



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Fiscal Policy and Planning Dates for 2026 School Election and Budget Procedures

This 2026 School Election and Budget Procedures Calendar includes the election dates and the budget procedures timeline for the April school election, November school election, and the special elections (January, March, September, or December). The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is not including election procedures timeline dates (Title 19) in this calendar since they are published by the NJ Division of Elections. Districts should refer to the *Annual School Board Election Timeline* to be posted on the Division of Elections website for the election procedures dates (Title 19). The special election procedures timeline is also found within the applicable timeline section in the 2026 NJ Chronological Elections Index on the [Division of Elections website](#).

This document is intended as an administrative convenience and does not constitute a statement of law. This document should not be relied upon as a substitute for the district's review of applicable law or consultation with counsel. This *2026 School Election and Budget Procedures Calendar* is primarily intended to provide budget dates stipulated in Title 18A, Education.

Included in this document are the following tables of calendar information:

- Table 1. Type II Districts with an April Election Including Regional Districts
- Table 2. Type II Districts with a November Election Including Regional Districts
- Table 3. Type I Districts
- Table 4. School Districts Under State Intervention (*Those districts with a State District Superintendent*)
- Table 5. County Vocational Districts
- Table 6. County Special Services School Districts
- Table 7. Educational Services Commissions
- Table 8. Special Elections

Please note:

- Dates in this election calendar have been changed pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:60-1* which gives the Commissioner the authority to change school budget and election calendar dates if they coincide with a period of religious observance, and pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 19:11-1* which allows movement of dates in the calendar if they fall on Sunday.
- Pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5c*, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the Commissioner of Education is authorized to make any adjustments to the school budget calendar and to the date for the notification of nontenured personnel pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1971, c.436 (C.18A:27-10) that are necessary to conform with the State aid notification date.

Table 1. Type II Districts with an April Election Including Regional Districts

Type II April Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Adoption and Filing of Budget	Friday, March 6, 2026	Districts must prepare an itemized budget and submit the budget to the executive county superintendent of schools.	March 4 each year, extended to March 6 pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5c</i> to provide sufficient time for board of education meetings from the date of the state aid notification	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5</i> and <i>18A:7F-6</i>
Notice of Public Hearing - First	Thursday, March 19, 2026	Last day to advertise for earliest public hearing. The board of education shall cause notice of such public hearing and the statement annexed to the budget to be published at least once in at least one newspaper published in the district and if no newspaper is published therein, then in at least one newspaper circulating in said district not less than four days prior to the date fixed for such public hearing.	Not less than 4 days prior to the earliest public hearing date	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i> , <i>18A:22-11</i> , and <i>18A:22-12</i>
Preparation of Advertised Version of Budget	Monday, March 23, 2026	Last day for the district to prepare the budget for the ensuing school year. The time period between the March 6 adoption date and this date is the county office review period.	On or before March 22 each year. Moved to March 23 as the 22nd falls on Sunday, to accommodate provisions of <i>N.J.S.A. 19:11-1</i>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-7</i>

Type II April Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Budget Approval by Executive County Superintendent	Monday, March 23, 2026	Last day for executive county superintendent to approve the budget statement to be advertised. The budget must be approved by the executive county superintendent prior to advertisement.	Prior to advertisement	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.1</i>
Delivery of Budget to Board of School Estimate	Monday, March 23, 2026	Last day for a Type II district with a board of school estimate to finalize and deliver the itemized budget to each member of the board of school estimate.	On or before March 22 each year. Moved to March 23 as the 22nd falls on Sunday, to accommodate provisions of <i>N.J.S.A. 19:11-1</i>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-7 and 18A:22-8</i>
Earliest Date for Public Hearing on Budget	Monday, March 23, 2026	Earliest date to hold public hearing on budget. Public hearing may not be held until the executive county superintendent of schools has approved the budget and the budget and meeting date have been posted and advertised in at least one newspaper.	March 22 each year. Moved to March 23 as the 22nd falls on Sunday, to accommodate provisions of <i>N.J.S.A. 19:11-1</i>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i>
Notice of Public Hearing - last	Thursday, March 26, 2026	Last day to advertise for a public hearing on the budget.	Not less than 4 days prior to last public hearing date	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-11 and 18A:22-12</i>
Last Date for Public Hearing on Budget	Monday, March 30, 2026	Latest date to hold public hearing on budget. Public hearing may not be held until the executive county superintendent of schools has approved the budget and the budget and meeting date have been posted and advertised in at least one newspaper.	March 29 each year; modified pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1</i> , as March 29, 2026 falls on Sunday	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i>
User-Friendly Budget Posting to District Website	Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – Wednesday, April 1, 2026	The budget as adopted for the school year shall be provided for public inspection on the district's internet site, if one exists, and made available in print within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget.	Within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1(c)</i>

