



Board member selection and meetings

January 2021

Board members are elected in 75 of the 79 districts. Two districts have members appointed by a county board, and two districts have members appointed by the legislative delegation. Sixty-five board elections take place in November. Special elections and appointments occur in other months in the remaining districts.

Thirty-five districts choose board members from single-member districts, **twenty-one** retain at-large representation, **sixteen** districts use a combination of single-member and at-large, **three** have all appointed members and **one** has a combination of at-large and appointed.

Although most school board members are elected in non-partisan elections, some are appointed, and some run in partisan elections. In two districts, candidates run in partisan elections – Lee and Horry counties.

In two counties, Horry and Marlboro, the board chairman is elected at-large by the public.

Citizen involvement

In Aiken, Charleston and Chesterfield, appointed or elected citizens also hold some governance responsibilities.

Aiken is divided into five administrative areas, each with a seven-member area advisory council appointed by the district school board. Councils serve as disciplinary hearing panels, and they may set policies for their local areas as long as policies are consistent with district policies.

Eight elected constituent boards in Charleston, created under a countywide consolidation act in 1967, serve distinct geographic areas with authority to hire school-based personnel, act on student discipline cases and set attendance lines for schools within the constituent districts. The district board may hear appeals.

In four geographic areas in Chesterfield County, appointed advisory councils hear discipline cases that may be appealed to the district board.

County boards

In addition to the 79 local school boards statewide, two county boards have varying degrees of responsibility. The two counties with county boards and their primary roles are as follows:

- **Anderson** - members of this county board are elected and exercise fiscal authority over the five local school district boards.
- **Dillon** - members of this county board are appointed by the local legislative delegation and appoint the members of the two local school district boards.



Board member selection and meetings

Information as reported by school districts

S-M = Single Member • **A-L** = At-Large • **Appt.** = Appointed

Plurality = whoever wins the most votes

Majority = whoever wins 51% or more of the votes

District	Members	S-M	A-L	Appt.	Term	Voting system	Partisan	Petition	Elections held	Elect members	Install members	Elect officers	Board meeting
Abbeville	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	4th Tuesday
Aiken	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	2nd & 4th Tues
Allendale	5	5	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	4th Monday
Anderson 1	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	Last Tuesday*
Anderson 2	7	6	1	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	2nd Monday
Anderson 3	5	4	1	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	2nd Monday
Anderson 4	5	5	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	2nd Monday
Anderson 5	9	7	2	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	3rd Tuesday
Bamberg 1	5	5	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Odd years	April	April	May	3rd Monday
Bamberg 2	5	5	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Odd years	April	April	April	2nd Monday
Barnwell 19	5	0	5	0	3 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	April	April	May	2nd Monday
Barnwell 45	5	0	5	0	3 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	April	April	April	2nd Thursday
Beaufort	11	11	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	1st & 3rd Tues
Berkeley	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	May	2nd & 4th Tues
Calhoun	5	5	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	3rd Monday
Charleston**	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd & 4th Mon
Cherokee	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Aug	Aug	Aug	2nd & 4th Tues
Chester	7	6	1	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	3rd Monday
Chesterfield	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	2nd Monday
Clarendon 1	9	0	5	4	4yrs A-L 2 yrs appt	Plurality;	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	3rd Monday

