

Student Representative to the Lake Washington School District Board of Directors

Purpose

The Lake Washington School Board of Directors recognizes that the primary responsibility of the board is to represent, lead and serve the community through effective governance of the district. We believe student voice is a critical component of effective governance in order to advocate for the district and the students we serve. Therefore, the board will create nonvoting advisory positions to act as Student Representatives to the Board, two representing the Eastern half of our school district boundaries and two representing the Western half of our school district boundaries.

The Student Representative to the district will...

1. Provide student voice to the Board of Directors and District Administration.
2. Serve as a liaison by collecting student voices from their area schools and incorporate it into discussion at Board meetings.
3. Utilize communication tools used at their area schools to help facilitate communication between the School Board and student bodies
4. Participate in all open meetings and Board discussions, but will not hold voting rights, make motions, hold Board office, or attend closed executive sessions.
5. Learn the protocols and methods to engage in and participate in leading and advocating for changes the student body deems important.
6. Represent the district in accordance with the following qualifications, selection procedures, and responsibilities.

Term of Office

1. Student representatives will be selected in the spring of each year for the following year.
2. The term length is two school years, beginning in August of the applicant's Junior year and concluding in June of the applicant's Senior year.
3. In the event of a vacancy during the school year, another student will be selected from qualified applicants to serve the remaining term of the school year.

Responsibilities of the Student Representative

1. Adhere to the rules and regulations pertaining to all Board members as per the Board Governance policies.
2. Student Representatives will devise a schedule to ensure that a minimum of two students will attend all regular School Board meetings which occur during their term of office. A schedule for the year is posted annually on the district website. Since regular board meetings occur during the evening hours of school nights, the Board of Directors may grant permission for student representatives to leave prior to the meeting conclusion if requested.
3. Attend special meetings and/or Board retreats as requested/invited, but not closed or Executive Sessions.
4. Review all meeting materials prior to each meeting in preparation for participation in discussions at regular open meetings where appropriate and applicable, students may not make any motions or vote.
5. Provide regular reports to the Board during scheduled Student Comment portions of the Board meeting agenda, including but not limited to topics such as student activities, events, and topics and/or concerns from the student body.
6. Report back to the student body regarding Board deliberations and actions that are relevant to the student body.
7. Refrain from committing any groups, organizations, or entities to any positions or actions without express permissions.
8. Aid in orienting incoming student representatives.

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Qualifications

1. Student applicants must be completing their Sophomore year of high school when applying for the following two-year term of office. (Excluding the first year of implementation when one student will be completing their Junior year.)
2. Student applicants must be enrolled in one of the high schools in the area (Eastern half or Western half of the district) in which they are applying to represent.
3. Student applicants must be in good academic standing and not under any school discipline.
4. Student applicants must be strong communicators.
5. Student applicants must be willing to engage with multiple school student bodies and they must be able to represent the student bodies well by providing input to the Board and by taking relevant information back to their schools.
6. Student applicants should have an interest in civic engagement and coherent governance.
7. Student applicants must be willing and able to commit to the time requirements of attending and participating in regular board meetings and annual conferences.

Application Process

1. Interested applicants must submit a completed application for Student Representative to the Board of Directors by the established deadline.
2. Participate in a panel interview.
3. Final selection for Student Representative will be randomly selected from a pool of all applicants that have been deemed qualified as a result of their written application and interviews.

Removal Process

1. The Student Representative serves at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
2. The Board may remove a Student Representative for failure to fulfill their duties, failure to maintain good academic standing, attendance, or for any behaviors the Board deems unacceptable or embarrassing to the Lake Washington School District.

Oversight

The Superintendent and the Board of Directors will:

1. Establish an advisory panel for the Student Representative, including but not limited to two members of the Board of Directors, one District Staff member, and support staff at local area high schools.
2. Meet with the Student Representatives and advisors at the beginning of the term of office to review expectations, responsibilities, and participation.
3. Meet with the Student Representatives quarterly to assess the experience and plan for future activities.