

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

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.

Petition

High school students may submit a petition to the Board requesting the appointment of at least one student Board member. (Education Code 35012)

To qualify for Board consideration, the petition for student representation shall contain the signatures of no less than 500 regularly enrolled high school students or no less than 10 percent of the number of regularly enrolled high school students, 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 order the inclusion of at least one student member on the Board. (Education Code 35012)

Election of Student Board Member

Student Board member positions shall be filled by a vote of students enrolled in the high school(s) in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Board. (Education Code 35012)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

The term of student Board member(s) shall be one year, commencing on July 1. (Education Code 35012)

Role and Responsibilities of Student Board Members

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

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

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 voting 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. (Education Code 35012)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

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)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

Student Board Member Development

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 their Board responsibilities.

(cf. 9240 - Board Training)

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.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33000.5 Appointment of student member to State Board of Education

35012 Board members; number, election and terms; student 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>

Bylaw

adopted: January 15, 2008

revised: May 8, 2012; January 23, 2018

SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Scotts Valley, California