



Summary for Jan. 5, 2023, Meeting with Interested Legislators

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Threshold Policy Decisions

The following threshold policy questions must be answered before we can begin to draft a comprehensive bill to change school election dates

1. Should the regular school election to be combined with the primary election or with the general election? And, is the intent to change just the trustee election date or also the school levy election that is held with the trustee elections? If separated, what will the affect be on voter turnout for the levy election? If kept together and moved, what with the affect be on school budgeting timelines?
2. Under current law, with a few exceptions, all special purpose district elections are held on the same day as school elections. Should the date of special purpose district elections also be changed, or should these remain in May? If they remain in May, what will the affect be on voter turnout; and will this compromise the policy goal of combining elections?
3. Should the counties be required to conduct all school elections? If so, statutory changes will need to be comprehensive because current statutory construction assumes the option and assumes school conduct the elections. There will need to be careful consideration of statutory powers and duties between trustees and counties. Also, training for county election administrators will be a key piece, funding for this, and training for election judges.
4. Should there be any changes in funding for elections (schools paying for the cost of their elections)?

Potential Incremental Changes

1. Task force to identify changes, develop legislation for 2025 – OPI 1 draft, appropriation
2. Incentive (pilot but with May election date still) for county and schools, gain experience – OPI 2 draft, appropriation
3. Boundary accuracy project, school district and special districts – OPI 3 draft, appropriation
4. Cleanup for current statutes on school elections – OPI 4 draft, no funding