

CODE ORDINANCE

Sponsored by: Assemblymember Fonov,
McKee, and Bernier
Introduced:
Public Hearing:
Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 26-081**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CHANGING SCHOOL BOARD TERMS FROM 3 YEAR TERMS TO 4 YEAR TERMS, PROVIDING FOR TRANSITORY TERMS TO ALIGN SCHOOL BOARD AND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT TERMS, AND TO AND TO SUBMIT THE QUESTION TO THE QUALIFIED AREAWIDE VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 REGULAR ELECTION.

WHEREAS the intent and rationale of this ordinance is found in the accompanying Information Memorandum No 26-127.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. Sections 2, 3, and 4 of this ordinance are of a general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the Borough Code. All other sections are noncode.

Section 2. Amendment of section. MSB 19.04.022 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19.04.022 SCHOOL BOARD SEATS.

(A) Each school board member shall file and be elected to a designated borough assembly district board seat. The board shall consist of a total of seven members, one to be elected from each of the seven borough assembly districts. **Except as provided in MSB 19.04.026,** [T]the term shall be for [THREE] **four** years and until a successor takes office.

(B) Terms shall be staggered.

(C) Each district school board member shall be a resident of the district the member represents.

(D) If an elected member ceases to reside within the district from which the member was elected, but remains a resident of the borough, the member may serve only until the next regular election.

Section 3. Amendment of section. MSB 19.04.025 is hereby repealed as follows:

[19.04.025 SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT DESIGNATIONS AND TERMS.

SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT SEATS SHALL FOLLOW ASSEMBLY DISTRICT SEATS IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER WITH INITIAL TERMS AS SPECIFIED:

- SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT G IS REDESIGNATED AS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 2 AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 2 WITH AN INITIAL TERM BEGINNING IN 2016;

- SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT F IS REDESIGNATED AS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 7 AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 7 WITH AN INITIAL TERM BEGINNING IN 2016;

- SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT C IS REDESIGNATED AS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 5 AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 5 WITH AN INITIAL TERM BEGINNING IN 2016;

- SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT D IS REDESIGNATED AS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 3 AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 3 WITH AN INITIAL TERM BEGINNING IN 2017;

- SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT E IS REDESIGNATED AS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 6 AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

6 WITH AN INITIAL TERM BEGINNING IN 2017;

- SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT A IS REDESIGNATED AS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 1 AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 1 WITH AN INITIAL TERM BEGINNING IN 2018;

- SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT B IS REDESIGNATED AS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 4 AND SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 4 WITH AN INITIAL TERM BEGINNING IN 2018.]

Section 4. Amendment of section. MSB 19.04.026 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

19.04.026 SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT DESIGNATIONS AND TRANSITION TERMS.

School board district seats shall follow assembly district seats in the following manner with transition terms as specified:

- School Board District 1 will have a three year transition term beginning in 2027 and ending in 2030. Beginning in 2030, the term shall be for four years and until a successor takes office;

- School Board District 2 will have a two year transition term beginning in 2028 and ending in 2030. Beginning in 2030, the term shall be for four years and until a successor takes office;

- School Board District 3 will have a two year transition term beginning in 2026 and ending in 2028. Beginning in 2028, the term shall be for four years and until a successor takes office;

- School Board District 4 will have a three year transition term beginning in 2027 and ending in 2030. Beginning in 2030, the

term shall be for four years and until a successor takes office;

- School Board District 5 will have a two year transition term beginning in 2028 and ending in 2030. Beginning in 2030, the term shall be for four years and until a successor takes office;

- School Board District 6 will have a two year transition term beginning in 2026 and ending in 2028. Beginning in 2028, the term shall be for four years and until a successor takes office;

- School Board District 7 will have no transition term. Beginning in 2028, the term shall be for four years and until a successor takes office.

Section 5. Submission to voters. A proposition ratifying the ordinance establishing four year terms and transition terms shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the Borough at the regular Borough election to be held on November 3, 2026 in substantially the following form:

PROPOSITION NO. ____

**CHANGING SCHOOL BOARD TERMS FROM 3 YEARS TO 4 YEARS IN LENGTH
AND PROVIDING FOR TRANSITION TERMS TO ALIGN SCHOOL BOARD SEAT
TERMS WITH MATCHING ASSEMBLY DISTRICT SEAT TERMS**

Shall the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School Board terms be changed from 3 years to 4 years in length along with transition terms so that School Board seats and matching Assembly District seats have terms that start in the same year?

Yes _____

No _____

Section 6. Effective date. Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this

ordinance shall take effect upon certification of the results of the regular Borough election of November 3, 2026 only if the ballot proposition contained in Section 5 of this ordinance is approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the proposition at the regular Borough election on November 3, 2026. All other sections of this ordinance take effect upon adoption by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day of -, 2026.

EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)