

2015

Student Involvement in Decision Making

The Ralston Public Schools Board of Education recognizes the unique perspectives held by students on issues impacting the school district. Therefore, one middle school and one high school student of the Ralston Public School District may serve as a nonvoting student advisor to the Board pursuant to this policy.

Students interested in serving as a student advisor to the Board will submit a one to two-page essay to the student leadership selection committee explaining how they would represent the students on the Board. The student leadership selection committee will be made up of the building principals from both Ralston Middle School and Ralston High School and two members of the Board of Education appointed by the Board President. The student leadership committee will select two (2) or three (3) candidates to be presented to the RMS and RHS student body for election to the Board as the student advisor for their school. The election will be held in November each year for a term of the next calendar year. The student advisor may only serve one (1) term per building unless the seat available is vacant. The student advisor exists at the discretion of the Board.

A student must be a seventh or eighth-grade student for middle school and a sophomore or junior student for high school to be eligible for the position. In addition, the student must be enrolled as a full-time student (may include dual enrollment or academy programs) in the district throughout his or her one-year term. The student selected may not have been suspended from school or suspended from any school-sponsored activities before or during his or her term. The student advisor shall not violate any of the provisions of the code of conduct as set forth in the RMS or RHS student handbook. The Board reserves the right to remove a student as a student advisor for any reason including, but not limited to, situations where the student is suspended from school, violates the law, fails to attend the necessary meetings, or is no longer enrolled in school. In the event a vacancy is created due to removal or resignation, the student leadership committee will nominate another student for the remainder of the term upon appointment by the Board.

The student advisor from each level is expected to attend all regular Board meetings unless excused by the Board. Each student advisor may be directed by the Board to report on particular issues or invite guests to the Board Meetings once per month. The student advisors will be expected to communicate with district students on a regular basis. The student advisors may not vote on any issue and will not have access to closed or confidential information. The student advisors will receive the same Board packet distributed to the rest of the Board, except for any closed or confidential information. Once appointed, the student advisors will be informed of the Nebraska Public Records Law, basic parliamentary procedure under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, and Board policies affecting the operation of Board meetings.

Adopted on: July 22, 2019

Revised on:

Reviewed on: March 11, 2024