

Vacancies in board of trustees by death, absence, or refusal to act, how filled up.

LII. In the event of any vacancy or vacancies occurring from time to time in any Board of trustees for any school district, appointed or elected by virtue of the laws heretofore in force, or hereafter to be appointed or elected under this Act, by reason of the death, absence, or refusal to act, of any trustee or trustees, after his or their appointment or election, the inhabitants, householders of said district, are hereby empowered to proceed to call a meeting in the same manner as provided for the first or annual election of trustees, and to choose or elect one or more person or persons to supply such vacancy or vacancies; and the trustee or trustees so chosen or elected during the currency of any year, shall have the same power in all respects, as if he or they had been elected at the commencement of the year, or at the last previous general election of trustees.

In cases of doubt, &c. Board may order a new election.

LIII. In the event of any disputes or doubts arising or existing as to the legal election or resignation of any district school trustee or trustees, or the right of any person or persons to assume the office or exercise the duties of trustee or trustees of such school, the Board of Education are hereby authorized and empowered to inquire into and determine the same, and, if necessary, to order a new election of the whole or any less number of the said trustees; and for the better ascertaining the truth in such case, to require the personal attendance before the said Board, and to examine on oath any witness or witnesses, whose evidence may be deemed necessary on such enquiry; and any witness who shall refuse to attend so to be examined, after his reasonable expenses for doing so shall be tendered to him, shall be liable to pay to the party complaining, a fine of not more than five pounds, nor less than one pound; the same to be recovered, with costs of suit, in such manner as small debts are now recovered.

Board to examine witnesses on oath, &c.

Time and manner of holding a new election of trustees.

LIV. In case the said Board shall order a new election of trustees, a day, hour and place shall be named in such order for that purpose, and a copy thereof shall be posted on the schoolhouse of the district at least six days before the day so named; and the inhabitants who shall thereupon assemble shall then and there elect the necessary number of trustees, who, on being confirmed by the said Board of Education, shall be deemed to be in office until the first day of July next after the date of such election, or until some new election, duly authorized, shall take place.

Proof of appointment of trustees may be made by a certificate signed by three householders.

LV. In all cases where it may be necessary to prove the appointment of trustees appointed by virtue of the laws heretofore in force, or hereafter to be appointed by virtue of this Act, in any Court of law or equity, or before any Court or tribunal whatsoever, a certificate, stating the fact of such ap-