

Voting Equipment Procurement Update

Michelle Blue Elections Director

Replacement Timeline



- March Board Direction to move forward with costshare agreements
- April Began working with County IT, Finance/ Contracts on RFP and vendor requirements
- May Released RFP
- June Five vendors submitted proposals
- August Four vendors conducted demonstrations (all currently certified in MN)

Demonstrations



- Clerks from every large city participated
- Dozens of municipal clerks, deputies, election judges
- Members of the disability community and voters who were blind and/or hard of hearing



Equipment Certification Process



- State determines time, place, and manner of elections (in US Constitution)
- State law (M.S. § 206.57) requires an electronic voting system to be certified by the Secretary of State and tested by an accredited testing authority or tested by a federal agency (i.e. the EAC)



Election Administration



- Elections are run by local clerks (cities, townships, school districts)
- All voting on paper ballots
- Publicly test every ballot, every contest, every candidate before every election
- Post-election review after every general election
- These certified and tested pieces of equipment are proven to be faster, more accurate, and less costly than hand counting

Absentee Voting





- o In place since Civil War
- o Essential for:
 - o military service members
 - voters with health/ mobility considerations, limited transportation
 - o students, those away from home
 - o shift workers, caregivers, and more
 - Over 130,000 voters in Dakota cast their ballot before election day in 2024

Nov 2025 Elections Dakota School District Cities and Townships included in(in whole or part) Type of Election ISD 192 -Empire, Farmington, Lakeville, and townships of **Special Election for Referendum** Castle Rock, Eureka, Hampton, and Vermillion Farmington Area **Public Schools** ISD 194 - Lakeville Special Election for Referendum, Burnsville, Eureka Twp, Lakeville Area Schools **Special Election for Board** Member ISD 196 -Apple Valley, Burnsville, Coates, Eagan, Empire, Regular General Election, Special Rosemount/ Apple Farmington, Inver Grove Heights, Lakeville, **Election for Board Member,** Rosemount, Vermillion Twp Valley/ Eagan **Special Election for Referendum** ISD 200 – Hastings Hastings, Hampton, Miesville, New Trier, **Special Election for Board Public Schools** Rosemount, Vermillion, and townships of Douglas. Member Hampton, Marshan, Nininger, Ravenna, Vermillion ISD 252 – Cannon Townships of Douglas and Randolph **Special Election for Referendum Falls Area Schools**

Election Calendar



- Absentee voting begins
 Sept 19
 - Hastings/ADC
 - Western/WSC
 - All School DistrictOffices
- Find your polling place, look up your sample ballot and more at MNVotes.gov



