

# Portland Public School District 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**DATE OF FIRST READING: May 19, 2025**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR Revision of Student Representative and District Student Council Policy 1.20.012-P**

---

The Portland Public School District is providing Notice of Proposed Revised Policy and Public Comment to offer interested parties reasonable opportunity to submit data or comments on the proposed policies noted below.

Public comment may be submitted in writing directly to the district or through the district website noted below. Written comments must be submitted by 5:00pm on the Last Date for Comment listed below.

### **Open for Comment until at least: June 09, 2025**

---

**Summary:**                      **Revision Student Representative and District Student Council Policy 1.20.012-P**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading by:**           **Director Julia Brim-Edwards**  
Portland Public School Board, Policy Committee Chair

**Recommended for a 1st Reading by:** Portland Public Schools Board of Education Policy Committee

**Draft Policy Web Site:** <http://www.pps.net/draftpolicies>

**Contact:**                      **Rosanne Powell, Senior Board Manager**  
**Address:**                      P.O. Box 3107, Portland, OR 97208-3107  
**Telephone:**                  503-916-3741  
**E-mail:**                        [schoolboard@pps.net](mailto:schoolboard@pps.net)

**Draft Policy Comment Form:**    <https://forms.gle/VqYbmVA36qqADj6n6>

<b>Included in Packet</b>	<b>Page</b>
Staff Report	03
Redlined Policy with Proposed Changes	05



## **PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

### **YOUR DEPARTMENT HERE**

501 North Dixon Street / Portland, OR 97227

Telephone: (503) 916-2000

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 3107 / 97208-3107

## **STAFF REPORT**

**Date:** May 13, 2025

**To:** School Board

**From:** Yian Saechao, Student Engagement Specialist  
JJ Kunsevi, Student Representative to the Board

**Subject:** Proposed Amendments to the Student Representative and District Student Council Policy 1.20.012-P

---

### **BACKGROUND**

The District Student Council is currently composed of one representative and one alternate representative from each high school. The Council has proposed a structural change to eliminate the alternate representative position and instead designate two representatives from each school. This proposal reflects the current engagement of alternate representatives, who already participate as full members of the Council.

Implementing this change would require revising the existing policy language, which currently states that each school's Student Body President serves as the alternate representative to the District Student Council.

Additionally, the District Student Council has recommended modifying the attendance threshold required to earn elective credit for participation. Specifically, the proposed change would lower the required attendance from 90% to 80% of meetings throughout the year. The Senior Director of High School Core Academics reviewed this recommendation and expressed no concerns, noting that high school elective credit is typically awarded based on the completion of assignments rather than specified attendance percentages.

A draft policy incorporating all three proposed amendments was presented at the Policy Committee meeting on May 12, 2025. Committee members recommended forwarding the amended policy to the full Board for approval.

### **RELATED POLICIES/BEST PRACTICES**

It is best practice for the policies to align with current practices.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact projected for these changes to the policy.

### **TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION / EVALUATION**

The changes will be implemented immediately.

**CONNECTION TO BOARD GOALS**

These revisions reflect the Board's goal of amplifying student voice in District decisions.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board adopt these revisions to the Student Representative and District Student Council Policy.

---

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Redline version Student Representative and District Student Council Policy 1.20.012-P



## BOARD POLICY

1.20.012-P

### Student Representative and District Student Council Policy

The Student Representative to the Board of Education has a variety of important roles and responsibilities, including representing the views of students on matters of concern to students; encouraging the involvement of students in educational affairs; convening student meetings to provide information and receive input about proposed actions by the Board or the District; as time allows, participating in other events attended by Board members; and being an articulate voice to the public on matters of concern to students.

The Student Representative will be provided a complete orientation on Board governance in order to contribute to the Board's and School District's work. The Student Representative will then be responsible for attending public meetings, work sessions, and events of the Board and receiving and reviewing non-confidential public meeting materials provided to Board members.

