



Area Director Elections 2026

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This fall the District 21 Election Committee conducted staggered Area Director elections in two of the District's five areas: the East (Units 499, 500, 501, and 502) and the Northwest (Units 506, 508, 509, and 512). Each area elects three Area Directors to the District Board, and all six seats were up this year. Both elections were settled without a single ballot being cast.

How it works. Area Directors are chosen by the Units in their area. Each Unit may nominate up to three candidates, and when a vote is needed, each Unit's vote is weighted by its share of the area's membership. But under the District's Policy on Elections, when the number of nominees does not exceed the number of open seats, the nominees are deemed elected by acclamation and no vote is taken.

The Northwest. All three incumbents were renominated: Gail Gabiati by Unit 506, Jackie Ortiz by Unit 509, and Sigrid Price by Unit 512.

The East. Unit 499 renominated two incumbents, Jackie Zayac and Anne Hollingsworth. The third incumbent, Rob Johnson of Unit 502, decided not to run for another term. In his place, Unit 501 nominated Art Mirin, who has been serving on the Board as a Director-at-Large.

With exactly three nominees for three seats in each area, all six candidates were elected by acclamation, for two-year terms beginning January 1, 2027. Our thanks go to Rob for his service on the Board. We share in the President's condolences to Rob in the President's Report.

A vacancy in the West. Dana Shelley of Unit 503 recently resigned as a West Area Director. Dana had been elected by acclamation in September 2025, together with Max Schireson and Kit Morse, to a term running through December 31, 2027. Because only three candidates were nominated in that election, there was no runner-up to step into the vacant seat. The Election Committee therefore notified Units 498 and 503, the two Units in the West area, that each had two weeks to nominate a replacement under the new D21 Election Policy.

The Units didn't need two weeks. They conferred and immediately agreed to jointly nominate Geraldine MacDonald of Unit 503. Under Part VII of the Policy on Elections, when only one qualified candidate is nominated to fill an Area Director vacancy, that candidate serves the remainder of the term. Geraldine was declared elected by acclamation on October 16. She will serve through December 31, 2027, alongside Max and Kit. The Units' quick agreement spared the West area a special election.

The Election Committee thanks the Unit officers who responded to our requests for nominations, and thanks Dana for her service. Please join us in welcoming Geraldine to the Board and Art to his new seat. Next year it will be the turn of the West, South and Northeast areas. We will keep you posted about when nominations are due.