Ballots for Representative Council elections will be mailed to principals of member schools from the MHSAA office Sept. 1, 2026. The ballots will be due back in the MHSAA office Sept. 18, 2026.

Eight positions for membership on the Representative Council will be up for election this fall. Vacancies for two-year terms beginning December 2026 will occur as follows: Class A-B Southeastern Section L.P.; Class A-B Southwestern Section L.P.; Class C-D Upper Peninsula; Statewide At-Large; Class A-B Northern Section L.P.; Class C-D Northern Section L.P.; Private & Parochial Schools and Junior High/Middle Schools, elected on a statewide basis.

In addition to the above-named Representative Council positions, there are two Upper Peninsula Athletic Committee positions to be voted on in September. A representative of Class D and athletic coaches will be elected by Upper Peninsula schools.

Look for the ballots and return them in time to be counted by the Board of Canvassers. Be sure you mark your ballot correctly and signatures are affixed in the proper places. Ballots must have two (2) signatures to be considered valid.

Details of the Representative Council composition may be found near the beginning of the *MHSAA Handbook*.

Following the due date of Sept. 18, 2026, the Board of Canvassers as provided in Article IV of the Constitution of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, will meet on Sept. 21, 2026 and declare the winners for the various vacancies.

In accordance with the approved nomination and election procedures, listed candidates have submitted their desire to run for a position by March 15, 2026. They have included an approval to serve from their respective superintendent or principal and have certified their qualifications to run for the office which they seek. No write-ins will be possible because each candidate must be approved by March 15 in order to run for a position on the Representative Council.

Following are the declared candidates and the vacancies which will occur in December 2026:

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL CANDIDATES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 ELECTION

Southeastern Section, Lower Peninsula – Class A and B Schools

- John Thompson, Athletic Director, Brighton High School

Southwestern Section, Lower Peninsula – Class A and B Schools

- Karyn Furlong, Athletic Director, Richland-Gull Lake High School

Upper Peninsula – Class C and D Schools

- Vince Gross, Superintendent, Paradise-Whitefish Township Community School
- Sean Jacques, Teacher, Calumet High School

Statewide At-Large

- Michael Bakker, Principal, Fenton High School

Junior High/Middle Schools

- Fred Smith, Athletic Director, Bangor Middle School

Northern Section, Lower Peninsula – Class A and B Schools

- Fred Bryant, Athletic Director, Cadillac High School

Northern Section, Lower Peninsula – Class C and D Schools

- Aaron Gaffney, Superintendent, Ellsworth Community School
- Alex Tiseo, Athletic Director, Charlevoix High School

Private and Parochial High Schools

- Jerry DeGroot, Principal, Hudsonville-Unity Christian High School
- Mike Evoy, Director, Catholic High School League

UPPER PENINSULA ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

Class D Schools

- Jack Kumpula, Athletic Director, Lake Linden-Hubbell High School

Athletic Coach

- Mike Berutti, Principal, West Iron County High School