* Except for January

** Members elected in November 2020 will only serve two years for the start of the phase-in.



Board member selection and meetings

Information as reported by school districts

S-M = Single Member • **A-L** = At-Large • **Appt.** = Appointed

Plurality = whoever wins the most votes

Majority = whoever wins 51% or more of the votes

District	Members	S-M	A-L	Appt.	Term	Voting system	Partisan	Petition	Elections held	Elect members	Install members	Elect officers	Board meeting
Clarendon 2	9	0	0	9	3 yrs	Appoint	No	No	Annually	June	July	July	3rd Tuesday
Clarendon 3	7	7	0	0	3 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	March	March	April	2nd Thursday
Colleton	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	3rd Tuesday
Darlington	8	8	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov/Jan	Jan	2nd Monday
Dillon 3 (Latta)	7	0	0	7	3 yrs	Appoint	No	No	Appt. Annually	Feb	March	March	2nd Tuesday
Dillon 4	7	0	0	7	3 yrs	Appoint	No	No	Appt. Annually	July	Sept	March	3rd Monday
Dorchester 2	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	2nd-4th Mon
Dorchester 4	5	5	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	3rd Tuesday
Edgefield	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd Tuesday
Fairfield	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	3rd Tuesday
Florence 1	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	2nd Thursday
Florence 2	7	7	0	0	3 yrs	Majority	No	No	Annually	March	April	April	4th Monday
Florence 3	9	5	4*	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	3rd Thursday**
Florence 4	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	Nov	Nov	Dec	4th Tuesday
Florence 5	7	4	3	0	3 yrs	Majority	No	No	Annually	Nov	Nov	Nov	4th Monday
Georgetown	9	7	2	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	1st & 3rd Tues
Greenville	12	12	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov/Dec	June	4th Tuesday
Greenwood 50	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	3rd Monday
Greenwood 51	5	0	5	0	3 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	May	July	July	3rd Monday
Greenwood 52	5	0	5	0	3 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	May	July	July	2nd Tuesday
Hampton 1	5	0	5	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	4th Monday

* Multiple single-member district seats.

** Except February and April.



Board member selection and meetings

Information as reported by school districts

S-M = Single Member • **A-L** = At-Large • **Appt.** = Appointed

Plurality = whoever wins the most votes

Majority = whoever wins 51% or more of the votes

District	Members	S-M	A-L	Appt.	Term	Voting system	Partisan	Petition	Elections held	Elect members	Install members	Elect officers	Board meeting
Hampton 2	5	0	5	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	3rd Tuesday
Horry	12	11	1	0	4 yrs	Majority	Yes	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	1st & 3rd Mon
Jasper	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd Mon*
Kershaw	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	1st & 3rd Tues
Lancaster	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	3rd Tuesday
Laurens 55	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Dec	Jan	4th Monday
Laurens 56	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Dec	Dec	4th Monday
Lee	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	Yes	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	4th Thursday
Lexington 1	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	3rd Tuesday
Lexington 2	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	3rd Thursday
Lexington 3	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	2nd Tuesday
Lexington 4	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd Monday
Lex./ Richland 5	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd & 4th Mon
Marion	7	7	0	0	2 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	April	April	April	3rd Tuesday
Marlboro	9	8	1	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Jan	Jan	1st Monday
McCormick	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd Monday
Newberry	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	4th Monday
Oconee	5	5	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd & 3rd Mon**
Orangeburg	9	7	2	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd & 4th Tuesday
Pickens	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	4th Monday

* Except July

** Except November and December.



Board member selection and meetings

Information as reported by school districts

S-M = Single Member • **A-L** = At-Large • **Appt.** = Appointed

Plurality = whoever wins the most votes

Majority = whoever wins 51% or more of the votes

District	Members	S-M	A-L	Appt.	Term	Voting system	Partisan	Petition	Elections held	Elect members	Install members	Elect officers	Board meeting
Richland 1	7	4	3	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	2nd & 4th Tues
Richland 2	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	June	2nd & 4th Tues
Saluda	7	7	0	0	4 yrs	Majority	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	3rd Monday
Spartanburg 1	9	0	9	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Odd years	Nov	Dec	Dec	2nd Monday
Spartanburg 2	10	1	9	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Odd years	Nov	Dec	Dec	2nd Tuesday
Spartanburg 3	9	0	9	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Odd years	Nov	Dec	Nov	3rd Thursday
Spartanburg 4	9	0	9	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Odd years	Nov	Dec	Dec	1st Monday
Spartanburg 5	9	3	6	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Odd years	Nov	Dec	Jan	4th Monday
Spartanburg 6	9	0	9	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Odd years	Nov	Dec	Dec	1st Monday
Spartanburg 7	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Odd years	Nov	Dec	Dec	1st Tuesday
Sumter	9	7	2*	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd & 4th Mon
Union	9	9	0	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	4th Monday
Williamsburg	9	7	2	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	Yes	Even years	Nov	Nov	Jan	4th Monday
Williston 29	5	0	5	0	3 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Annually	April	April	April	3rd Tuesday
York 1	7	5	2	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Dec	2nd Tuesday
Clover 2	7	5	2	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	3rd Monday
Rock Hill 3	7	5	2	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	2nd & 4th Mon
Fort Mill 4	7	0	7	0	4 yrs	Plurality	No	No	Even years	Nov	Nov	Nov	1st & 3rd Tues

* Became elected at-large in 2018 election and will become single-member in 2020 election.