Type II April Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Deadline to Adopt Budget	Wednesday, April 1, 2026	<p>Last day to adopt budget prior to election. At or after the public hearing, but no later than 18 days prior to the April school election, the board shall fix and determine by roll call majority vote of the full membership the amount of money to be raised.</p> <p>Note: The potential gap of time between the public hearing held by March 30 and the adoption date is statutory and allows the board additional time to meet to adopt the budget after the public hearing on the budget has been held. To clarify, this gap does not give the board statutory authority to make changes to the advertised budget which were not specifically discussed in detail at the public hearing. Any revenue and appropriation changes that were not discussed specifically and in detail at the public hearing shall not be included in the adopted budget.</p>	At or after the public hearing, not less than 18 days prior to the April election date; modified pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1</i> , as 18 days falls on Eid al-Fitr	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-32</i>
Board of Education in District with Board of School Estimate- Determination of Budget	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day for the board of education of a Type II district with a board of school estimate to adopt the budget.	Not later than April 8 each year; modified pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1</i> , as April 8 falls on last night of Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-26</i>
Board of School Estimate - Determination of Budget	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day for the board of school estimate to adopt separate proposals and adopt a tax certificate for the budget.	Not later than April 8 each year; modified pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1</i> , as April 8 falls on last night of Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-26</i>

Type II April Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Board of School Estimate - Certification and Raising of Appropriations for Budget	Wednesday, April 15, 2026	Last day for the board of school estimate of a Type II district with a board of school estimate to deliver to county board of taxation and governing body the tax certificate for the budget for the ensuing school year.	April 15 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-26</i>
School Election Date - Districts Voting in April	Tuesday, April 21, 2026	Annual school election for those districts not electing to change the school election to November. Polls shall be open between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. and during any additional time which the school board may designate between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.	Third Tuesday in April	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1 and 19:15-2</i>
Non-tenured Teaching Staff, Observation and Evaluation	Thursday, April 30, 2026	Each non-tenured teaching staff member employed must be observed and evaluated before this date each year.	April 30 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1</i>

Type II April Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
First Regular Meeting of Board - April Election districts	Friday, May 1, 2026 – Thursday, May 7, 2026	All Type II boards of education including all regional districts shall organize annually from May 1 to May 7, inclusive. Each board of education shall organize annually at a regular meeting held not later than 8 p.m. If the organizational meeting cannot take place on that day by reason of lack of a quorum or for any other reason, the meeting shall be held within three days thereafter. A board shall not conduct a meeting between May 1 and the organization date, unless a meeting is needed in order to deal with a matter of such urgency and importance as set forth in <i>N.J.S.A. 10:4-9</i> . If such a meeting is needed, a board shall ensure that all newly-elected members present are sworn into office prior to conducting business.	Any day from May 1 to May 7, inclusive, each year.	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:10-3</i>
Non-tenured Teaching Staff; Offer of Employment or Notice of Termination	Friday, May 15, 2026	Last day for each board of education in the state to give to each non-tenured teaching staff member either a contract of employment or written notice if employment will not be offered.	May 15 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:27-10</i>
Certification by Board Secretary	Tuesday, May 19, 2026	Last day for the district to determine and certify to the county board of taxation the amount of money necessary for school purposes to be raised by taxation for the ensuing school year.	May 19 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-33</i>

