Guidelines to candidates

Candidates are asked to prepare a short statement (known as the bio) and answers to some questions set by the committee and these are used to make the candidates, their qualities and their views, known to the electorate.

About the Bio

The bio is no more than 450 words. It is the only document to be submitted by candidates, who are urged to ensure that it covers all matters they wish to draw to the attention of the electorate, and in particular includes details of their existing and previous activities on behalf of the Foundation or its schools. Candidates are reminded that as all Board Members should act on behalf of the Foundation as a whole, there should be no suggestion in any oral statements or written material that a candidate will represent a particular campus or section of the Ecolint community.

The bio and questions and answers are published on the part of the school website dedicated to the Board elections.

About meet the candidates

Candidates are also expected to attend the three “Meet the Candidates” sessions, at which they have an opportunity to introduce themselves to those members of the electorate who are present, and to answer orally questions put to them. A session is held at each of the three principal campuses, and each will be preceded by a short tour of the campus to enable candidates to become familiar with the different schools.

General guidelines about conduct of the election

Candidates are also permitted to make other efforts to bring their candidature to the attention of voters (e.g. calling/emailing their friends to support their candidature). They are however asked to exercise care and consideration as the election is within a school community (e.g. no negative campaigning against other candidates is permitted). They should also refrain from involving students (including their own children), and to avoid any interruption of or disturbance to school life. Further guidelines will be given to declared candidates.

During the election period, please remember the following guidelines:

- Email address lists provided by the school, by school staff or by the PTA may not be used to target voters.
- No written or photographic material other than the bio, and questions and answers appearing on the election pages of the Foundation website may be distributed.
- No campaigning may be directed at or via students.
- No negative campaigning against other candidates is permitted.

If there is a complaint about the nature of the campaigning, the matter is to be put to the Chair of the Committee on Nominations, whose decision is final.

If a candidate breaches the guidelines above, or does not abstain from an activity after he or she has been asked to do so by the Chair of the Committee on Nominations, the Chair of Committee on Nominations may, after consultation with the Chair of the Governing Board of the Foundation of the International School of Geneva, remove his or her name from the list of candidates and any votes cast for him or her will be void. Such an action will only be taken in extreme circumstances.

If the candidates or any other members of the school community have questions about campaigning, these may be addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Nominations.