#### 1) District Student Council (DSC).

The Student Representative shall lead an advisory council composed of ~~two~~<sup>one</sup> representatives ~~and an alternative~~ from each District high school, including each Alliance building, Pioneer, and Metropolitan Learning Center ("District High Schools"). The District Student Council representatives shall either be elected by the student body of the high school or as an alternative may be selected by the school administration. In either case, each high school administration shall provide adequate notice to the student body, in advance of the election or selection process, how the District Student Council representative will be selected. The election or selection process shall be accessible to all students who meet the school-established criteria for appointment.

There are no term limits for DSC representatives. Each representative is entitled to one vote each.

- a. The school administration shall notify the Board Office and the DSC Staff Liaison of its representative to the DSC.
- b. Every effort should be made to promote and support equitable representation of each District's high school student body in voting and/or representation on the DSC.
- c. ~~Each school's Student Body President shall serve as the alternate representative from each school to the DSC.~~

Members of the DSC shall be encouraged to attend all public Board meetings and work sessions, and shall assist the Student Representative in their respective schools. The Student Representative shall present opportunities to members of the DSC to advise Board and District Board committees and task forces on issues of interest to the DSC and students.

The DSC shall adopt and maintain bylaws that are consistent with the DSC purpose

and operational expectations set out in Board policies and Administrative Directives. DSC bylaws and amendments of them shall be approved by the Board of Education.

The DSC shall receive sufficient funds from the Superintendent's office to carry out operations and events, and that will be set by the Superintendent and Board in the regular District budgetary process.

Each representative to the DSC shall receive 1 elective credit for holding a position on the council for a year. To meet the requirements for elective credit, each representative must attend ~~-89~~90% of the meetings throughout the year, maintain regular communication between the DSC and the ASB or school governing body, and participate in the yearly DSC summit.

The DSC shall hold at least one PPS Student Summit per school year to promote student voice, foster connections, and promote the work of the council.

The Superintendent shall appoint an individual to serve as the lead staff liaison with the DSC (DSC Staff Liaison) and the Student Representative. The Superintendent's designee shall assist the DSC and the Student Representative by providing information on school District policies, practices, and business; assisting the DSC in maintaining school representation on the DSC; provide tactical assistance to the DSC for meeting planning; and providing, as needed and requested by DSC, school and District-wide communication between the DSC and students, staff, and the Board.

The Superintendent's staff liaison shall assist the DSC in connecting with the PPS Superintendent, Board Members, District staff, and the Board office for support and information.

## 2) Student Representative Election.

The Student Representative to the Board of Education, as the representative of all the District's students, shall be elected by the student body of the District in the following manner:

- a. The Student Representative position shall be a student regularly attending District high school in grade ten (10) or higher.
- b. The District Student Council shall be convened to elect the Student Representative to the Board from the DSC high school representatives.
- c. The power to elect the Student Representative shall be solely vested in the District Student Council; a plurality of votes cast is required to declare a Student Representative-elect. The DSC shall also have the authority to petition the Board to remove the Student Representative from office for cause with two-thirds (2/3) majority votes of members of the DSC.
- d. The election of a Student Representative-elect shall occur at least three months prior to June 30. This will allow the incumbent Student Representative to provide opportunities for the successor to become familiar with the responsibilities of the position.
- e. The Student Representative shall select a high school representative on

the DSC as a deputy to aid and advise the Student Representative and attend meetings and events if the Student Representative cannot be present. Representation at Board of Education meetings shall be the sole responsibility of the elected Student Representative.

3) Limitations of the Role of Student Representative on Board Matters.

- a. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to conflict with legally given rights, responsibilities, duties, or privileges reserved for the publicly elected Board directors by state law or other PPS policy.
- b. The Student Representative does not have an official vote in Board matters, but may participate as appropriate in deliberations.
- c. The Student Representative may not participate (whether in executive session or otherwise), receive materials, or render an unofficial vote in any personnel or legal matter or other matters that involve records that are exempt from disclosure under the Oregon public records or other law or that involve matters that may be the subject of an executive session.
- d. The Student Representative shall serve for a period of no more than one fiscal year.
- e. To the extent this policy conflicts with any other policy related to the Student Representative's responsibility or authority, this policy shall govern.

Policy implemented: History: Adopted 6/71; Amended 8/74; 6/80; 9/9/02; BA 2417; 5/19; 2/2022