Table 2. Type II Districts with a November Election Including Regional Districts

Type II November Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Adoption and Filing of Tentative Budget	Thursday, March 19, 2026	Districts must prepare an itemized budget and submit the budget to the executive county superintendent of schools, which is the Commissioner's designee.	On or before March 20. As March 20, 2026 is Nowruz, moved to March 19	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6</i>
Preparation of the Advertised Version of the Budget for Submission to the Board of School Estimate	Monday, April 20, 2026	Last day to finalize the advertised version of the budget for ensuing school year for submission to the Board of School Estimate	On or before April 20	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-7 and 18A:22-8</i>
Budget Approval by Executive County Superintendent	Monday, April 20, 2026	Last day for executive county superintendent to approve the budget statement to be advertised. The budget must be approved by the executive county superintendent prior to advertisement.	Prior to advertisement	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.1</i>
Notice of Public Hearing - First	Monday, April 20, 2026	Last day to advertise for earliest public hearing. The board of education shall cause notice of such public hearing and the statement annexed to the budget to be published at least once in at least one newspaper published in the district and if no newspaper is published therein, then in at least one newspaper circulating in said district not less than four days prior to the date fixed for such public hearing.	Not less than 4 days prior to the earliest public hearing date	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10, 18A:22-11, and 18A:22-12</i>

Type II November Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Earliest Date for Public Hearing on Budget	Friday, April 24, 2026	Earliest date to hold public hearing on budget. Public hearing may not be held until the executive county superintendent of schools has approved the budget and the budget and meeting date have been posted and advertised in at least one newspaper.	April 24 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i>
Non-tenured Teaching Staff, Observation and Evaluation	Thursday, April 30, 2026	Each non-tenured teaching staff member employed must be observed and evaluated before this date each year.	April 30 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1</i>
Notice of Public Hearing - last	Sunday, May 3, 2026	Last day to advertise for a public hearing on the budget.	4 days prior to last public hearing date	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-11 and 18A:22-12</i>
Last Date for Public Hearing on Budget	Thursday, May 7, 2026	Latest date to hold public hearing on budget. Public hearing may not be held until the executive county superintendent of schools has approved the budget and the budget and meeting date have been posted and advertised in at least one newspaper.	May 7 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i>
User-Friendly Budget Posting to District Website	Monday, April 27, 2026 – Monday, May 11, 2026	The budget as adopted for the school year shall be provided for public inspection on the district's internet site, if one exists, and made available in print within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget.	Within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget. Fell on Saturday and Sunday, therefore moved to Monday	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1(c)</i>

Type II November Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Deadline to Adopt Budget	Thursday, May 14, 2026	Last day to adopt budget. Note: The gap of time between the public hearing held by May 7 and the adoption date of May 14 is statutory and allows the board additional time to meet to adopt the budget after the public hearing on the budget has been held. To clarify, this gap does not give the board statutory authority to make changes to the advertised budget which were not specifically discussed in detail at the public hearing. Any revenue and appropriation changes that were not discussed specifically and in detail at the public hearing shall not be included in the adopted budget.	At or after the public hearing, no later than May 14	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-32</i>
Board of Education - Determination of Budget	Thursday, May 14, 2026	Last day for the board of education of a Type II district with a board of school estimate to adopt a budget.	At or after public hearing, no later than May 14	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-26</i>
Board of School Estimate - Determination of Budget	Thursday, May 14, 2026	Last day for the board of school estimate of a Type II district with a board of school estimate to adopt a separate proposal and adopt a tax certificate for the budget.	At or after public hearing, no later than May 14	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-26</i>
Non-tenured Teaching Staff; Offer of Employment or Notice of Termination	Friday, May 15, 2026	Last day for each board of education in the state to give to each non-tenured teaching staff member either a contract of employment or written notice if employment will not be offered.	On or before May 15 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:27-10</i>

