

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

In order to enhance communication between the Governing Board 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

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)

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

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)

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. (Education Code 35012)

(cf. 9322 - Agenda/Meeting Materials)

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

(cf. 9323.2 - Actions by the Board)

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

adopted: April 14, 1997

revised: June 21, 2016

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California