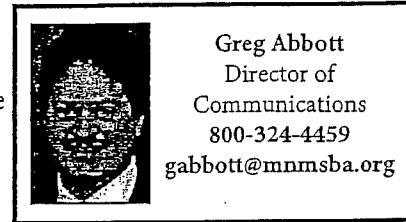


Requirement to Post Campaign Finance Reports, Not Certification of Filings

By Greg Abbott, MSBA Director of Communications

This year, M.S. 211A.02 was amended by adding subdivision 6 which requires the school district clerk to make all Campaign Finance Reports available to the public on the school district website for four years. The school district clerk must also provide the Campaign Finance Reports link to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.



For most school districts, this law won't affect the duties of the school district clerk because most campaigns rarely reach the \$750 threshold for funds received or spent which triggers the need for a Campaign Finance Report. Most school board members simply file the Campaign Financial Report Certification of Filing form within seven days of the election, checking the box that says they did not exceed the \$750 threshold in the calendar year. These Certification of Filings do NOT need to be posted on the school district website.

However, if a candidate in your school district has reached the \$750 threshold, he/she must file a report within 30 days of the election.

Remember, a Certificate of Election cannot be given to a candidate who has not returned the basic Certification of Filing form. Therefore, the school district election officer should contact the elected individuals who have not filed the basic Certification of Filing form to make sure the individuals have the form and remind them they cannot be seated until the form is completed and turned in.