Type II November Election District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Board of School Estimate - Certification of the Amount Fixed and Determined	Tuesday, May 19, 2026	Last day for the board of school estimate of a Type II district with a board of school estimate to deliver to county board of taxation and governing body the tax certificate for the budget for the ensuing school year.	On or before May 19 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-26</i>
Board of Education - Certification of the Amount Fixed and Determined	Tuesday, May 19, 2026	Last day for board of education of a Type II district not having a board of school estimate to certify the amount fixed and determined by the school board to the county board of taxation. The amount(s) so certified shall be included in the taxes assessed, levied and collected.	Annually by May 19	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-33</i>
School Election Date - November Election	Tuesday, November 3, 2026	Annual school election for those districts electing to change the school election to November. Polls shall be open between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.	Date of General Election	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1 and 19:15-2</i>
First Regular Meeting of Board – November Election districts	Friday, January 1, 2027 – Thursday, January 7, 2027	If the organization meeting cannot take place during this period due to the lack of a quorum or for any other reason, the reorganization meeting shall be held within three days thereafter (January 8 through January 10). A board shall not conduct a meeting between January 1 and the organization date, unless a meeting is needed in order to deal with a matter of such urgency and importance as set forth in <i>N.J.S.A. 10:4-9</i> . If such a meeting is needed, a board shall ensure that all newly-elected members present are sworn into office prior to conducting business.	Not later than 8 p.m. from January 1 to January 7, inclusive	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:10-3(c)</i>

Table 3. Type I Districts

Type I District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Adoption and Filing of Budget	Friday, March 6, 2026	Districts must prepare an itemized budget and submit the budget to the executive county superintendent of schools, which is the Commissioner's designee.	March 4 each year, extended to March 6 pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5c</i> to provide sufficient time for board of education meetings from the date of the state aid notification	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5</i> and <i>18A:7F-6</i>
Notice of Public Hearing - Earliest	Thursday, March 19, 2026	Last day to advertise for earliest public hearing. The board of education shall cause notice of such public hearing and the statement annexed to the budget to be published at least once in at least one newspaper published in the district and if no newspaper is published therein, then in at least one newspaper circulating in said district not less than four days prior to the date fixed for such public hearing.	Not less than 4 days prior to the earliest public hearing date	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i> , <i>18A:22-11</i> , and <i>18A:22-12</i>
Budget Approval by Executive County Superintendent	Monday, March 23, 2026	Last day for executive county superintendent to approve the budget statement to be advertised.	Prior to Advertisement	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.1</i>
Earliest Date for Public Hearing on Budget	Monday, March 23, 2026	Earliest date to hold public hearing on budget. Public hearing may not be held until the executive county superintendent of schools has approved the budget and the budget and meeting date have been posted and advertised in at least one newspaper.	March 22 each year. Moved to March 23 as the 22nd falls on Sunday, to accommodate provisions of <i>N.J.S.A. 19:11-1</i>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i>

