Bylaw 9150: Student Board Members

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 07/23/2008 **| Last Revised Date:** 10/09/2024 **| Last Reviewed Date:** 10/09/2024

In order to enhance communication and collaboration between the Board of Education and the student body and to teach students the importance of civic involvement, the Board supports the participation of high school students in district governance.

The Board believes it is important to seek out and consider students' ideas, viewpoints and reactions to the educational program. In order to provide student input and involvement, the Board shall include *two* student Board members selected in accordance with procedures approved by the Board.

Student Board members shall be entitled to be reimbursed for mileage to the same extent as other members of the Board, but shall not receive monetary compensation for attendance at Board meetings. (Education Code 35012)

A student Board member shall not be liable for any acts of the Board. (Education Code 35012)

Choosing Student Board Members

Eligibility

Any student in good standing enrolled in a high school of the district who exhibits qualities of leadership and demonstrates a desire to represent the interests of all students is eligible to be selected a student representative to the Board.

Rotation

Student representatives to the Board shall be selected by rotation among *the district* High Schools.

Selection

The current student representatives shall have the responsibility for setting in motion the selection process for the succeeding student representatives. A student committee comprised of Student Body Presidents, Ridgway High School representative, the current student representatives to the Board, the Principal and the Director of Secondary Education shall choose the succeeding representative to the Board. The selection process shall be completed in time for presentation of the new Student Board Members to the Board by the first meeting in June.

Student Board Members shall be seated at the first meeting following the end of the school year.

The term of student Board member(s) shall be one year, commencing on July 1. However, the Board may adjust the term of a student Board member only if a vacancy occurs or in order to give more students an opportunity to serve on the Board. (Education Code 35012)

Role and Responsibilities of Student Board Members

Student Board members shall not be considered members of a legislative body for purposes of the Brown Act. (Education Code 35012)

A student Board member shall not be counted in determining the vote required to carry any measure before the Board or whether a quorum is in attendance at a Board meeting.

Student Board member(s) shall have the right to attend all Board meetings except closed sessions. (Education Code 35012)

All materials presented to Board members, except those related to closed sessions, shall be presented to student Board members at the same time they are presented to other Board members. Student Board member(s) shall also be invited to attend staff briefings or be provided with a separate staff briefing within the same timeframe as the briefing of other Board members. In addition, all materials given to Board members by the district between meetings, except for materials that pertain to closed session items, shall be distributed to student Board members. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board member(s) shall be recognized at Board meetings as full member(s), shall be seated with other members of the Board, and shall be allowed to participate in questioning witnesses and discussing issues. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board member(s) shall be allowed to cast preferential votes on all matters except those subject to closed session discussion. Preferential voting means a formal expression of opinion that is recorded in the minutes and cast before the official vote of the Board. Preferential votes shall not affect the final numerical outcome of a vote. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board member(s) may make motions that may be acted upon by the Board, except on matters dealing with employer-employee relations pursuant to Government Code 3540-3549.3. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board members shall be appointed to subcommittees of the Board in the same manner as other Board members, and shall be made aware of the time commitment required to participate in subcommittee meetings and work and of the right to decline an appointment. The availability of all subcommittee members, including the availability of student Board members, may be considered when scheduling subcommittee meetings. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board members shall be invited to attend functions of the Board, such as forums, meetings with students and parents/guardians, and other general assemblies. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board Member Training

The Superintendent or designee may, at district expense, provide learning opportunities to student Board members through trainings, workshops, and conferences, such as those offered by the California School Boards Association and other organizations, to enhance their knowledge, understanding, and performance of leadership skills and their Board responsibilities.

The Superintendent or designee may periodically provide information to student Board member candidates to give them an understanding of the position. Once chosen or appointed, incoming student Board members shall be provided an orientation designed to build knowledge of the district and an understanding of the responsibilities and expectations of the position.

Removal from Office

The Board shall declare a vacant position for any Student Board Member on the happening of any of the following events before the expiration of the term:

1. Death of the student
2. Resignation
3. Failure to attend regularly scheduled Board meetings from September 1 to June 30 for a period of three consecutive months, except when prevented by illness.
4. Disciplinary action taken against the student representative, such as expulsion or suspension.

Alternate Student Board Member

If the Board determines that the student Board member's duties are not being fulfilled, the Board may appoint another student to serve out the term of the student Board member. If an alternate student Board member is appointed, the Board shall suspend the prior student Board member's rights and privileges related to service on the Board. (Education Code 35012)

Elimination of Student Board Member Position

Once established, the student Board member position shall continue to exist until the Board, by majority vote of all voting Board members, approves a motion to eliminate the position. Such a motion shall be listed as a public agenda item for a Board meeting prior to the motion being voted upon. (Education Code 35012)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 33000.5	Appointment of student member to State Board of Education
Ed. Code 35012	Board members; number, election and terms
Ed. Code 35120	Student board membership
Ed. Code 35160	Authority of governing boards
Gov. Code 3540-3549.3	Educational Employment Relations Act
Gov. Code 54950-54963	The Ralph M. Brown Act

Management Resources	Description
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	California Association of Student Councils
Website	California Association of Student Leaders
Website	CSBA

Cross References	Description
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
3350	Travel Expenses
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
9130	Board Committees
9230	Orientation
9240	Board Training
9250	Remuneration, Reimbursement And Other Benefits
9322	Agenda/Meeting Materials
9323.2	Actions By The Board
9323.2-E PDF(1)	Actions By The Board
9324	Minutes And Recordings