

Election Reform

You probably know that the legislature passed an election reform bill that will affect how library districts (and cities etc) conduct elections. The good news is that counties will conduct elections starting in January 2011. Here are some other changes:

- There will be only 2 elections a year - in May and November. (The May election date will change to the third Tuesday in May rather than the fourth.)
- Counties will designate polling places and will handle notification etc. (Here's an excerpt from what the law will say in 34-1401: "...The county clerk shall conduct the elections for political subdivisions and shall perform all necessary duties of the election official of a political subdivision including, but not limited to, notice of the filing deadline, notice of the election, and preparation of the election calendar.")
- Petitions will still be picked up at the library.
- District trustee elections will be held in odd years, and terms will be for 6 years rather than five. If a trustee resigns during his/her term, the trustee who is appointed to replace will serve until the next election (in an odd year) and then will serve out the rest of the term.
- There will be a staggered implementation that can be a rather complicated formula, but we will let you know more as the time gets closer.

For now - you will conduct an election next year as usual. That trustee position will be for a 5-year term, expiring in 2015. There will be more information about these changes as we know more (and know the questions to ask!)

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