Type I District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Delivery of Budget to Board of School Estimate	Monday, March 23, 2026	Last day for Type I boards of education to finalize and deliver the itemized budget to each member of the board of school estimate.	March 22 each year. Moved to March 23 as the 22nd falls on Sunday, to accommodate provisions of <i>N.J.S.A. 19:11-1</i>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-7</i>
Notice of Public Hearing – last	Thursday, March 26, 2026	Last day to advertise for a public hearing on the budget.	Not less than 4 days prior to last public hearing date	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-11</i> and <i>18A:22-12</i>
Last Date for Public Hearing on Budget	Monday, March 30, 2026	Latest date to hold public hearing on budget. Public hearing may not be held until the executive county superintendent of schools has approved the budget and the budget and meeting date have been posted and advertised in at least one newspaper.	March 29 each year; modified pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1</i> , as March 29, 2026 is Sunday	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i>
User-Friendly Budget Posting to District Website	Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – Wednesday, April 1, 2026	The budget as adopted for the school year shall be provided for public inspection on the district's internet site, if one exists, and made available in print within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget.	Within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1(c)</i>
Deadline for Board of School Estimate to Adopt and Certify Budget	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day for board of school estimate in Type I districts to adopt budget and certify to the board of education and governing body the amount of local funds to be appropriated for use of the public schools.	At or after the public hearing, not later than April 8 each year. Moved back to April 7 because April 8 is Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-14</i>
Delivery of Budget Statement Certification to Executive County Superintendent of Schools	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day to provide budget statement certification to executive county superintendent of schools.	April 8 each year. Moved back to April 7 because April 8 is Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-14</i>

Type I District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Application for Restoration - Comments by Board of Education	10 business days after action by board of school estimate	<p>Within 10 business days after certification of the general fund tax levy by the board of school estimate, a district board of education eligible for restoration of budget reductions pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-14</i> and <i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.9.(a)1 or 2</i> may submit to the Commissioner an application for such restoration. If the governing body certifies a lower amount in accordance with <i>18A:22-17</i>, the application may be amended to address additional reductions. The application must be submitted to the appropriate executive county superintendent, and a copy of the complete application must concurrently be provided to the board of school estimate.</p> <p>Within 10 business days of delivery to the district board of education and the executive county superintendent, pursuant to <i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.7(a) or (b)</i>, a district board of education may submit to the executive county superintendent any comments it may wish to make in response to the demonstration provided at the time of certification by the board of school estimate, that the specific reductions made will not adversely affect the ability of the district to provide a thorough and efficient education or the stability of the district given the need for long term planning and budgeting.</p>	10 business days after action by board of school estimate	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-14</i> , <i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.9</i>

Type I District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Application for Restoration - Comments by Board of School Estimate	10 business days after receipt of district board of education's application	Within 10 business days of receipt of the district board of education's application, the board of school estimate may submit to the executive county superintendent any comments it may wish to make on the board's application. A copy of such comments must be concurrently provided to the board of education.	10 business days after receipt of district board of education's application	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.9</i>
Non-tenured Teaching Staff; Observation and Evaluation	Thursday, April 30, 2026	Each non-tenured teaching staff member employed must be observed and evaluated before this date each year.	April 30 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:27-3.1</i>
Non-tenured Teaching Staff; Offer of Employment or Notice of Termination	Friday, May 15, 2026	Last day for each board of education in the state to give to each non-tenured teaching staff member either a contract of employment or written notice if employment will not be offered.	May 15 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:27-10</i>
First Regular Meeting of Board	Saturday, May 16, 2026	Each board of education in a Type I district shall organize annually at a regular meeting held not later than 8 p.m. If the organization meeting cannot take place on that day by reason of lack of a quorum or for any other reason, the meeting shall be held within three days thereafter.	May 16 each year, or the following day if that day falls on Sunday	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:10-3</i>

Table 4. School Districts Under State Intervention (Those districts with a State District Superintendent)

State Intervention District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Adoption and Filing of Tentative Budget	Friday, March 6, 2026	<p>Districts must prepare an itemized budget and submit the budget to the executive county superintendent of schools, which is the Commissioner's designee.</p> <p>Note: Informational copy of budget should be submitted to executive county superintendent.</p>	<p>March 4 each year, extended to March 6 pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5c</i> to provide sufficient time for board of education meetings from the date of the state aid notification</p>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5</i> and <i>18A:7F-6</i>
Notice of Public Hearing - Earliest	Thursday, March 19, 2026	Last day to advertise for earliest public hearing. The board of education shall cause notice of such public hearing and the statement annexed to the budget to be published at least once in at least one newspaper published in the district and if no newspaper is published therein, then in at least one newspaper circulating in said district not less than four days prior to the date fixed for such public hearing.	Not less than 4 days prior to the earliest public hearing date	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10</i> , <i>18A:22-11</i> , and <i>18A:22-12</i>
Last Day to Present Budget to Board of Education	Monday, March 23, 2026	Last day for State district superintendent to present budget to board of education.	<p>March 22 each year. Moved to March 23 as the 22nd falls on Sunday, to accommodate provisions of <i>N.J.S.A. 19:11-1</i></p>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-50</i>
Approval of Budget	Monday, March 23, 2026	Last day for Commissioner to approve the budget statement to be advertised by district.	Prior to advertisement	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.1</i>

