# Ballot

After hosting information sessions and gathering interest forms or nominations, the district superintendent or designee should host elections. Districts can determine the number and type of stakeholders represented on the Community Engagement Council (CEC), but the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) recommends each CEC include 10–12 members. For more details about who should be included in each type of council, see pages 10–12 of the Mississippi CEC Guidance.

The school community should select the date(s) and method(s) that will result in the greatest community engagement in the CEC election process. MDE provides a sample ballot form on the following page as an example. Districts are not required to use this ballot.

To use this ballot, add candidate names. If needed, add additional spaces for names and/or stakeholder groups. During the election, ask each voter to select their preferred candidate for each stakeholder group. After the election is complete, tally the votes. The candidate(s) with the most votes join the CEC. For example, if the district is seeking two business leaders to join the CEC, the two candidates with the most votes would be selected for the CEC.

**Community Engagement Council (CEC) Election Ballot for School/District Name**

**Election Overview**

The Community Engagement Council (CEC) is a community-led group. Members of the CEC attend six meetings per year. The CEC identifies and works towards a goal focused on improving our school(s). The ideal CEC member:

* Is connected to the school community
* Focuses on the needs of all students
* Listens actively to the ideas of others
* Seeks to understand different perspectives
* Works with others to solve problems
* Attends meetings regularly
* Seeks to come to consensus
* Navigates difficult conversations respectfully
* Advocates for underserved students

In this election, community members will elect the following representatives to serve on the CEC:

* # parents/guardians/caregivers
* # business leaders
* # community members/leaders
* # higher education representatives
* # early childhood representatives

All community members not currently employed by the school district are eligible to vote in this election.

**Voting Instructions**

Vote by putting an “X” next to the candidates you wish to select.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Parents/Guardians/Caregivers*****Select only one.*** | \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 1\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 2\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 3\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 4 |
| **Business Leaders*****Select only one.*** | \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 1\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 2\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 3\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 4 |
| **Community Members/Leaders*****Select only one.*** | \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 1\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 2\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 3\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 4 |
| **Higher Education Representatives*****Select only one.*** | \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 1\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 2 |
| **Early Childhood Representatives*****Select only one.*** | \_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 1\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate Name 2 |