

**202.1 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON SCHOOL BOARD**

**I. PURPOSE**

The School Board values and recognizes the importance of student voice in the governance of the school district and to encourage student engagement as leaders in our school community. The School Board values student citizenship and wishes to encourage student involvement and promote a communications link between the school board and the students of District 318. The School Board will authorize a student to be an advisory non-voting School Board student representative. The purpose of this policy is to define the selection, rights, and responsibilities of the student representative on the School Board.

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**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

**A. Selection and Term**

1. Any high school student enrolled in District 318 and dedicated and committed to being an advocate for District 318 youth can apply to be a student representative.
2. The student representatives can serve a two-year term beginning in September and continuing through May for each school year.
3. Applications will be reviewed by a principal, counselor, school board member and superintendent.
4. The School Board will vote on up to two recommended candidates to serve as student school board representatives.
5. The student(s) will be advised by the Superintendent, along with an appointed School Board member.

**B. Rights and Responsibilities**

1. The student representative on the school board will attend all regular school board meetings while school is in session. The student representative will not be permitted to attend closed meetings. If absenteeism becomes a concern, an alternate, selected by the School Board and in consultation with the principal and superintendent, will be appointed in the student representative's place.
2. The student representative may attend work sessions, special or emergency meetings.
3. The student representative will have a designated chair at the board table.
4. The student representative will be bound by all rules, policies, and regulations that bind the school board, including the school board code of conduct.
5. The student representative will not have the right to vote or to make or second motions.
6. The student representative shall have access to all materials that are located on board docs and accessible to everyone. The student representative will not be furnished with materials pertaining to confidential issues such as sensitive personnel matters, legal action strategy, negotiations strategy, individual student discipline or other confidential matters.
7. The student representative shall work to represent opinions of the entire student body. The student representative will be encouraged to report during the Board Reports portion of the meeting.
8. The student representative shall consult with the superintendent of schools on any items of concern, matters of interest, or in carrying out the responsibilities associated with serving as the student representative on the school board.

**C. Expectations of Student Representative**

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1. A student must be fully enrolled in Grand Rapids High School or Bigfork High School.
2. Be prepared for each meeting.
3. Be courteous with Board members and the public at all times.
4. Keep remarks brief and to the point; ask clear and concise questions.
5. Learn the identity of the Board members so that they can be addressed by name.
6. Dress accordingly – appearance is important and reflects the school you represent.
7. Have a clear understanding as to time commitment of meetings and transportation.
8. The student representative shall work to represent the opinions of the student body and not solely the representative's own opinions.
9. A student school board representative is expected to attend all board meetings unless detained by sickness or prevented by necessary absences from the district. Absences should be reported to the superintendent's office as soon as possible in advance of the meeting.
10. The student agrees to abide by the guidelines and expectations of elected school board members.
11. The student will remain in good standing in their school as defined by the Minnesota State High School League's General Student Eligibility Checklist and Student Code of Responsibilities.
12. A student representative may be removed from their position for reasonable cause by the superintendent.

**D. Benefits**

The student representatives will gain a wide array of leadership skills that can strengthen future college applications and/or resumes.