

HCEA 2024 Election Guidelines

Active HCEA members may run for:

HCEA Secretary & Delegate to the MSEA: 1 (one) vacated seat- (March 1, 2024 -July 31, 2025)

HCEA Board of Directors & Delegate to MSEA Rep Assemblies: 5 (five) seats- each a two year term (August 1, 2024-July 31, 2026)

HCEA Delegate to the MSEA Rep Assembly: Ocean City, MD October 18 & 19, 2024 (17 funded seats)

HCEA Delegate to the NEA Convention: Philadelphia, July 3-7 2024 (13 funded seats)

2023/24 HCEA ELECTIONS SCHEDULE

October 2, 2023	Nominations open 8:00am
November 17, 2023	All forms, bios, photos due (online or postmarked) by 5pm
December 12, 2023	Candidates for MSEA office or NEA Director speak at rep council
January 9, 2024	Candidates for HCEA offices or NEA Director speak at rep council
January 12, 2024	Bios and photos posted on HCEA Website
January 29, 2024	Voting begins online at 9:00am
February 16, 2024	Voting closes at 5:00 pm
February 21, 2024	Election results validated and released

Run off if necessary, February 26- March 15, 2024 with results announced March 19th.

GUIDELINES FOR 2023/24 HCEA ELECTIONS

1. Election procedures will conform to applicable HCEA/MSEA/NEA bylaws and regulations.
2. All regular HCEA members may vote in HCEA elections.
3. Campaign activities may not interfere with the efficient operation of the HCEA Association Office.
4. No HCEA staff member or UniServ representative will actively support any candidate or work on behalf of any candidate. This includes distributing, transporting, or preparing materials for distribution through the HCPSS Pony.
5. Dues money, in any amount, may not be used to support the candidacy of any individual running for office.

6. A member of the Board of Directors for HCEA who endorses a candidate(s) does so as an individual Association member rather than as a member of HCEA Board of Director and shall not speak for HCEA Board.
7. HCEA members or candidates for HCEA positions are prohibited from campaigning or sending campaign materials using HCPSS email accounts, including distribution to HCPSS addresses. Members and candidates may use HCPSS email accounts for the purpose of setting up building site visits related to campaigning.
8. Nominations for all offices shall be made on the official HCEA Election Nomination Form link and sent to the Elections Committee through the link provided. The Nomination Form must:
 - a. State the candidate's willingness to abide by the HCEA/MSEA/NEA bylaws, and policy, and adhere to the Code of Ethics.
 - b. Nominations shall close on the day and time prescribed in the approved calendar as set by the Representative Assembly and Elections America.
9. Candidates may provide biographical sketches along with the Nomination Form. These will be sent out with the ballots and may contain:
 - a. Present work assignment
 - b. Professional background
 - c. Contributions to HCEA/MSEA/NEA within the past three years
 - d. Reason for running

Biographical sketches may not exceed one hundred (100) words for candidates for HCEA officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary), fifty-five for HCEA Directors and delegates to MSEA and NEA Conventions. A link to these Bios will be added to the ballot for voters to view. Any additional material beyond the maximum number of words will not be included in the official election materials. Handwritten Bios will not be accepted. Bios submitted will be copy/pasted on the ballot and HCEA web page EXACTLY as submitted. Corrections to grammar or spelling will NOT be edited.

10. In addition to the Bio sketch, each candidate may submit a digital photograph (depicting only the candidate) with his or her biographical information. The HCEA website will contain the biographical sketch and photo, if provided by the candidate.
11. Candidates' names are placed on the ballot in random order. Each ballot will be displayed in random order to voters.

12. Any member of the Elections Committee whose name appears on the ballot for office shall temporarily be restricted from committee activities related to the election.
13. For the purpose of distributing election materials to all HCEA members, candidates who submit a completed nomination form may request from the HCEA office a list of all HCEA Building Representatives. All candidates will have access to the same.
14. Candidates may provide HCEA with one page (single sided 8 ½" x 11") of campaign material in PDF format, for electronic distribution on the HCEA webpage and elsewhere, at the discretion of the Elections Committee.
15. No member may vote more than once (1).
16. Voting in buildings will be completed according to the attached 2023/24 HCEA Election Calendar.
- 17A. Any dispute concerning HCEA election guidelines must be submitted in writing to the HCEA Elections Committee by the grievant. An acknowledgement will be sent within 72 hours of submission. If the grievant is not satisfied with the results of the Elections Committees' decision, the grievant must file an appeal with the Ethics Review Board within ten (10) calendar days.
- 17B. Any dispute concerning election results will be submitted in writing to the Elections Committee by the grievant. An acknowledgement will be sent within 72 hours of submission. Appeals must be filed with HCEA office manager within ten (10) calendar days after the official results are announced.
18. The Election Committee and/or Board of Directors will make every reasonable effort to procure at least one candidate for each position.
19. Candidates for Officer or Director may have two (2) minutes to address the Representative Council at the meeting after the close of nominations. Candidates will be notified of that date as soon as possible. (Remarks should address the reason for running for office and such remarks will not attack other candidates)
20. Candidates are precluded from using the HCEA/MSEA/NEA logo on any material related to his/her campaign.

21. Every reasonable effort will be made to notify candidates via email or telephone as soon as the Elections Committee has verified the election results.
22. A majority of votes cast is required to elect an officer to the Board of Directors. In all other races, only a plurality of votes cast is necessary.
23. If no candidate for an officers' position receives a majority of votes cast, a runoff election between the two (2) top candidates will be held.
24. Violation of any rules, willfully or inadvertently, will be reviewed by HCEA Ethics Review Board and may result in penalties up to and including disqualification in the Election Term.
25. Additional election forums may be set up through the Elections Committee, at its sole discretion.
26. All candidates running for HCEA Officer positions may distribute campaign materials at the December and January Rep Council Meetings.
27. The Election Committee will reveal to the HCEA Membership candidates for a position of HCEA office after the nomination period and after verification of eligibility to run for the position.

Updated 9/23

