



539 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to identify the position and philosophy of the school district and school board related to the high school's student council.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Hastings Public Schools Board of Education recognizes the importance of student leadership, voice, and engagement. The high school student council, under the guidance of two advisors, shall operate to promote student interests, enhance school culture, and encourage civic responsibility.

Specific details of membership, eligibility, and elections are outlined in the student council protocol document.

III. DECISION-MAKING

- A. All final decisions made by the student council must have the support of both the advisors and the building principal. Decisions that affect the entire student body are expected to be made through a collaborative process that considers diverse perspectives and actively seeks input from all students;
- B. Decisions should be supported by relevant data—such as survey results or other forms of stakeholder feedback—to ensure they reflect the needs and perspectives of the entire student body; and
- C. Any decisions that represent a significant change should be reviewed in consultation with the superintendent.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School Board & Superintendent will:
 - 1. Review the student council policy once every three (3) years.
- B. Principal will:
 - 1. Ensure that the student council events and activities are in compliance with district policies;
 - 2. Assign, supervise, and evaluate student council advisors;
 - 3. Communicate event decisions with district administration; and
 - 4. The principal may delegate responsibilities to other school district personnel but shall

continue to be accountable for actions taken under such delegation.

C. Advisors will:

1. Provide leadership and complete the duties of student council advisor as assigned and defined by the building principal or designee;
2. Adhere to district policies including Policy 713 (*Student Activity Accounting*); and
3. Maintain records of meeting minutes as determined by building administration.

V. OVERSIGHT

The school board and superintendent maintain their ability to veto any decision.

VI. DISTRICT AND SCHOOL POLICIES

All events and initiatives organized by the student council must comply with all ISD 200 Policies and the Student Code of Conduct, which includes safety protocols and behavior standards.

VII. POLICY REVIEW AND RECONSIDERATION

If changes occur that affect how the student council operates, the change must be communicated by email to the superintendent.

Legal References: *MN Statute 123B.147 Subd.1 (Supervision of school building)*
MN Statute 123B.147 Subd. 3 (Duties; evaluation)
MN Statute 123B.02 (General Powers of Independent School districts)
MN Statute 123B.49 Subd.4 (Board control of extracurricular activities)

Cross Reference: *ISD 200 Policy 713 (Student Activity Accounting)*

Policy Reviewed:

Policy Adopted:

Policy Revised: