

Chapter 162

(House Bill 151)

AN ACT concerning

Charles County Board of Education – Vacancy Procedures – Timing and Video Streaming and Archiving

FOR the purpose of requiring the Charles County Board of Education, except under certain circumstances, to fill a vacancy on the county board within a certain number of days after the vacancy occurs; requiring the county board to make certain materials publicly available ~~on~~ through its website; and generally relating to filling a vacancy on the Charles County Board of Education.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Education
Section 3–501(a)(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 3–501(f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

3–501.

- (a) (1) The Charles County Board consists of:
 - (i) Nine elected members; and
 - (ii) One student member.

(f) (1) **(1) [The] ~~WITHIN 60~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, WITHIN 90** DAYS AFTER A VACANCY OCCURS ON THE COUNTY BOARD, THE elected members of the county board shall select a qualified individual to fill [any] THE vacancy on the board for the remainder of that term and until a successor is elected and qualifies.

(II) THE COUNTY BOARD MAY CHOOSE NOT TO FILL A VACANCY THAT OCCURS IN AN ELECTION YEAR FOR THE SEAT THAT IS VACANT.

(2) An individual appointed to fill a vacancy of an elected member shall be a resident of the same county commissioner district as that of the vacating member.

(3) (I) An interview of an applicant for a vacancy on the board shall be conducted by the board at a meeting open to the public.

(II) THE BOARD SHALL MAKE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ~~ON~~ THROUGH ITS WEBSITE:

1. LIVE VIDEO STREAMING OF EACH PUBLIC MEETING UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH; AND

2. A COMPLETE ~~AND UNEDITED ARCHIVED~~ VIDEO RECORDING OF EACH PUBLIC MEETING THAT IS LIVESTREAMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS PARAGRAPH AND THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

(4) (i) The board shall publish a list of the names of the applicants for a vacancy on the board at least 2 weeks before the interview of the first applicant is scheduled to occur.

(ii) Public notice of the date, time, and location of each interview shall be published:

1. At least 2 weeks before the interview is scheduled to occur;

and

2. In the same manner as a public notice of a regular meeting of the board is published.

(5) The board is not required to conduct discussions of the applicants or make the final selection of the member to fill a vacancy of the elected member at a meeting open to the public.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor, April 25, 2024.