State Intervention District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Earliest Date for Public Hearing on Budget	Monday, March 23, 2026	Earliest day for public hearing on budget in school districts under state intervention.	March 22 each year. Moved to March 23 as the 22nd falls on Sunday, to accommodate provisions of <i>N.J.S.A. 19:11-1</i>	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-51</i>
Notice of Public Hearing - Latest	Thursday, March 26, 2026	Last day to advertise for a public hearing on the budget. At least four days prior to the date fixed for such public hearing, the district shall cause notice of the public hearing and the statement annexed to the budget to be published at least once in at least one newspaper published in the district and if no newspaper is published therein, then in at least one newspaper circulating in said district.	4 days prior to latest public hearing	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-11</i> and <i>18A:22-12</i>
Last Day for Public Hearing	Monday, March 30, 2026	Last day to hold public hearing on budget. Public hearing may be held any day once the Commissioner has approved the budget and the budget and hearing dates have been posted and advertised in at least one newspaper.	March 29 each year; modified pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-1</i> , as March 29, 2026 is Sunday	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-51</i>
User-Friendly Budget Posting to District Website	Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – Wednesday, April 1, 2026	The budget as adopted for the school year shall be provided for public inspection on the district's internet site, if one exists, and made available in print within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget.	Within 48 hours after the public hearing on the budget	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1(c)</i>
Budget, Determination of Amounts to Be Appropriated	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day for State district superintendent to adopt budget and to certify to the county board of taxation the amount of local funds to be appropriated for use in the public schools.	April 8 each year. Moved back to April 7 because April 8 is Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-52</i>

State Intervention District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Delivery of Budget Statement Certification to Commissioner of Education	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day to provide budget statement certification to Commissioner of Education.	April 8 each year. Moved back to April 7 because April 8 is Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-52</i>

Table 5. County Vocational Districts

Vocational District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Submission of Budget	Friday, March 6, 2026	County districts must submit an itemized budget to the executive county superintendent of schools.	March 4 each year, extended to March 6 pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5c</i> to provide sufficient time for board of education meetings from the date of the state aid notification	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5</i>
Budget Approval by Executive County Superintendent	Tuesday, March 24, 2026	Last day for executive county superintendent to approve the itemized budget.	Fourth Tuesday in March	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.1</i>
Delivery of Budget to Board of School Estimate	Tuesday, March 24, 2026	On or before the fourth Tuesday in March, county vocational district boards of education shall prepare and deliver the itemized budget to each member of the board of school estimate and to the executive county superintendent of schools.	Fourth Tuesday in March	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:54-28</i>
First Day for Determination of Appropriation, Certification of Amount	Tuesday, March 24, 2026	First day for board of school estimate in county vocational districts to adopt budget and certify to the board of education and governing body the amount of funds to be appropriated for use of the county school district.	Fourth Tuesday in March	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:54-29</i>
Last Day for Determination of Appropriation, Certification of Amount	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day for board of school estimate in county vocational districts to adopt budget and certify to the board of education and governing body the amount of funds to be appropriated for use of the county school district.	April 8 each year. Moved back to April 7 because April 8 is Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:54-29</i>

