

Policy B.020.50: Student Board Member Selection

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: Pending

Amendment 1: Draft Policy B.020.50: Student Board Member Selection

Effect: Removes the provision that students must live in the eastern half of the state in even numbered years or in the western half of the state in odd numbered years to be eligible for selection.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to determine the manner in which student Board members are selected to serve on the State Board of Education.

Background

The membership of the Washington State Board of Education is established by the Legislature and specified in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW 28A.305.011). There are sixteen State Board of Education positions. Each position is filled for a four-year term except for student positions. Student members are "selected in a manner determined by the state board of education".

Policy

Student representatives are to be selected by a selection committee made up of Washington high school students in collaboration with one or more student organizations.

Student members serve a two-year term July 1 through June 30th of the second year. Terms begin in the summer prior to their 11th grade year in high school.

Eligible students must:

- Be enrolled in a secondary school throughout the academic years of their term.
- Be a sophomore (rising junior) at the time of selection.
- Reside and attend school in Washington state.
- Have demonstrated interest in public schools.
- Be able to devote sufficient time to the responsibilities of the board including, but not limited to, participation in all scheduled State Board of Education and Association of Washington Student Leaders Board meetings.
- Have a positive academic and/or extracurricular record which may be demonstrated by grades, activities, accomplishments, and/or recommendations of peers, educators, or community members.
- Commit to making up school work missed while attending scheduled meetings and other Board functions.

Selection Criteria:

In selecting finalists for the student representative, in addition to the qualifying criteria above, the committee shall consider:

- Diversity of the student applicant's school including, but not limited to:
 - School and district demographics
 - School and district size
 - Geographic representation

Selection Committee:

- The Board will work with one or more student organizations to identify members of the selection committee and may partner with one or more student organizations to convene the committee.
- The committee must include students from a diverse range of Washington high schools.
- Current student members of the State Board of Education will co-chair the committee.
- Selection committee members will be appointed by the Board chair.

Vacancy:

Upon a vacancy in any student member position, the position may be filled through an appointment of a student in the same grade level, and where possible in the same region of the state, not later than the date of the second ensuing regularly scheduled Board meeting. The member appointed to fill the vacant position shall begin service at the end of the meeting at which she or he was appointed and complete the term of office associated with the

position.

Selection Procedure

The selection process is supported by the Association of Washington Student Leaders (AWSL) Student Steering Committee and the Washington State School Director's Association (WSSDA) according to the following schedule:

- Fall of preceding year - Board and staff review of recruitment materials, timeline, and announcement
- Early January - Begin recruitment with launch of application and associated promotion
- March 31 - Application deadline; appointment of the selection committee by board chair.
- April - screening, selection of finalists by the selection committee, and finalist interviews.
- May - Final selection by the committee and selection announced by the State Board of Education.
- June - New student attends Board meeting for introductions and transition
- July 1 - Term officially begins.

Procedure for Filling a Vacancy

SBE staff will determine if finalists from the prior selection process are available and interested in serving. Staff will work with AWSL and available selection committee members to nominate a student to complete the term whose appointment will be confirmed by majority vote of the Board.

Policy Review and Effective Date

This policy takes effect August 18, 2023. This policy and procedure may be reviewed annually. Changes to the policy and procedure must be adopted no later than August 31 of the year preceding the start of a new student's term to allow adequate notice to the field and to ensure an effective recruitment process.
