

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

I. PURPOSE:

- A. To establish the position of student representative to the School Board. The student representative shall serve in a nonvoting, advisory capacity, representing the interests of the students of the Albemarle County Public Schools (“ACPS”), as authorized by the Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-86.1.
- B. To establish a direct link between ACPS students and the elected body that governs them. This relationship will enable the student body to have input into the policies and direction of the ACPS.
- C. To provide opportunities for students to serve their community and gain a more thorough understanding of city and school governance and its role in creating an effective learning environment for every ACPS student.

II. SELECTION PROCESS:

- A. Four (4) student representatives shall be selected by the School Board during the month of March each for a three (3) month term beginning on April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 1, respectively. Only students who are then in grades 10 and 11 may serve in the term commencing on April 1.
- B. The student representative shall serve not more than a single three (3) month term.
- C. On or before February 1, the Principal of each high school shall provide the Superintendent with four (4) student candidates who are currently in grades 10 and 11 to be considered for the position. If any student whose candidacy is advanced by a Principal does not wish to be considered, the Principal shall replace that student with another candidate.

The Superintendent shall select eight (8) of the candidates and submit their applications to the School Board on or before February 15, for further consideration by the School Board. The Board Chair and Vice Chair (or designees) may conduct in-person interviews with the eight (8) candidates as part of the selection process.

During the first meeting in March, the School Board shall select the four (4) student representatives who shall each serve consecutive three (3) month terms, the first commencing on April 1 as provided in Subsection (A) above. The School Board shall also select two (2) alternate candidates who will be able to serve in the event any of the student representatives are unavailable or unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.

III. ROLE:

Each student representative shall:

- A. Be a resident of Albemarle County and a student in the ACPS.
- B. Be selected in accordance with the process described in Section (II)(C) above.
- C. Be chosen based on evidence of exemplary character, high personal standards of conduct, adherence to school policies and regulations, and interest in School Board governance.
- D. Be known as the student representative to the School Board and not as a member of the School Board.
- E. Serve as a liaison with all ACPS high schools by visiting the high schools, meeting with the officers of each high school's SAC and other student organizations, as appropriate, regarding issues of importance to them, and presenting their positions on issues at School Board meetings and as part of the report described in Subsection (G) below.
- F. Attend regularly scheduled School Board meetings during the student representative's three (3) month term.
- G. Receive materials provided to School Board members, with the exception of materials relating to individual students, individual employees, and other confidential matters exempt from disclosure by law.
- H. Present a report approximately three (3) minutes in length on behalf of all students in the ACPS once each month at the -each-School Board business meeting.
- I. Receive services and support from the School Board office and staff members, with the prior approval of the School Board Chair.
- J. Be reimbursed for all expenses incurred while on School Board business, with the prior approval of the School Board Chair.
- K. Attend and be compensated for participation in all public meetings with compensation not to exceed fifty (\$50) dollars per day and for mileage at the County's prevailing rate if the student drives or is driven to the meeting; provided, however, that mileage shall not be paid if transportation is provided by the ACPS.
- L. Sit with School Board members at the School Board table or dais.
- M. Participate in School Board discussions.
- N. Be eligible to propose resolutions for consideration. The introduction of motions and formal resolutions, however, is restricted to members of the School Board.

- O. Following the School Board vote on any matter, be eligible to state how the student representative would have voted had the student representative been eligible to do so.
- P. Observe the same School Board protocols and rules of order and decorum as School Board members.
- Q. Be able to drive, arrange transportation, or be amenable to arrangements made in cooperation with ACPS transportation services to School Board meetings.
- R. Be excused from any School Board meeting at 9:00PM depending on the student's needs and other considerations personal to the student.

IV. OTHER:

The Chair of the School Board, with the assistance of the Clerk of the School Board, shall serve as mentor to the student representative.

Adopted: December 12, 2019

Amended: January 23, 2020

Legal reference: Code of Virginia, § 22.1-86.1