



1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Pinellas County School Board; revising
3 procedures for the election of school board members; providing
4 guidelines for implementation; providing an effective date.

5
6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

7
8 Section 1. The following procedures shall apply to the
9 conversion of the election of Pinellas County School Board
10 members from the districtwide election of all members to the
11 election of four school board members from single-member
12 districts and the election of three school board members
13 districtwide:

14 (1) Year 2003; designation of at-large and single-member
15 districts.--The three seats to be filled from the county at
16 large shall be designated District 1, District 2, and District
17 3, respectively. The four seats to be filled from single-member
18 districts shall be designated District 4, District 5, District
19 6, and District 7, respectively. During the year 2003, the
20 school board shall determine the geographic boundaries for the
21 four single-member districts, which shall together cover the
22 entire county and be as nearly equal in population as
23 practicable. The newly designated boundaries of Districts 4 and
24 5 shall be effective for the first primary election in the year
25 2004 and thereafter, and the newly designated boundaries of
26 Districts 6 and 7 shall be effective for the first primary
27 election in the year 2006 and thereafter. However, the newly



28 designated boundaries shall not have the effect of disqualifying
29 a school board member before the end of his or her current term.

30 (2) Year 2004; begin implementation.--Implementation of
31 the conversion to single-member representation on the district
32 school board shall begin with the election of district school
33 board members held in conjunction with the first primary
34 election in the year 2004 and with the runoff, if any, during
35 the general election of that year. In the year 2004, school
36 board members from the newly created single-member Districts 4
37 and 5 and the at-large seat for which election is to be held in
38 that year, hereafter designated as District 1, shall be elected.
39 An incumbent school board member from the previously existing
40 school board member residence area 1 or area 3 and the incumbent
41 in the at-large seat elected in the year 2000 may seek
42 reelection from one of the newly created single-member Districts
43 4 and 5 if he or she resides within such district, or may seek
44 reelection from at-large District 1.

45 (3) Year 2006; complete implementation.--The conversion to
46 single-member representation on the district school board shall
47 be fully implemented with the election of district school board
48 members held in conjunction with the first primary and general
49 elections in the year 2006. In the year 2006, school board
50 members from the newly created single-member Districts 6 and 7
51 and the newly created at-large Districts 2 and 3 shall be
52 elected. An incumbent school board member from the previously
53 existing school board member residence area 2, area 4, or area 5
54 and the incumbent in the at-large seat elected in the year 2002
55 may seek reelection from one of the newly created single-member



56 Districts 6 and 7 if he or she resides within such district, or
57 may seek reelection from at-large District 2 or 3.

58 (4) Subsequent years.--Thereafter, the governing body of
59 the district school board shall consist of seven members, with
60 four members from single-member districts and three members from
61 the county at large as provided in this act. All elections for
62 district school board members shall be nonpartisan and held at
63 the same time as the first primary and general elections as
64 provided by law, and district school board members shall be
65 elected to appropriately staggered terms of 4 years. Each
66 candidate for election to the district school board must be a
67 qualified elector of the county and, if seeking election to a
68 single-member residence area, a registered voter of that
69 residence area at the time of qualifying. Each person elected to
70 the district school board from a single-member residence area
71 shall be elected only by the electors residing in the single-
72 member district for which he or she qualified. Each person
73 elected to the district school board shall take office on the
74 third Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the year in
75 which he or she was elected. If certification of the election is
76 delayed, the person elected shall take office at the next
77 regular meeting of the district school board after final
78 certification.

79 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
80 law.