GC-12 Student Representatives

Policy Type: Governance Culture

The Board recognizes that its primary responsibility is to serve the students of the Issaquah School District through goal setting, program development, financial affairs, operating policies, systematic reviews of the school programs, and advocating on behalf of students and schools. In order to be effective, the Board needs to understand the experiences and priorities of its students.

12.1 The Board has created advisory voting positions to act as Student Representatives to the Board. There will be no more than eight total positions covering all high schools. If there are not sufficient qualified applicants from a school, the Board and interview team can recommend students from any high school.

12.2 Student Representatives will be selected each spring prior to the term they will serve as representatives. The standard term of office will be two years, beginning in July of the application year and concluding at the end of June. Student Representatives have the option of only serving one year. In cases where there are two Student Representatives at a school, the overlap of terms will allow for mentorship by the second-year representatives.

12.3 The role and responsibilities of the Student Representatives will be as follows:

a. To listen and to participate in Board meetings, in order to provide student voice to the Board and to District administration

b. To serve as liaisons by collecting student voices from their schools and bringing that voice to discussions at Board meetings

c. To review the Board meeting agenda prior to each meeting, including the reading of materials linked to the agenda

d. To attend as many as possible regular School Board meetings which occur during the term of office. Student Representatives are expected to attend at least 10 board meetings during the school year.

e. To provide the Board with a non-binding student advisory vote (pro, con or abstain) after discussion closes but immediately before the Board votes on any agenda item (excluding consent agenda, calendaring, and roll call votes) requiring a Board vote

f. To be very familiar with (including historical performance), collect student body input on, and report out to the Board on one, two or three **Operational Expectations** (OE(s)), to be assigned by the Board

g. To provide reports to the Board during the scheduled Student Input portion of the Board meeting agenda and during the discussion of the OE(s) assigned to them
h. To participate in discussions at regular open meetings of the Board when applicable (but not to make motions)
i. To report back to the student body about the Board deliberations and actions that are relevant to the student body
j. To adhere to the rules and regulations pertaining to Board members
k. To attend special meetings or Board retreats if requested/invited
l. To participate in Board training sessions, when invited, such as the WSSDA Annual Conference and Legislative Conference. (When these occur on school days, Student Representatives will follow the established prearranged absence procedures at their high schools.)

12.4 Student Representatives will not make motions, hold Board office, or attend closed Executive Sessions.

12.5 All Student Representatives are expected to participate in an onboarding meeting held prior to the beginning of their term, with one or two Board members serving as liaisons. This meeting will include reviewing expectations and responsibilities and assigning of **Operational Expectations** by the Board. Attendance is also expected at two additional check-in meetings to be held in the fall and the spring.

12.6 Student Representatives are expected to connect with their school administration and ASB while refraining from committing any group (ASB, school administration, a club, athletic program, etc.) to any position or action. Student Representatives are encouraged to participate in their school's leadership course and/or other leadership forums such as Student Council during their term as Student Representative.

12.7 Any student interested in serving as a Student Representative must apply for the position. The application and selection period will occur annually in April. To apply, the student must submit, prior to the deadline:
a. The completed electronic application
b. Recommendations from two staff members.

12.8 In order to qualify to serve as a Student Representative, the student must be:
a. In grade 10, 11 or 12 during their term of office
b. Enrolled in the High School which they represent (or living within the school boundary)
c. In good standing, including but not limited to passing 6 of 7 classes, attending regularly, and not under any school discipline
d. A strong communicator, able to represent the student body in providing input to the Board and to communicate with the student body at large as they take information back to their school.

12.9 If any of the high schools have multiple qualified applicants, interviews will be conducted to select the Student Representatives. Two Board members will

screen the applications and select up to four candidates per school to be interviewed using a consistent interview rubric that identifies either current or desired future leadership at their school. Interviews will be conducted by a panel consisting of:

a. Two Board members
b. One Activities Coordinator and/or one Civics/Government teacher from that high school
c. One current or alumni Student Representative and/or one ASB Executive Board officer from that high school
d. One Cabinet-level administrator assigned by the Superintendent

Based on the feedback from the panel, the Board Liaisons to the Student Representatives will recommend first-year candidates to the Board for its approval at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board will vote on the approval of the returning second-year representatives at the same meeting.

12.10 The Superintendent will identify an administrator to serve as the advisor for the Student Representatives. The administrative advisor will facilitate and support the Student Representatives in their leadership role with the Principal and/or Assistant Principal and High School Activities Coordinators at each school.

12.11 The Student Representatives serve at the discretion of the Board. The Board may remove a Student Representative for failure to fulfill their duties, for failure to maintain good standing in academics, attendance or behavior, or for behaviors the Board deems unacceptable as a member of the Board of Directors or embarrassing to the District.

12.12 In the event that a Student Representative is unable to complete their term of office, the Board may appoint another Student Representative at its discretion.

April 7, 2022 – Addition to Policy Governance
May 26, 2022 – Revised
April 27, 2023 – Revised
May 11, 2023 – Revised
July 11, 2024 – Converted to Coherent Governance
October 10, 2024 – Revised
November 12, 2026 – Revised