

**CLASSIFICATION: Bylaws of the Board****ADOPTED: 11/4/20****SUBJECT: Student Board Members****PAGE: 1 of 5**

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The San Diego County Board of Education believes it is important to seek out and consider students' ideas, viewpoints and reactions to the educational program. In order to provide student input and civic involvement, in addition to recognizing the nominated student representative of the month from Juvenile Court and Community Schools (JCCS), the County Board may appoint a Student Board Member from a candidate pool that includes students who attend a public school within the jurisdiction of the County Board of Education in accordance with procedures approved by the County Board of Education.

To avoid any potential conflicts of interest, relatives of current Board Members and San Diego County Office of Education Cabinet level administrators are not eligible to apply.

#### Role and Responsibilities of a Student Board Member

A Student Board Member shall have the right to attend all Board meetings except closed sessions.

All materials presented to Board Members, except those related to closed sessions, shall be presented to a Student Board Member at the same time they are presented to voting Board Members.

A Student Board Member shall be recognized at Board meetings as a full member, shall be seated with other members of the Board, and shall be allowed to participate in questioning witnesses and discussing issues.

A 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. The preferential vote of the Student Board Member shall not be included in determining the vote required to carry any measure before the County Board.

A Student Board Member may make motions that may be acted upon by the County Board, except on matters dealing with employer-employee relations pursuant to Government Code sections 3540-3549.3.

A Student Board Member shall not be liable for any acts of the County Board.

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A Student Board Member shall be entitled to be reimbursed for mileage to the same extent as other members of the County Board but shall not receive compensation for attendance at Board meetings.

#### Student Board Member Development

The County Board may approve, at County Office expense, of providing learning opportunities to a Student Board Member during the Student Board Member's term through trainings, workshops, and conferences, such as those offered by the California Association of Student Councils and other organizations, to enhance their knowledge, understanding, and performance of their Board responsibilities.

#### Alternate Student County Board Member

If the County Board determines that a Student Board Member's duties are not being fulfilled, the County Board may appoint another student to serve out the remaining term as an alternate Student Board Member. If an alternate Student Board Member is appointed, the County Board shall terminate the prior Student Board Member's rights and privileges related to service on the County Board.

#### Process for Student Board Member Appointments

The selection of a Student Board Member and an alternate Student Board Member shall rotate among the Members of the County Board in numeric order commencing with Area 1 and continuing every two months, with the exception of July and December, in accordance with the procedures established by the County Board.

Each County Board Member will have the opportunity to appoint a student to the County Board who attends a school in the boundaries of their respective trustee area. Students may apply to become a Student Board Member or be nominated based upon a recommendation of the student's high school principal or administrator.

Student applicants shall be current sophomores or juniors in their high schools. The term of a Student Board Member shall be for no more than two months. A Student Board Member may serve only one term. Notice shall be sent to all public schools having sophomores and juniors within San Diego County by December 1 of each year.

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All applications and/or nominations that are submitted on or before February 1 of the following year shall be considered.

The number of student candidates selected from the pool of applicants shall be limited to 20 in total (four candidates per trustee area).

The county superintendent of schools shall gather all timely and qualified student applications and/or nominations submitted by the students' high school principal or administrator. Prior to disseminating the list of candidates to the members of the County Board, the county superintendent of schools shall organize the applications based on trustee areas and shall provide the County Board Members with all timely and qualified applications and/or nominations submitted for their trustee area. If the number of timely and qualified applications/nominations exceeds four for any one of the five trustee areas, the County Board Member must review their respective area's applications/nominations and narrow the list of applicants down to four candidates. After each County Board Member has narrowed their respective list down to four candidates, the county superintendent of schools shall compile the final list of candidates, separated by trustee area, and shall disseminate the final list to all County Board Members prior to the board meeting in which the selection and interview process will take place.

The selection and interview process shall take place in April of each year at a duly noticed regular or special meeting for the selection of a Student Board Member and alternate for Areas 1-5. The selection and interview process will conclude once the County Board has selected a Student Board Member and alternate for each of the five trustee areas.

At the interview, the County Board will ask each candidate a prepared list of questions. All candidates will be asked the same questions. The questions will be rotated so that each candidate has an opportunity to answer at least one question first.

After the questioning, the County Board will discuss the candidates before voting in open session. Candidates will be notified that the discussion may be uncomfortable for them and that they may leave if they'd like, but they are not required to leave. If they do leave, they will be contacted as soon as possible with the outcome of the interviews.

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Following deliberations, each County Board Member will note their top two candidates from each area on a ranking sheet. The ranking sheets will be forwarded to the County Board Secretary to tally the votes and announce the candidates with the most votes in each area. The candidate in each trustee area with the most votes will become the Student Board Member for a two-month period in sequential order beginning with Area 1. The candidate in each trustee area with the second most votes will become the alternate Student Board Member, if so accepted.

If a vote ends in a tie, the County Board Member representing the area in which the student attends school may make the final decision.

The following schedule outlines the terms for each Student Board Member:

- Area 1: May and June
- Area 2: August and September
- Area 3: October and November
- Area 4: January and February
- Area 5: March and April

Each spring the County Board will review the process for soliciting Student Board Member applications and making appointments for the next school year.

#### Elimination of Position

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

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**Derivation: Adopted 11/4/20**

**Legal Reference: Education Code  
33000.5, 35012, 35160  
Government Code  
3540-3549.3**

**Management Resources:**

**CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>**

**California Association of Student Councils: <http://www.casc.net>**

**California Association of Student Leaders: <http://www.caslboard.com>**