Vocational District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Application for Restoration — Comments by Board of Education	10 working days after action by board of school estimate	<p>Within 10 working days after certification of the general fund tax levy by the board of school estimate, a district board of education eligible for restoration of budget reductions pursuant to <i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.9(a)1 or 2</i> may submit to the Commissioner an application for such restoration. If the governing body certifies a lower amount in accordance with <i>N.J.S.A. 18A:22-17</i>, the application may be amended to address additional reductions. The application must be submitted to the appropriate executive county superintendent, and a copy of the complete application must concurrently be provided to the board of school estimate.</p> <p>Within 10 working days of delivery to the district board of education and the executive county superintendent, pursuant to <i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.7(a) or (b)</i>, a district board of education may submit to the executive county superintendent any comments it may wish to make in response to the demonstration provided at the time of certification by the board of school estimate, that the specific reductions made will not adversely affect the ability of the district to provide a thorough and efficient education or the stability of the district given the need for long term planning and budgeting.</p>	10 working days after action by board of school estimate	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.9(a)3</i>

Vocational District Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Application for Restoration – Comments by Board of School Estimate	10 working days after receipt of district board of education's application	Within 10 working days of receipt of the district board of education's application, the board of school estimate may submit to the executive county superintendent any comments it may wish to make on the board's application. A copy of such comments must be concurrently provided to the board of education.	10 working days after receipt of district board of education's application	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.9(a)5</i>

Table 6. County Special Services School Districts (CSSSD)

CSSSD Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Submission of Budget	Friday, March 6, 2026	CSSSD must submit an itemized budget to the executive county superintendent of schools.	March 4 each year, extended to March 6 pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5c</i> to provide sufficient time for board of education meetings from the date of the state aid notification	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5</i>
Budget Approval by Executive County Superintendent	Tuesday, March 24, 2026	Last day for executive county superintendent to approve the itemized budget.	Before submission to Board of School Estimate	<i>N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.1</i>
Delivery of Budget to Board of School Estimate	Tuesday, March 24, 2026	On or before the fourth Tuesday in March, CSSSD boards of education shall prepare and deliver the itemized budget to each member of the board of school estimate and to the executive county superintendent of schools.	Fourth Tuesday in March	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:46-40</i>
First Day for Determination of Appropriation, Certification of Amount	Tuesday, March 24, 2026	First day for board of school estimate in CSSSD to adopt budget and certify to the board of education and governing body the amount of funds to be appropriated for use of the county school district.	Fourth Tuesday in March	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:46-41</i>
Last Day for Determination of Appropriation, Certification of Amount	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	Last day for board of school estimate in CSSSD to adopt budget and certify to the board of education and governing body the amount of funds to be appropriated for use of the county school district.	April 8 each year. Moved back to April 7 because April 8 is Passover	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:46-41</i>

CSSSD Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
First Regular Meeting of the Board	Wednesday, July 1, 2026 – Tuesday, July 14, 2026	Each board of education for a CSSSD shall organize annually on any day during the first two weeks of July, excluding Sundays.	Any date during the first two weeks of July, except Sundays	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:46-37</i>

Table 7. Educational Services Commissions

ESC Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Notice to Member Boards of Education of Fees and Method of Funding Expenses	Thursday, January 15, 2026	On or before this date the board shall notify each member board of education of the fees to be charged for each service and program for the ensuing school year and the method by which the Commission expenses shall be funded.	January 15 each year	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:6-62</i>
Budget Adoption by Representative Assembly	Monday, March 9, 2026	On or before this date, the representative assembly shall adopt a budget for the ensuing fiscal year.	March 8 each year. Moved to March 9 as March 8, 2026 falls on Sunday	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:6-62</i>
Budget Submission to Executive County Superintendent	Thursday, March 12, 2026	Last day to submit the budget to the executive county superintendent for approval. (The budget must be submitted to the executive county superintendent within three days of adoption.)	Within 3 days of adoption of budget	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:6-62</i>
First Regular Meeting of the Board	Monday, June 1, 2026 – Sunday, June 7, 2026	An educational services commission representative assembly shall organize annually during the first week of June.	Any day during the first week of June	<i>N.J.S.A. 18A:6-54</i>

