

**SAN LORENZO UNIFIED
BOARD BYLAW
Student Board Members**

Board Bylaws

BB 9150

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. In accordance with Education Code 35012, one student board member may be appointed at the discretion of the Board.

Appointment of the student board member would occur in late June, so the student can begin their one year term at the first board meeting of the fiscal year (term runs July 1-June 30). The person would be sworn in at the first meeting after June 30.

The student board member would receive on-boarding and training, organized by the Superintendent. Additional training/workshops (such as those sponsored by CSBA) may also be offered to student board members. A student board member shall not be liable for any acts of the Board.

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

Once established, the student Board member position shall remain in effect until the Board, by majority vote, approves a motion to eliminate the position.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

The term of a student Board member shall be one year, commencing on July 1. A student Board member shall have the right to attend all Board meetings and study sessions except closed (executive) sessions.

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 and discussing issues. A student Board member may cast preferential votes on all matters except those subject to closed session discussion, and other matters related to employee/employer relations, pursuant to Government Code 3540-3549.3. Preferential votes shall not affect the final numerical outcome of a vote.

The student board member does not take the place of the high school reporters at board meetings.

Examples of responsibilities include:

- A. Providing input for Board deliberations.
- B. Strengthening communications between the Board and the district student body.

- C. Representing all students and participating in Board discussions. This duty does not preclude the student board member from voting or speaking in using his or her individual opinion.
- D. Offering a preferential vote on all motions; the vote is recorded in the minutes but is not included in the final tally (according to state law). The student board member does not vote on Closed Session items because he or she does not attend Closed Session. The Student Board Member may make or second a motion if the Board has passed a resolution allowing him or her to do so.
- E. Participation in at least one standing committee
- F. Suggesting items for the agenda.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

Prospective student board members must:

- A. Be 11th or 12th graders in the year that they serve.
- B. Have a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- C. Include two letters of recommendation from adults, who are not their parents or the school principal, describing their leadership and community involvement.
- D. Have the school principal verify the candidate is on track to graduate, and have no serious attendance or discipline issues.
- E. Be recommended by their school's student council (this student would automatically go to the interview process) or a student may put forward an individual application.

INTERVIEW PROCESS AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

- A. Applications will be reviewed by the President of the Board of Education (or designated Board Member) and the Superintendent to verify qualifications, and to consider experience in leadership and community involvement.
- B. Those deemed qualified and those recommended by their student councils will be interviewed by:
 - 1. two school board members,
 - 2. the superintendent,
 - 3. two objective high school seniors with leadership experience,
 - 4. one teacher designated by SLEA,
 - 5. one classified staff member designated by CSEA,
 - 6. one classified staff member designated by SEIU and
 - 7. one member designated by SLMA.
- C. If the current student board member is a junior, he or she may apply to be re-appointed, but must go through the same process as all other candidates.
- D. Once the candidates have been interviewed, the panel will deliberate and decide on a person to recommend to the Board for approval in June.

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>

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