

(3) If after the expiration of the time for filing petitions, there are more than two nominees for the county Board of Education for each member to be elected, the board of supervisors of elections shall provide the means whereby all duly registered voters of Charles County, irrespective of party affiliation, may vote for the nominees for the county Board of Education at a primary election to be held at the time and place for holding the primary elections of the political parties. In taking the ballot, voting machines shall be used. However, if the number of candidates submitted for vote at the primary elections is too large for the practical use of voting machines, the board of supervisors of elections shall supply paper ballots in the usual form for use in voting for such offices. The 14 persons, among those whose names are duly placed on primary ballots as candidates for nomination to the county Board of Education who receive the largest number of votes at the primary election, shall be the duly nominated candidates for election to the respective county Board of Education offices. The board of canvassers for Charles County upon the completion of its canvass of voters at the primary election shall determine who are the duly nominated candidates for election to the respective Board of Education offices under the provisions of this section and shall certify their names to the board of supervisors of elections of Charles County. Any person who has qualified under this section as a candidate for nomination to the county Board of Education, and who shall by virtue of the provisions of this section, be required to run in a primary election, may on or before 45 days preceding the primary election in a writing signed by him and acknowledged before an officer duly authorized to take acknowledgments under the laws of Maryland, notify the board of supervisors of elections of Charles County that he desires to withdraw as a candidate for nomination. The petition of candidacy as to any candidate so withdrawing shall be void, and his name shall not be placed on the ballot for the primary election. If the withdrawal of any candidate reduces the nominees to less than 15, the board of supervisors of elections shall certify the appropriate replacement number from the remaining candidates as provided by subsection (c)(2) of this section, if possible. No person shall be certified as a candidate who is subject to the authority of the Board of Education.

(4) The seven persons among the maximum of 14 whose names are placed on the general election ballot as candidates for election to the county Board of Education who receive the largest number of votes in the election shall be elected to the county Board of Education.

(c) The seven members of the Board shall be elected at large in Charles County.]

[32-3A.