



Policy Section: Trusteeship and the Board

Policy Name: Student Trustee

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board that pupil representation on the Board is an essential component of trusteeship. Pupil representation enables the interests of the student body to be clearly reflected in the decision making of the Board. In the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board the pupil representative shall be called the “student trustee”.

Rationale

Pupil representatives increase communication between the Board and students as well as provide the viewpoints and perspectives that students have in regard to the impact of board decisions on their education and school life.

A pupil representative(s), under subsection 55 (3) of the Education Act, is entitled to require that a matter before the board or one of its committees on which the student trustee sits be put to a recorded vote, and in that case there shall be,

- a) a recorded non-binding vote that includes the student trustee’s vote; and
- b) a recorded binding vote that does not include the student trustee’s vote.2006, c.10, s.6.

A pupil representative(s), under subsection 55 (5) is not entitled to be present at a meeting that is closed to the public under clause 207 (2) (b).2006, c.10, s.6.

- a) the disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his parent or guardian

Guidelines

1. Qualifications for Student Trustee
 - 1.1 At the time of assuming office in September, a student trustee must be in the senior division, and
 - 1.2 The student trustee must be attending public board operated secondary day school program full time during the term of office.

Cross Reference
Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.2.
 Policy 401, School-Student Activities
 Outside the Classroom.
 Policy 202, Electronic Meetings
 Committee Responsibility:

Date Approved: April 28, 1998
 Date Reviewed: June 11/02; April 2005;
 Jan 16/07; Oct 14/08; Oct 13/09;
 Review by: 2014



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Policy Name: **Student Trustee**

2. Role & Responsibilities

- 2.1 The student trustee shall participate in accordance with the policies, by-laws and Rules of Order of the Board.
- 2.2 The student trustee will act in concert with other elected trustees to examine and discuss issues leading to a vote at the regular meetings of the Board. However, the student trustee is not a member of the board and is not entitled to exercise a binding vote on any matter before the board or any of its committees. 2006, c.10, s.6. The student trustee is not entitled to move a motion, but is entitled to suggest a motion on any matter at a meeting of the board or one of its committees on which the student trustee sits, and if no member of the board or committee, as the case may be, moves the suggested motion, the record shall show the suggested motion. 2006, c.10, s.6.
- 2.3 The student trustee may be a participating member, with a non-binding vote, of any of the board standing committees, as appointed by the Chair.
- 2.4 The student trustee must treat issues within limits of confidentiality and with discretion.
- 2.5 The student trustee shall act on behalf of the Board only where authority has been specifically delegated by the Chair.
- 2.6 The student trustee shall, upon receipt of complaints, questions or suggestions regarding a school or service, direct the person or persons to the appropriate principal or supervisor of the service.
- 2.7 The student trustee must make a reasonable effort to represent the interests of students across the board.
- 2.8 The student trustee shall conduct an electronic meeting with all student councils before October 31st, and then hold bi-monthly meetings. The student trustee’s report to the Board shall summarize these meetings.

Cross Reference
Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.2.
 Policy 401, School-Student Activities
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Policy Name: Student Trustee

2.9 As ambassadors of the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board, student trustees will exhibit exemplary behavior towards their fellow trustees and the public. The student trustee will conduct himself or herself, at times when representing the Board, in a manner that brings respect to their position.

2.10 The guidelines outlined in Policy 401, School-Student Activities Outside the Classroom, apply in principle to the student trustee.

2.11 The student trustee may access meetings electronically as per Board Policy 202.

3. Procedural Guidelines for Election of Student Trustee

3.1 Term of Office

a) The term of office shall be for one year commencing September 1 and ending June 30.

3.2 Election of Student Trustee

- a) The principal will be responsible for working with the student council to fill the vacancy for student trustee.
- b) The vacancy for student trustee shall be filled by an election held by the student body of the secondary school designated by a rotational schedule.
- c) One student trustee shall be elected by the designated secondary school for that school year. The rotation of schools shall be Queen Elizabeth District High School, Beaver Brae Secondary School, Red Lake District High School, Dryden High School and Ignace High School.
- d) If the designated secondary school is unable to fill the vacancy for their turn on the schedule, the principal of the designated secondary school shall arrange with the principal of the next secondary school on the rotational schedule to have that school fill the vacancy. The designated secondary school that was unable to fill the vacancy will retain first consideration for the next vacancy (only).

Cross Reference
Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.2.
Policy 401, School-Student Activities Outside the Classroom.
Policy 202, Electronic Meetings

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Committee Responsibility:



Policy Section: Trusteeship and the Board

Policy Name: Student Trustee

- e) The election process will be determined and conducted by the designated secondary school prior to May 1.
- f) Prior to May 1, the principal shall notify the Director of Education of the name of the student trustee.
- g) At the first board meeting in May the board shall appoint the student trustee. This will permit the student trustee to participate in orientation activities with the acting student trustee.

3.3 Vacancy During School Year

- a) If for some reason the elected student trustee cannot complete the term of office, the principal, working with the Student Council shall determine if the seat should be filled by another election or by appointment.
- b) Subject to 3.3 a) above, the new student trustee's name shall be determined and forwarded to the Director of Education within 15 days of the vacancy occurring.

4. Expenses

- a) The student trustee will be reimbursed for all out of pocket expenses reasonably incurred in connection with carrying out the role and responsibilities of a student trustee in accordance with board policy and procedures applicable to other trustees of the board.
- b) The student trustee who is appointed for the coming school year may attend the June OPSBA annual meeting prior to commencing his or her term.
- c) The student trustee will be eligible to attend OPSBA events upon approval of the board pending fulfillment of their duties under roles and responsibilities as per this policy.



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5. Disqualification of Pupil Representative

The student trustee shall be disqualified to fill the student trustee seat in the following ways:

- a) does not continue to hold the qualifications under Section 1.1 and 1.2, or
- b) is convicted of an indictable offence;
- c) absents himself or herself without being authorized by resolution entered in the minutes, from three consecutive regular board meetings of the board without making a request for absences to the Director of Education 24 hours prior to the meeting of the board;
- d) ceases to hold qualifications to act as a member of the board;
- e) a decision of a majority of the board of trustees.

Cross Reference
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