

Bylaw 9150: Student Board Members

Original Adopted Date: 5/7/2025

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.

Credit, Compensation, and Liability

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

Student Board Member Positions Based on Petition

High school students may submit a petition to the Board requesting the creation of at least one student Board member position.

To qualify for Board consideration, the petition shall contain the signatures of at least 500 students or 10 percent of the number of students regularly enrolled in district high schools, whichever is less. (Education Code 35012)

Within 60 days of receiving a student petition, or at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting if no meeting is held within those 60 days, the Board shall adopt a Board bylaw or amend this Board bylaw to create at least one student Board member position on the Board. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board Member Positions Based on Board Authority

There shall be 1 student Board member position(s) on the Board. (Education Code 35160)

Student Board Member Eligibility, Selection, and Term

Each student Board member shall be enrolled in a district high school and shall be selected by a vote of the applicable student body. (Education Code 35012)

If the district has more high schools than student Board member positions, the student Board member position(s) shall rotate annually between the high schools of the district.

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

Role and Responsibilities of Student Board Members

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

The 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. Additionally, the student Board member(s) shall receive all materials given to Board members

between meetings, except for materials that pertain to closed session items, at the same time they are presented to other Board members. (Education Code 35012)

The 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)

The 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)

The 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)

The student Board member(s) shall be appointed to subcommittees of the Board in the same manner as other Board members, although a student Board member may decline an appointment. The availability of all subcommittee members, including the availability of the student Board member(s), may be considered when scheduling subcommittee meetings. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) shall not be considered members of the Board for purposes of the Brown Act. (Education Code 35012)

The student Board member(s) 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.

The student Board member(s) 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)

On a case-by-case basis, the student Board member(s) may make restorative justice recommendations to the Board regarding specific expulsion matters. In order for such a recommendation to be made, the student who is subject to the expulsion and that student's parent/guardian shall first provide written consent. If such consent is given, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the student Board member(s) with information regarding the expulsion but only to the extent necessary for the student Board member(s) to provide a recommendation related to restorative justice to the Board. (Education Code 35012)

Student Board Member Training

The Superintendent or designee may, at district expense, provide learning opportunities to the student Board member(s) 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 selected, the incoming student Board member(s) shall be provided an orientation designed to build knowledge of the district and an understanding of the responsibilities and expectations of the position.

Alternate Student Board Member

If the Board determines that a student Board member is not fulfilling the duties of the position, 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

Code	Description
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
3350	Travel Expenses
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
6142.3	Civic Education
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities

9130	<u>Board Committees</u>
9230	<u>Orientation</u>
9240	<u>Board Training</u>
9250	<u>Remuneration, Reimbursement And Other Benefits</u>
9250-E(1)	<u>Remuneration, Reimbursement And Other Benefits</u>
9321	<u>Closed Session</u>
9321-E(1)	<u>Closed Session</u>
9321-E(2)	<u>Closed Session</u>
9322	<u>Agenda/Meeting Materials</u>
9323.2	<u>Actions By The Board</u>
9323.2-E(1)	<u>Actions By The Board</u>
9324	<u>Minutes And Recordings</u>