

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE BOARD POLICY

STUDENTS

STUDENT REPRESENTATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

441.2-RULE

Goal: Establish a fair process for choosing and supporting student representation on the Pittsville School Board.

Purpose: We believe that student representation on the School Board is key for providing a student perspective on issues which affect them the most and for developing leadership skills in our students.

Proposal: We will select one high school junior as a primary student School Board member and one junior as an alternative member for their senior year. Each student will be selected by the student council in the spring directly following their elections. The students will be vetted by the school principal, interviewed by the district administrative team, and then presented for approval by the school board in the timeline below. The student member of the school board will be a non-voting member, but will have equal rights in terms of questioning presenters to the board, offering thoughts, and other appropriate actions. The Board will take into consideration the student's limited perspective as one member of a diverse student body and will give the student member opportunities to gather information about issues before offering thoughts when possible.

Criteria:

- A junior in good standing in the school district.
- A history of upholding the Panther Traits (Engaged, Honorable, Respectful, Responsible).
- Possess the following additional character traits – well-spoken, professional, courageous, and thoughtful.
- Available to attend monthly meetings on Monday nights during the school year (excused for summer).

Timeline:

- The Pittsville High School Student Council will send recommendations for a primary and alternate Student School Board member to the Principal by March 15th.
- The Principal will vet the students and send the recommendations to the Superintendent by April 1st.
- The Superintendent will set up an interview with the nominees to be conducted by the administrative team during the month of April.
- The nominees for student representation on the School Board will be sent for consideration to the school board by May 1st.
- The nominees will be voted on in the May School Board meeting. Any remediation will be done with the summer meetings.

Supporting the Student Member:

- The agenda for the School Board meeting will be purposefully constructed to allow issues which do not require a student perspective to be pushed to the end of the agenda, allowing the student member to leave and get rest if the meeting is running long.
- The student member will be asked for her/his perspective, but not asked to represent the entire student perspective unless given a chance to gather that information.
- Abuse of the student member in person, online, or otherwise will not be tolerated.
- The alternate student member will be used to fill in if the workload becomes unmanageable or if extenuating circumstance arise.
- Students who serve honorably can request a letter of recommendation for their next steps in life from the Pittsville School District Superintendent or any other appropriate member of the Pittsville School District Administration.

First Reading: February 14, 2022
Second Reading/Approval: March 14, 2022