

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY**

## **Student Member Position Description**

### **ROLE OF THE STUDENT MEMBER:**

The student member provides *an informed student viewpoint* to the Board of Education of Baltimore County. The student member must respect the diversity of students' points of view and develop a position that will be consistent with the best interest of all Baltimore County students.

The student member is an official member of the Board of Education and, by statute, has a partial vote. The student member votes on all issues except collective bargaining, capital and operating budgets, school openings and closings, and boundaries.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT MEMBER:**

1. To be an informed participant and voter in Board discussions and actions. This is accomplished in part by reviewing and analyzing large packets of information provided prior to each Board meeting. Board packets typically include the following:
  - a. Agenda for upcoming meeting
  - b. Minutes of previous meetings
  - c. Background information and recommendations for policy and program discussions and actions
  - d. Resolutions/legislation
  - e. Budget and personnel documents

In addition, the Student Member must read additional information including articles, journals, and reports provided weekly to board members.

To develop a thorough understanding of current educational issues that directly impact Baltimore County's students and to share this information with students and student leaders throughout the county. This is accomplished by:

- a. Serving as an Executive Board Member of the Baltimore County Student Councils (BCSC).
  - b. Attending monthly BCSC Executive Board meetings, General Assembly meetings, and other student leadership workshops/conferences.
  - c. Being accessible to hear the concerns of Baltimore County's diverse student population.
  - d. Serving as an Executive Board Member of the Maryland Association of Student Councils.
2. To attend and/or speak at various education and youth-related conferences and events.
  3. To serve on Board selected committees
  4. To participate in the selection process of the incoming student board member.

5. To provide an orientation to the next student board member and share an end-of-the-year report summarizing key issues before the board and actions of the board during the student member's term of office for use by the incoming student board member.

#### **ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. To attend bi-monthly Board of Education meetings held at the Greenwood Campus Boardroom located within Building E.
2. To participate in the Board of Education of Baltimore County new member orientation.
3. To participate in various education events as a representative of the Baltimore County Board of Education, including board recognition ceremonies, school Groundbreakings, and new school openings.
4. To attend the annual Board of Education retreat.
5. To attend meetings of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board and serve as an active member.
6. To attend Baltimore County Student Councils Executive Board meetings, general assembly meetings and conferences to report on important educational issues and to seek student input on those issues.
7. To attend the Maryland Association of Boards of Education annual conference.

#### **CANDIDATE SELECTION:**

1. Each Baltimore County high school is expected to nominate up to two students for the position of Student Member of the Baltimore County Board of Education. Nominees submit application packets, which include an information page/resume, essay, five letters of recommendation, and an official school transcript with a copy of the most recent report card.
2. Applications are screened by a selection committee and selected applicants will move onto the interview process.
3. The nomination committee interviews the top candidates and nominates selected candidates to move onto the student forum.
4. Selected candidates will video tape up to a 3 minute speech for students to view during their English Language Arts classes or via the website. Students will have an opportunity to submit questions for candidates and we will video tape responses. These responses will be available for viewing through ELA Classes and the website for students.
5. Voting will commence on the last two days via ELA classes. Students not enrolled in an ELA class will be provided the same opportunities to view speeches and submit questions at

their home school. Students enrolled in grades 6 – 12 will be provided an opportunity to vote to select their nominee to the Governor.

The governor appoints the nominee to serve as the Student Member of the Baltimore County Board of Education. The winner will be notified of their selection by the Governor's Office by July 1.