

Siskiyou UHSD

Board Bylaw

BB 9150(a)

Student Board Members

In order to enhance communication between the Board of Trustees and the student body and to engage students in the district's educational programs and operations, the Board encourages the involvement of high school students in district governance. The inclusion of one or more student representatives on the Board shall be ordered upon receipt of a student petition in accordance with Education Code 35012 or may be ordered at any time at the discretion of the Board.

Petition

High school students may submit a petition to the Board requesting the appointment of at least one student Board member. This petition, or a separate petition submitted after students have been appointed to the Board, also may include a request to allow preferential voting for student Board members. (Education Code 35012)

Preferential voting means a formal expression of opinion that is recorded in the minutes and cast before the official vote of the Board. (Education Code 35012)

To be eligible for consideration by the Board, the petition for student representation or the petition for preferential voting 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 a student member on the Board or shall act to allow preferential voting for the student Board member, as applicable. (Education Code 35012)

Once established, the student Board member position shall remain in effect until the Board, by majority vote of all voting Board members, approves a motion to eliminate the position. (Education Code 35012)

Selection of Student Board Member

The role of the student board member is reserved for junior and senior students only. Interested students at any schools in the SUHSD, who meet the criteria for participation in extra-curricular activities, and in good standing in their academics, community and with their social peers may apply.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

~~Student Board members shall be elected by the students enrolled in the high school or high schools 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)

Application Procedures:

Interested students in SUHSD schools shall review the Student Board Member Job Description/Position and complete the comprehensive application in completion and meet all timelines.

Representation

Four student board members – one student from each comprehensive school site, shall be appointed by the Board.

Role and Responsibilities of Student Board Members

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

Time Requirements

The estimated time commitment required for the Student Board Member will be at least one evening per month to attend Board meetings, typically the second Wednesday of the month, which begin at 4:00 p.m. except closed (executive) sessions. (Education Code 35012)

Sufficient time to study the agenda materials in advance of the meeting which may include consultation with Board/staff, for background information related to agenda issues; additional time for handling Board-related business; and time to attend any trainings of conferences the Board and/or Superintendent deem appropriate.

Initial Screening

Immediately after the application deadline, a Screening Committee will consider all applications received. Eligible applicants will receive a brief screening interview opportunity. The committee will then recommend two (2) candidates from each school for an interview before the SUHSD Board of Trustees. Applicants will not receive evaluations nor will their application materials be returned.

Interview

The Screening Committee will recommend four (4) finalists to the SUHSD Board of Trustees for a final Board interview.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Appointment

The SUHSD Board of Trustees will officially appoint four (4) students who will take on the official role of Student Board Members—the students shall be assigned a rotation schedule/calendar of meetings to attend with two student board members attending each meeting.

Removal From Office

Following a review, the SUHSD Board of Trustees, by majority vote, may dismiss/or remove a student board member for multiple invalid absences, or is otherwise unable or is unwilling to fulfill the duties, meet the obligations and requirements or commits any action bringing disrepute to the position.

Roles and Responsibilities of Student Board Members

As the official governing body of the District, the Board:

- Is a trustee for students
- Hears the views of the public
- Sets District policies and goals
- Decides how to prioritize and spend District funds
- Maintains relationships with other school boards and related organizations
- Oversees employee relations and approves contracts
- Establishes curriculum and standards

The Student Board Member/Advisor May:

- Become a Student Advisor and voice to the Superintendent and Board
- Receive preferential voting rights
- Attend/Present at Back to School night events
- Present/Address staff at the annual “Welcome Back to School” event
- Respect the diversity of students’ points of view in order to express a position that will be in keeping with the best interests of all of the PUHSD’s schools and not represent any particular special interest group of students on an issue.
- Represent students at PUHSD school board meetings and possibly other civic meetings where student input is needed or requested.
- Participate as a member of the Superintendent’s Voice Council
- Practice, as a member of the Superintendent’s Voice Council, effective communication skills and help create an atmosphere of mutual respect between students and adults and community members in order to communicate the needs, desires and concerns of fellow students
- Give sufficient time to review Board agenda items coming before each Board meeting
- Stress the following basic benefits:
 - Improving the school and community
 - Learning new life skills

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

**Participating in goal-oriented teams
Having a voice in issues that affect youth**

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

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

A student Board member shall be recognized at Board meetings as a full member and shall be seated with other members of the Board. In addition, a student Board member shall receive all materials presented to other Board members except those related to closed sessions, and he/she may participate in questioning witnesses and discussing issues. **The Board Agenda shall reflect a standing "School Board Member Report" Item where the student representative shall be prepared and responsible to deliver a report at each meeting they attend.** (Education Code 35012)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

When a student petition has requested preferential voting rights for student Board members or when the Board has granted preferential voting rights, a student Board member may cast preferential votes on all matters except those subject to closed session discussion. Preferential votes shall not affect the final numerical outcome of a vote. **Preferential votes shall be recorded in the Board meeting minutes.** (Education Code 35012)

(cf. 9324 - Minutes and Recordings)

A student Board member 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)

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

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

A 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)

(cf. 3350 - Travel Expenses)

(cf. 9250 - Remuneration, Reimbursement and Other Benefits)

Student Board Member Development

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

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.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33000.5 Appointment of student members to State Board of Education

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

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 SISKIYOU UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: February 14, 2018 Mount Shasta, California