

Student Board Representation and Governance 2024-25

Purpose- Policy 299 The purpose of this policy is to provide for student input on the school board through the establishment of a student representative who shall be an ex-officio member of the school board. The policy also stipulates that the student representative will provide student views and suggestions in regard to the development of educational policies and programs and will serve as an advisor to the school board.

The purpose of this proposal is to provide structure and procedures to provide a more inclusive and representation of students' voices that will inform the reports given by the board representative. Also, this proposed structure will provide students' perspectives about topics of importance to board members and students.

Structure to support Board Student Representative

Inclusive Model for broad student input

- This opportunity should be open to all students regardless of age or whether or not they are involved in a student group/organization. In addition to students that may not be involved in student groups, it would be ideal to have designated representatives from different student leadership groups. This would ensure that we have students from all parts of the high school being represented.
 - At the beginning of the next school year, the future school board representative contacts different teacher advisors to let their student groups know of this opportunity and recruit members
 - In terms of getting the word out to students that are not in any of these student groups, there would be recruiting in two ways: 1. make announcements and post about this new group on the Schoology bulletin posts, 2. ask the [REDACTED] staff for a recommendation on who they may think would be a good member for this group
 - Representation would reflect the demographics of the student body enrollment.
- The meetings would occur at least once a month for consistency and organization purposes. Before the first board meeting where the report is given is ideal, so that

students have the time to build the report together and include everything that they all believe is important.

- This group would also be a great connection between student voice and administration. They should meet regularly with the [REDACTED] administration to make sure that there isn't any disconnect between student leadership/voice and the administration.
- We want to ensure that middle school voices are included in this new model and I believe that the easiest way would be for us to create the same sort of structured groups in the middle schools.
 - The group would be just like the high school group but there could be one for [REDACTED] and one for [REDACTED]. If this were possible then they could meet once every month before the high schoolers meet with each other and we could send one or two high schoolers to each of the middle schools to take notes of what the middle schoolers come up with and then they can take these notes and report back to the high school group to add the middle school voice in the final report.
 - Possibly survey middle school students to gather their input
 - Receive as a report at a regular board meeting.

These options should be tweaked and changed once a new school board representative is designated.

- Superintendent's Role: Provide mentorship and guidance in collaboration with the high school principal
 - Review board representative as part of the BoardBook
 - Provide clear guidelines for participation at board meetings, especially for substitute board representative
- High School Principal's Role
 - Adhere to Board policy for election of the Student Representative
 - Follow procedures for the selection of student advisory members and ensure that meetings are scheduled
 - Establish parameters to ensure that students' perspectives are not unduly influenced by staff perspectives