

Nominations Open for All Offices: Deadline is February 5, 2021

This is official notification that nominations are now open for the RTA offices of: **President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.** Also offices are open for the **Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Representative and Alternate for all RTA Departments.** The RTA departments consist of Primary (PreK-3), Intermediate (4-6), Junior High, Senior High, Special Services, Special Education, School Instructors, Per Diem Substitute Teachers, Home/Hospital Teachers, Rochester Retired Teachers and the Rochester Pre School Parent Program.

The term of office for all positions shall be a two-year term beginning July 1, 2021, according to a provision of the Bylaws, Article III, Section 6b, for Officers and Article VI, Section 5c for Department Officers. The following criteria is the criteria necessary for holding an officer position:

A. All Offices

A candidate must have been a member of the RTA for one year (or a major portion of the school year) prior to the election.

B. Executive Council Officers

An individual may be a candidate for, or serve in, only one Executive Council position (President, 1st Vice- President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Department Chairperson) at one time.

C. Department Offices

Candidates for Department Offices must be a member of that Department at the time of the nomination.

Pre-Nomination Procedures

A. Methods of Nomination

Nomination in writing (i.e. form below) must be submitted to the Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC), Attention: Karen Lahr, at the RTA Office, no later than February 5, 2021, by 4 p.m. Any RTA member may nominate another RTA member for an Association office. Only members of a department may nominate officers for their department.

Nominations can be emailed to Klahr@rochesterteachers.com, faxed to the RTA Office (546-4123) or mailed, Attention: Karen Lahr, RTA, 30 N. Union Street, Suite 301, Rochester, NY 14607.

Candidates may be nominated by submitting a petition signed by 50 RTA members to the Nominations and Elections Committee, Attention: Karen Lahr, at the RTA Office, by 4 p.m., February 5, 2021.

Candidates may be nominated from the floor of the Representative Assembly meeting on March 16, 2021.

B. Nominations Acceptance Procedure

Acceptance forms will be sent out by the Nominations and Elections Committee on February 9, to the candidates for whom the NEC received written nominations or petitions (i.e. form below). The acceptance form must be returned to the NEC, Attention: Karen Lahr, at the RTA Office, by 4 p.m. on February 26, 2021, in order for nominee name to appear on the ballot.

Acceptance forms will be sent out by the Nominations and Elections Committee on March 18, to the candidates for whom the NEC received nominations at the March 16, 2021, Representative Assembly. Acceptance forms must be returned to the NEC, Attention: Karen Lahr at the RTA Office, by 4 p.m., on March 31, 2021, in order for nominee name to be appear on the ballot.

C. Voting

Ballots and voting information will be emailed to RTA members on April 22, 2021, using personal email addresses on file with the RTA Office. Voting closes on May 11, 2021. Votes will be electronically counted by Survey and Ballots Systems. Results will be reported at the May 18, 2021, Representative Assembly meeting.

Nominations Form for RTA Officers

Nominee _____ School _____
RTA Department* _____ Nominated for office of _____
Person Nominating _____ School _____ RTA Department* _____

*As identified at the beginning of this notice

Please return form to the Nominating and Elections Committee, Attention: Karen Lahr, at the RTA Office (30 North Union Street, Rochester, NY 14607, so that it will be received no later than 4 p.m. , February 5, 2021.

The Acceptance form must be signed and returned by the deadline of 4 p.m., February 26, 2021, in order for your name to appear on the ballot.

WE'RE GOING ON-LINE FOR THE UP-COMING RTA OFFICERS ELECTION!

The RTA Nominating and Elections Committee announces that we will use on-line voting for the up-coming Officers Election in May, 2021. We have partnered with Survey and Ballot Systems to send the election ballot to you by email. This will allow you to vote on-line.

With on-line voting, here's what we'll eliminate:

12,000 envelopes

8,000 mailing labels

4 cases of paper for ballots, instructions, and candidate statements

Printing costs

Postage

Hundreds of in-person hours to prepare, mail, and count ballots

Errors in the vote count

With on-line voting, we expect to:

Keep Election Committee members safe by eliminating in-person ballot preparation and ballot counting

Save \$1,000 in costs

Increase voter participation

Streamline the voting process

If RTA has your current email (as of April, 2021), you will receive an e-mail from RTA and Survey and Ballot Systems with a unique user name and password on or about April 22, 2021. When you receive the on-line ballot link, you will enter the user name and password to access your ballot. It's easy and quick!

The N&E Committee will accept written nominations starting in January – the election notice and nomination form are enclosed. We will also accept nominations at the March, 2021 Rep Assembly meeting.