Table 8. Special Elections

Special Election Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Notice of March Special Election and deadline to submit public questions	Friday, January 9, 2026	<p>The board of education shall give the municipal clerk or clerks, as the case may be, and the county board of elections no less than 60 days' notice, in writing, of its intention to hold a special election.</p> <p>The secretary of each board of education shall, not later than 10 o'clock a.m. of the 60th day preceding a special school election, make and certify and forward to the clerk of the county in which the school district is located a statement designating the public question to be voted upon by the voters of the district.</p>	60 days prior to special election for March	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i> <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-4</i>
January Special Election Date	Tuesday, January 27, 2026	The board of education of a type II district may call a special election of the legal voters of the district on only the fourth Tuesday in January, the second Tuesday in March, the last Tuesday in September, or the second Tuesday in December when in its judgment the interest of the schools require such an election.	Fourth Tuesday in January	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i>
March Special Election Date	Tuesday, March 10, 2026	The board of education of a type II district may call a special election of the legal voters of the district on only the fourth Tuesday in January, the second Tuesday in March, the last Tuesday in September, or the second Tuesday in December when in its judgment the interest of the schools require such an election.	Second Tuesday in March	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i>

Special Election Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Notice of September Special Election and deadline to submit public questions	Friday, July 17, 2026	<p>The board of education shall give the municipal clerk or clerks, as the case may be, and the county board of elections no less than 60 days' notice, in writing, of its intention to hold a special election.</p> <p>The secretary of each board of education shall, not later than 10 o'clock a.m. of the 60th day preceding a special school election, make and certify and forward to the clerk of the county in which the school district is located a statement designating the public question to be voted upon by the voters of the district.</p>	60 days prior to special election for September	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i> <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-4</i>
September Special Election Date	Tuesday, September 15, 2026	The board of education of a type II district may call a special election of the legal voters of the district on only the fourth Tuesday in January, the second Tuesday in March, the last Tuesday in September, or the second Tuesday in December when in its judgment the interest of the schools require such an election.	Last Tuesday in September; moved pursuant to <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i> for election date within 45 days of general election. Date was moved from September 29 to September 15	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i>

Special Election Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
Notice of December Election and deadline to submit public questions	Friday, October 9, 2026	<p>The board of education shall give the municipal clerk or clerks, as the case may be, and the county board of elections no less than 60 days' notice, in writing, of its intention to hold a special election.</p> <p>The secretary of each board of education shall, not later than 10 o'clock a.m. of the 60th day preceding a special school election, make and certify and forward to the clerk of the county in which the school district is located a statement designating the public question to be voted upon by the voters of the district.</p>	60 days prior to special election for December	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i> <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-4</i>
Notice of January Special Election and deadline to submit public questions	Friday, November 27, 2026	<p>The board of education shall give the municipal clerk or clerks, as the case may be, and the county board of elections no less than 60 days' notice, in writing, of its intention to hold a special election.</p> <p>The secretary of each board of education shall, not later than 10 o'clock a.m. of the 60th day preceding a special school election, make and certify and forward to the clerk of the county in which the school district is located a statement designating the public question to be voted upon by the voters of the district.</p>	60 days prior to special election for January	<i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-2</i> <i>N.J.S.A. 19:60-4</i>

Special Election Action	Date	Description of Action	Description of Date	Statutory Reference
December Special Election Date	Tuesday, December 8, 2026	The board of education of a type II district may call a special election of the legal voters of the district on only the fourth Tuesday in January, the second Tuesday in March, the last Tuesday in September, or the second Tuesday in December when in its judgment the interest of the schools require such an election.	Second Tuesday in December	N.J.S.A. 19:60-2

Note: For additional dates on the Special Elections, please see the applicable *Special School Board Elections Timeline* section in the 2026 NJ Chronological Elections Index on the [Division of Elections website](#).