

## **BYLAWS OF THE BOARD**

### **Student Board Members**

In order to enhance communication and collaboration between the San Joaquin County Board of Education (County Board) and the student body, and to teach students the importance of civic involvement, the County Board supports the participation of high school students in county board governance.

Student Board members may, at the County Board's discretion and in collaboration with the high school program under the jurisdiction of the County Board, receive elective course credit for service as a student Board member based on the number of equivalent daily instructional minutes for the student Board member's services provided.

A student Board member shall not be liable for any acts of the County Board.

### **Petition**

High school students may submit a petition to the County Board requesting the appointment of one student Board member.

To qualify for Board consideration, the petition for student representation shall contain the signatures of at least 500 students or 10 percent of the number of students regularly enrolled in high schools that are under the jurisdiction of the county board, whichever is less.

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 County Board shall order the inclusion of at least one student member on the County Board.

### **Choosing or Selecting Student Board Members**

Student Board members shall be chosen by students enrolled in the high school(s) within the county in accordance with procedures prescribed by the County Board.

If the student Board member position is established based on a petition received from the high school(s) under the County Board's jurisdiction, any student chosen shall be enrolled in a high school that is under the jurisdiction of the County Board.

If the County Board does not receive a petition from the high school(s) under its jurisdiction, the County Board may select a student who is enrolled in a high school under the jurisdiction of a school district within the county to serve as a student Board member.

The term of student Board member(s) shall be one year, commencing on July 1. However, the County Board may adjust the term of a student Board member if a vacancy occurs or in order to provide more students an opportunity to serve on the County Board.

### **Roles and Responsibilities of Student Board Members**

Student Board members shall not be considered members of a legislative body for purposes of the Brown Act.

A student Board member shall not be counted in determining the vote required to carry any measure before the County Board or whether a quorum is in attendance at a County Board meeting.

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

All materials presented to County Board members, except those related to closed sessions, shall be presented to student Board members at the same time they are presented to other County Board members. In addition, all materials given to County Board members between meetings, except for materials that pertain to closed session items, shall be distributed to student Board members.

Student Board member(s) shall be recognized at Board meetings as full member(s), shall be seated with other members of the County Board, and shall be allowed to participate in discussing issues.

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 County Board. Preferential votes shall not affect the final numerical outcome of a vote.

Student Board member(s) may make motions that may be acted upon by the County Board.

Student Board members shall be appointed to subcommittees of the County Board in the same manner as other County Board members, and shall be made aware of the time commitment required to participate in subcommittee meetings and work and of the right to decline an appointment. The availability of all subcommittee members, including the availability of student Board members, may be considered when scheduling subcommittee meetings.

Student Board members shall be invited to attend functions of the County Board.

### **Student Board Member Training**

The County Board may 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 leadership skills and their Board responsibilities.

The County Board may periodically provide information to student Board member candidates to give them an understanding of the position. Once chosen or appointed, incoming student Board members shall be provided an orientation designed to build their knowledge and an understanding of the responsibilities and expectations of the position.

### **Alternate Student Board Member**

If the County Board determines that the student Board member's duties are not being fulfilled, the County Board may appoint another student to serve out the term of the student Board member. If an alternate student Board member is appointed, the County Board shall suspend the prior student Board member's rights and privileges related to service on the County Board.

### **Elimination of Student Board Member Position**

Once established, the student Board member position shall continue to exist until the County Board, by majority vote of all voting County Board members, approves a motion to eliminate the position. Such a motion shall be listed as a public agenda item for a County Board meeting prior to the motion being voted upon.

- cf.      0410 Non-discrimination in County Office Programs and Activities  
          9130 Board Committees  
          9230 Orientation  
          9240 Board Training  
          9520 Remuneration, Reimbursement, and Other Benefits  
          9321 Closed Session  
          9322 Agenda/Meeting Materials  
          9324 Minutes and Recordings

Legal Reference:

#### **EDUCATION CODE**

1000 County Board members; number, election, and terms; student members  
35120 Course credit for student Board members

#### **GOVERNMENT CODE**

3540-3549.6 Educational Employment Relations Act  
54950-54964 The Ralph M. Brown Act