

# FERGUSON-FLORISSANT AND VOTING RIGHTS

## What's Happening?

On April 2, 2019, the voters in the Ferguson-Florissant School District will use for a cumulative voting system to elect candidates to the school board.

The courts found that because of the long history of discrimination, the at-large voting system diluted the African-American vote in violation of the federal Voting Rights Act.

## What's Cumulative Voting?

Cumulative voting is an alternative to the standard, one-office, one-vote ballot. This voting method can be used when there are multiple seats open in an election. In cumulative voting, voters cast as many votes as there are seats.

You can give more than one vote to a single candidate. For instance, if there are two seats open, voters can cast both their votes for one candidate or one vote each to two different candidates.

## Why is Cumulative Voting "Fair"?

Voters are not limited to using only one vote per candidate. Instead, they can put multiple votes on one or more candidates. This increases the opportunity for minority groups to gain representation in an election.

When standard ballots are used, the majority's votes typically elect their desired candidates and block the minority voice from being represented. The majority should not be able to control the entire district.

## KEY DATES

**December 11, 2018  
to January 15, 2019**

Window for school board candidate filing

**March 6, 2019**

Voter registration deadline to vote in the April election

**April 2, 2019**

Election Day

## FFSD QUICK FACTS



**Municipalities:** 11

**Residents:** 38,795

**Students:** 11,000+

**Schools:** 25

**ZIP Codes:**

63135, 63140, 63134, 63033, 63136, 63031, 63042, 63121, 63114

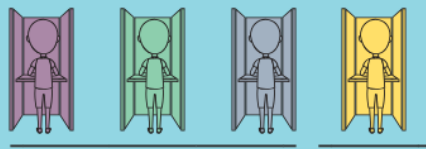
### UNDERSTANDING CUMULATIVE VOTING

3 SEATS

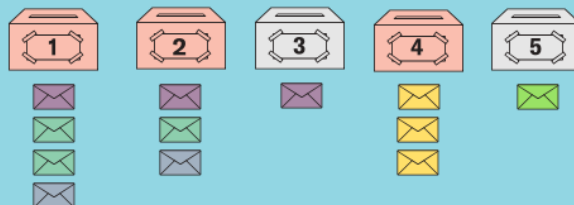


4 VOTERS

EACH WITH 3 VOTES  
(1 VOTE PER SEAT)



5 CANDIDATES



**ACLU**  
Missouri