

Dear Voter,

Due to an error when creating the ballot for the Lakeside Joint School District Governing Member contest, all voters in the District will be receiving a corrected replacement ballot.

What was the error?

For the Lakeside Joint School District Governing Board Member contest, the ballot says “Vote for no more than Three” (candidates), when it should say “Vote for no more than Two”.

What does this mean to you as a voter?

To ensure that the choices you want to make for the contests on your ballot – including the Governing Board Member contest – is tabulated correctly, ***please vote using this replacement ballot and return it to the County Elections Department no later than 8pm on Election Day – Tuesday, November 5, 2024.***

What if I have already returned a ballot?

The County Elections Department has sequestered all the ballot envelopes that have the Lakeside Joint School District Governing Board Member contest on it. They have not been opened. We will hold those unopened ballot envelopes until one of two things occur:

1. You return this replacement ballot which accurately reflects your choices for the current contests. We will process and tabulate the replacement ballot and void the first ballot envelope rendering it unusable in this election. OR
2. You choose not to return the replacement ballot. We will process and tabulate the first ballot returned. All contests will be tabulated as you have marked it, however, if you voted for three or more candidates for the Governing Board Member contest, it will be considered an overvote and no candidate will receive benefit of your vote.

What is the Election Department’s procedure for processing these ballots?

- The ballot envelope for these voters has been voided, so when the envelope is returned, it is routed to a team to review. The ballot envelope being voided is to ensure that it is segregated to be handled by the team.
- The team determines if the original or the replacement ballot is inside.
- If it is the replacement ballot, it is prepared for tally.
- If it is the original ballot, the team contacts the voter to see about the status of the replacement ballot.
- If a voter returns only the original ballot and never the replacement ballot, and the team does not hear from the voter, the original ballot will be counted.

What if I want to cast the replacement ballot in-person?

There are several voting locations that will be open between now and 8pm on Election Day and you can visit any one of them to cast the replacement ballot in person or return the voted ballot in the return envelope. A list of voting locations with their dates and hours of operation can be found at www.votescount.santacruzcountyca.gov.

In addition to the in-person voting locations, we will have County Elections staff in your area the following days and times:

Saturday, November 2 from 930am to 1pm
Lakeside School Parking Lot – look for the VoteMobile!
19621 Black Rd., Los Gatos

Saturday, November 2 from 2pm to 6pm
Las Cumbres Community Center
18260 Las Cumbres Rd., Los Gatos

Tuesday, November 5 from 10am to 6pm
Las Cumbres Community Center
18260 Las Cumbres Rd., Los Gatos

You can also return this replacement ballot in-person at ANY Vote Center location or by mail (paid postage is included on the return envelope). The nearest Vote Center to your area is located at: Loma Prieta Temp. Community Center, 23845 Summit Rd., open November 5 from 7am to 8pm.

What if I need another option to vote a replacement ballot because using this one is not feasible because I am out of town?

Santa Cruz County offers a Remote Access Vote by Mail ballot (RAVBM) to our voters. When you sign up for a RAVBM ballot, we email you an encrypted link that you open to access the replacement ballot. After using your computer to mark the ballot, you download and print the ballot and then return to our office following the return instructions included in the packet. Contact John Beck at john.beck@santacruzcountyca.gov if you would like an RAVBM ballot.

What if I need more information?

Please contact the Santa Cruz County Elections Department at 831-454-2060. We are here to answer questions and help you access the ballot you wish to vote. We are available Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm and weekends from 9am to 5pm.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. We thank you for participating in the 2024 Presidential General Election!