District ballot.

In order to qualify to vote in a School District election, an individual must be a United States Citizen, be eighteen (18) years of age or older, and have resided in the School District for at least thirty (30) days immediately preceding the election.

A qualified voter eligible for absentee balloting is one who:

- a) Is a patient in a hospital unable to appear personally at the polling place on such day because of illness or physical disability; or
- b) Has duties, occupation, business or studies which will require him/her to be outside of the country or city of his/her residence on such day; or
- c) Will be on vacation outside the country or city of his/her residence on such day; or
- d) Will be absent from his/her voting residence because he/she is detained in jail or awaiting action by a grand jury or awaiting trial or is confined in prison after conviction for an offense other than a felony; or
- e) Is the spouse, parent or child of a person who is or would be, if he/she were a qualified voter, entitled to apply for an absentee ballot, if such spouse, parent or child expects to be absent on election day by reason of accompanying or being with such person.

Persons who are permanently disabled may make one application for an absentee ballot from the District Clerk. These persons will automatically receive absentee ballots for all eligible referenda until the District Clerk is notified to the contrary.

Non-disabled persons must make an application for an absentee ballot for each referendum and submit the prescribed application to the District Clerk for such referendum. The application requires the individual to verify that he/she meets all voting requirements and explains the reason for his/her inability to appear in person to vote. The completed and signed application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if it is to be delivered personally. Proxy votes cannot be used.

(Continued)

SUBJECT: ABSENTEE BALLOTS (Cont'd.)

No absentee ballot can be counted unless it is received in the prescribed envelope in the office of the School District Clerk by 5:00 p.m., on the day of the election.

The District Clerk or other person designated by the School Board, shall maintain a list of absentee voters which shall be available for public inspection during regular office hours until the day of election. Any qualified voter may file a written challenge of the voting qualifications of any person appearing on the list. Such a written challenge shall be transmitted to the inspectors of election on election day. The absentee voter list will be conspicuously posted during the election and any qualified voter may challenge the voter qualifications or any person on the list by making such challenge known to the inspector of election.

The Superintendent and District Clerk are authorized and directed to implement this policy in strict accordance with the provisions of law, including New York State Education Law 2018(a).

Education Law Sections 2014 and 2018-a

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