

1 **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SCHOOL BOARD**
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3 The opinions and concerns of the students in Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) are important
4 to the Alexandria City School Board (Board). Therefore, the Board selects three (3) non-voting
5 High School Student Representatives to the Board, and conducts regular listening sessions with
6 middle school students.
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8 **High School Student Representatives**
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10 Including Student Representatives as advisors to the Board creates a direct link between ACPS
11 students and the elected body that governs them. This relationship enables the student body to have
12 input into the policies and direction of the school division. These positions provide students the
13 opportunity to serve their community and to gain a more thorough understanding of city and school
14 governance and its role in creating an effective learning environment for every child in Alexandria.
15

16 Although the Student Representatives serve in an advisory capacity and do not vote, they are
17 encouraged to provide updates on ACPS events and activities, and share their thoughts on agenda
18 items.
19

20 The Student Representatives consist of two at-large positions from Alexandria City High School
21 and one International Academy position.
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23 The Student Representatives attend all regular open board meetings and may choose to attend work
24 sessions and/or special called meetings. They do not attend closed meetings.
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26 ACPS provides the meeting agenda and other public materials to the Student Representatives at
27 the same time the information is provided to the public and the Board. The Student Representatives
28 do not have access to confidential information, including student or personnel records.
29

30 The Student Representatives are expected to complete assignments for research and data collection
31 when requested by the Board.
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33 The Board can remove any Student Representative if they violate ACPS policy or Virginia law.
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35 **Middle School Student Listening**
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37 Gaining the perspective of middle school students provides valuable insights for the Board and
38 helps students learn about the role of the Board. The appointed Board liaison to each middle school
39 and the appointed Board liaison to the high school Student Representatives meets with the school's
40 student council at agreed upon intervals and reports their findings to the Board.
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42 The high school Student Representatives are encouraged to conduct listening sessions with middle
43 school students of areas of particular importance.
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45
46 Adopted: February 16, 2012

47 Amended: December 4, 2014
48 Amended: June 18, 2015
49 Affirmed: April 26, 2018
50 Amended: April 4, 2019

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53 Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-86.1.

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55 Cross Ref.: BBBB-R High School Student Representatives to the School Board
56 Regulations

57

DRAFT

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

~~Generally~~ The opinions and concerns of the students in Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) are important to the Alexandria City School Board (Board). Therefore, the Board selects ~~establishes threectwo~~ (32) non-voting High School Student Representatives to the School Board, and conducts regular listening sessions with middle school students, ~~positions for high school students~~, and four (4) non-voting Student Representative positions for middle school students. ~~The Middle School Student Representatives serve in an advisory capacity to the (high school) Student Representatives to the School Board, and do not participate in Board Meetings.~~

I. High School Student Representatives

Including Student Representatives as ~~non-voting members of advisors to~~ the School Board will create a direct link between ACPS students and the elected body that governs them. This relationship ~~will enables~~ the student body to have input into the policies and direction of the school division.

~~The establishment of~~ These positions will provide T. C. Williams High School students the opportunity to serve their community and to gain a more thorough understanding of city and school governance and its role in creating an effective learning environment for every child in Alexandria.

~~Although~~ The Student Representatives shall serve in an advisory capacity and shall do not vote, however, they are encouraged to provide updates on ACPS events and activities, and share their thoughts on agenda items or how they may vote.

The Student Representatives consist of two at-large positions from Alexandria City High School and one International Academy position.

The Student Representatives attend all regular open board meetings and may choose to attend work sessions and/or special called meetings. They ~~will~~ shall do not attend closed meetings.

~~The school divisi~~ on shall ACPS provides the meeting agenda and other public materials to the Student Representatives at the same time the information is provided to the public and the Board, in advance of each public meeting. The Student Representatives shall do not have access to confidential information, including student or personnel records. ~~The high school~~

The Student Representatives are expected to attend all regular, open meetings and complete assignments for research and data collection when requested by the School Board.

Implementat

Regulations BBBB-R and BBBB-R2 implement this policy. The Board can remove any Student Representative if they violatethere is a violation of ACPS policy or Virginia law.

Middle School Student Listening

Commented [MS1]: Based on feedback, the process for the MS has been modified to give the Board a more direct role.

Commented [2]: What would it look like to give student representatives one collective vote?

Commented [3]: (1) I think this change would warrant a larger conversation with the full Board. (2) This would result in an even number of votes which could result in a split decision.

Commented [4]: No model policy, this is all ACPS. FCPS does it really differently. <https://www.fcps.edu/blog/application-2023-student-representative-school-board>

Commented [5]: This is something interesting that FCPS has in their policy where the student rep is a non-voting member, "Be eligible to state how he or she would have voted, had the student representative been eligible to vote, following the Board vote on any matter."

Commented [6]: The Equity Team felt that this should be a conversation with the Board. Should they be elected rather than appointed? Should they have a vote? Are all of the campuses represented? Is the diversity of the student population represented?

Commented [7]: Voting of student reps is not allowed under code: <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title22.1/chapter7/section22.1-86.1/>

Commented [MS8]: Updated for internal consistency, the term advisory is used in other locations in the document.

Commented [9]: I added feedback from student reps.

Commented [MS10]: Added to provide specificity.

Commented [11]: and are encouraged to participate in board deliberations. Student Representatives do not vote and do not attend closed sessions.

Commented [12]: Do we need to make it clear that they don't get an advanced copy of the agenda or agenda items? They can receive the material at the same time the Board and public receive them.

Commented [MS13]: Added to provide clarity.

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48 Gaining the perspective of middle school students provides valuable insights for the Board and
49 helps students learn about the role of the Board. The appointed Board liaison to each middle school
50 and the appointed Board liaison to the high school Student Representatives meets with the school's
51 student council at agreed upon intervals and reports their findings to the Board.

52
53 The high school Student Representatives are encouraged to conduct listening sessions with middle
54 school students of areas of particular importance.

Commented [MS14]: New process for gathering MS voices.

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56
57 Adopted: February 16, 2012
58 Amended: December 4, 2014
59 Amended: June 18, 2015
60 Affirmed: April 26, 2018
61 Amended: April 4, 2019

62
63
64 Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-86.1.

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66
67 Cross Ref.: BBBB-R High School Student Representatives to the School Board
68 Regulations ~~and~~ Application
69 ~~BBBB-R2 Middle School Student Representatives Regulation and~~
70 ~~Application~~