

Closing Split Precincts in School District Elections

Title 26 O.S. 2011, Section 13A-101 allows school districts to close split precincts in specific circumstances. The State Election Board has promulgated rules to implement the law. Following is a summary of the steps school district officials may follow to close split precincts.

1. If only part of a precinct is located inside the boundaries of a school district, the precinct may be closed and removed from the school district's election only if school officials certify in the resolution calling the election that no persons reside within that part of the precinct.
2. If only part of a precinct is located inside the boundaries of a school district and 100 or fewer voters are registered in the part of the precinct within the district, the polling place may be closed upon request of school district officials. The request must be submitted in writing to the County Election Board Secretary along with the resolution, but should not be included in the body of the resolution. Absentee ballots will be printed to accommodate voters in the part of the precinct located inside the school district.
 - For the Annual School Election, such a request must be submitted with the resolution.
 - For the Annual School Runoff Election, such a request must be submitted no later than 45 days before the election.
3. If any voters in the split precinct are unassigned to a school district, the superintendent is required to assist the County Election Board Secretary to determine whether any of the unassigned voters reside within the school district's boundaries. Instructions are provided by the Secretary.
4. Once a precinct polling place is closed for an election, the district is not responsible for election day expenses (such as Precinct Official compensation and Precinct Registry fees) in the precinct. The district **is** responsible for the cost of absentee ballots for the precinct.
5. School districts are not permitted to close split precincts for any regular or special election conducted on the same date as a state Primary, Runoff Primary, or General Election, a Presidential Preferential Primary Election, or a Special State Election.

**CONTACT THE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD SECRETARY
FOR MORE INFORMATION**