

Bylaws of the Board

Student Representation on the Board of Education

It will be the policy of the Stafford Board of Education to seat one student from Stafford High School in a nonvoting capacity at all public Board of Education meetings. Student opinion will be solicited to give an added dimension to the decision-making process of the Board of Education.

The Student Representative and/or Alternate Student Representative will not attend executive sessions of the Board of Education nor have access to associated back-up material.

The following procedures will apply to the seating of the Student Representative and/or Alternate Student Representative to the Board of Education:

1. The election of the Student Representative to the Stafford Board of Education will be held in May of each school year, concurrently with the elections for Student Council and class officers. In order to run for this office, students must be juniors or seniors. In addition, candidates must: meet the academic eligibility for co-curricular activities; acquire at least 50 signatures indicating support of candidacy; and engage in campaigning as indicated in the Stafford High School Student Parent Handbook.
2. The election of the Alternate Student Representative to the Stafford Board of Education will be held in September of each school year. In order to run for this office, students must be freshman or sophomores. Candidates must meet the same additional qualifications as for the Student Representative.
3. The elections will be held by secret ballot through homerooms on dates each year as designated by the Principal of Stafford High School.
4. After the students have been elected, they will be given an orientation session by the Superintendent of Schools and, whenever possible, an officer of the Board of Education.
5. The Student Representative and/or Alternate Student Representative may be removed from their positions of nonvoting members of the Board of Education by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board of Education.
6. The Student Representative or, in his/her absence, the Alternate Student Representative should be present at each regular meeting of the Board of Education. If this is not possible, the students must advise the Principal of Stafford High School and the Superintendent's office in advance of the meeting.
7. The Board of Education reserves the right to dismiss the Student Representative and/or Alternate Student Representative due to poor attendance and call for the election of new member(s).
8. The Student Representative and Alternate Student Representative will report to the student body on the deliberations of the Board of Education through their student council representatives and/or newsletters or other forms of communication at the high school.
9. The Student Representative should be available for attendance at Board of Education meetings effective July 1 following election by the student body.

10. The Alternate Student Representative should be available for attendance at Board of Education meetings effective October 1 following election in September by the student body.
11. The term of office for the Student Representative and the Alternate Student Representative shall be for one year in duration, beginning from the date they take office.
12. **A Student Representative or Alternate Student Representative shall:**
 - a. Be able to attend and sit on all regular meetings of the Board of Education.
 - b. During said meetings, be able to speak on any issue on the agenda or motion before the Board unless deemed inappropriate by the Board.
 - c. Be able to recommend resolutions to the Principal or Superintendent prior to a meeting for the Board's consideration.
 - d. Receive copies of all regular meeting agendas and minutes excluding executive session minutes and associated materials, when made available to Board members.
 - e. Be expected to attend all the Board of Education meetings and be accountable to the student body via the student organizations.
13. A student Representative or Alternate Student Representative shall not:
 - a. Be able to cast an official vote on any motion or resolution.
 - b. Be allowed to attend executive sessions or negotiation sessions of the Board of Education.
14. Only those privileges and powers enumerated previously shall be regarded specifically as such; any and all other powers and privileges that might be deemed appropriate for the student representatives shall be decided upon by the Board of Education.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: January 11, 1999

Bylaw revised: June 15, 2009