

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Pursuant to Education Code 35160, the Governing Board may, on its own authority, elect to include one or more student members on the Board.

The Governing Board believes that engaging the student body and seeking its input and feedback regarding the district's educational programs and activities are vital to achieving the district's mission of educating district students. In order to enhance communication and collaboration between the Governing Board 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 shall include one nonvoting student representative, who shall be chosen by the students in accordance with procedures established by the Board.

1. The term of the student Board member shall be one calendar year, commencing on July 1 of each year. The Student Board member shall have the right to attend all Board meetings except closed sessions. (Education Code 35012)
2. The student Board member shall be seated with other Board members and be recognized at Board meetings as a full member. The student Board member may participate in questioning witnesses and discussing issues and shall receive all materials presented to Board members except those related to closed sessions. (Education Code 35012)
3. The Student Board member 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 as amended by AB 261 (Ch. 257, Statutes of 2017) and SB 468 (Ch. 283, Statutes of 2017))
4. The student Board member shall be entitled to be reimbursed for mileage to the same extent as other members of the Board but shall not receive compensation for attendance at Board meetings. (Education Code 35012)

Duties of a Student Board Member

The duties of the student Board member include the following:

- To provide continuing input for Board deliberations.
- To strengthen communications between the Board and district students.
- To represent all students and facilitate the discussion of all sides of issues. This duty does not preclude the student Board member from stating his/her individual opinion.

Selection and Term

The student Board member shall be elected by the students of the district based on criteria developed by the Oxnard District Council (ODC):

1. The student Board member shall be elected by a majority vote.
2. The term of office shall be July 1 - June 30.
3. If the position of student Board member becomes vacant, another student Board member shall be elected following the steps and criteria of ODC.

Student Board Member Development

As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall, at district expense, provide learning opportunities to student Board members through trainings, workshops, and conferences, to enhance their knowledge, understanding, and performance of their Board responsibilities.

The Superintendent or designee may periodically provide an orientation for student Board member candidates to give them an understanding of the responsibilities and expectations of Board service.

Elimination of 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)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 33000.5 Appointment of student members to State Board of Education
- 35012 Board members; number, election and terms; pupil members
- 35160 Authority of governing boards

GOVERNMENT CODE

- 3540-3549.3 Educational Employment Relations Act

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

- CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
- California Association of Student Councils: <http://www.casc.net>
- California Association of Student Leaders: <http://www.caslboard.com>
- National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>

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