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15 file to seek seats in school elections

by [Jordan Gass-Pooré](#), [Aziza Musa](#) | July 8, 2015 at 3:08 a.m.

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The filing period for candidates seeking election to the North Little Rock and the Jacksonville/North Pulaski school boards ended Tuesday, with 15 names in the ring.

Local elections for school board seats statewide will be Sept. 15. In Pulaski County, two of the four districts will hold elections. Residents living in the Little Rock or Pulaski County special districts will not vote this year because their locally elected school boards were dissolved when the districts were taken over by the state.

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The new Jacksonville/ North Pulaski School District will have elections for all seven School Board seats. Five members of the School Board will be elected from single-member zones, while two will be elected at large by voters throughout the district.

Candidates for those seats are:

Position 1-At Large: Daniel Gray, 40, principal broker and co-owner of Re/MAX Homefinders.

Position 2-At Large: Ronald W. McDaniel, 62, retired commander of the 189th maintenance group of the Arkansas Air National Guard at Little Rock Air Force Base; and Celeste M. Williams, 59, a representative with the home-based direct-selling travel club WorldVentures in Jacksonville.

Zone 1: Marcia Anne Dornblaser, 58, dental hygienist; and Richard L. Moss, 68, Pulaski Technical College student success coach.

Zone 2: Carol D. Miles, 50, campus center director at Park University on Little Rock Air Force Base.

Zone 3: Jim Moore, 68; Jerald Reichenbach, 72; and Barry Roper, 57, Pulaski County Special School District substitute teacher. Moore and Reichenbach did not immediately respond to a request for more background information.

Zone 4: LaConda Watson, 44, district manager for inside sales at Hewlett-Packard Co.in Conway.

Zone 5: Dena Toney, 46, insurance agent.

Those elected to the Jacksonville/North Pulaski board will help create the foundation for the new district, which is still a part of the Pulaski County Special School District. The new district will operate independently starting July 1, 2016.

The state's Board of Education created the district after voters overwhelmingly backed it in September. The state also appointed an interim School Board made of seven members serving until the Sept. 15 election.

Gray, McDaniel, Miles, Moss and Watson are serving on the interim board.

For the North Little Rock district, three seats will be up for election in September.

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Candidates are:

Zone 2: Alicia "Lisa" Walton, 44, an attorney with Greene and Walton Law Firm in Little Rock; and former state Sen. Tracy Steele, 52, head of the Arkansas Health Services Permit Agency.

Zone 3: Darrell Montgomery, 48, incumbent, a contract specialist with the U.S. Army.

Zone 7: Richard "Luke" King, 34, incumbent, an investment portfolio manager at Bank of the Ozarks.

The state deadline to register to vote for the elections is Aug. 17.

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