

File Code 9130 Committee Enactment

Amendment: District Student Governance Committee

The purpose of the District Student Governance Committee is to give students an institutionalized role in shaping decisions that directly affect their education and educational experiences. The Committee will be composed of students elected from every high school of grade levels 9, 10, 11, & 12. It is imperative all high schools are represented and hold a presence on this committee. There will be only student members within the committee who are elected by their peers. Such elections will be held during school during the same time as student government elections which will take place during the beginning of fall each year. Every school shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and District Representative.

The job of the respective District Representatives will be to attend monthly committee meetings, report to the committee about the state of their designated school, discuss topics relevant to the agenda, discuss legislation and actions being currently taken by the board, promote initiatives for the Board Student Representative to push for on the Board, and provide advison to the Board Student Representative. This body will serve to give the Student Representative more responsibility as well as accountability via advocating for initiatives or weighing in on initiatives currently in motion/discussion by the Board. Such items **include but are not limited to** policies that directly impact students educational experience which pertains to the following:

- Student Transportation
- School food vendor transactions and alterations
- Curriculum amendments and alterations
- Disciplinary Code interpretations and modifications
- Uniform policy amendments
- Daily operations and programs of each school

The mission of this committee is multifaceted. It is set to accomplish a number of goals including:

1. Giving our students a direct seat at the table.
2. Promoting civic engagement and establishing Student Governments in every high school every year.
3. Present insight into how our district educational government system works and the discernment of what the NBOE does, how they do it, and how it impacts students.
4. Bringing together a coalition of young student leaders across the City of Newark to network, collaborate, and collectively drive initiatives to make their academic experience better.
5. Enabling student voice, student involvement, and student power.
6. Cultivating a direct system to disseminate information amongst the student body across the city to keep students engaged and informed on all things their district is doing.

The District Student Governance Committee members' first vote each year will be to elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to the committee. The Chairperson elected will not only chair the committee but will also represent the students of the district as the Board Student

Representative to the Newark Board of Education. In the case of an emergency or unavailability, the Vice-Chairperson will take the Chairperson's place at a board meeting to report out and conduct committee hearing duties unless otherwise directed at the discretion of the committee.

(Taken from-File Code 1220 AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEES)

Recommendations from the committee shall not reduce the responsibility of the Board, which shall be free to accept or reject the recommendations as it sees fit. It will be the responsibility of the Chairperson to see that the members of the committee are informed as to the final decision of the Board.

When the law regulates the formation and activities of an advisory committee, the administration shall cooperate fully in its activities.

Authored by David Daughety

Sponsored by Newark Students Union