

# POLICY

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BY-LAWS

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**SUBJECT: STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (STUDENT EX-OFFICIO)**

The Board of Education of the Massena Central School District authorizes the position of Student Representative to the Board for the purpose of providing regular and direct communication between the Board and the student body.

The School District may offer to voters once every two years, on the same date as the annual School District budget, a separate referendum to decide whether the School District shall allow a student, as established under law, to serve on the School Board as an ex officio, non-voting member.

Provided that District voters have voted in favor of having a student serve as a member of the School Board, the School District will allow a District high school student to be selected, in accordance with the provisions enumerated below.

The ex officio student member shall be a rising senior at the high school and shall have attended such high school for at least two years prior to selection. The student shall be selected by the High School Student Council prior to June 30th of each year and will assume office on July 1 for a one-year period. An alternate student ex officio may also be selected from the rising junior class. It is anticipated, but not required, that this alternate member be selected to become the ex-officio member during his/her senior year.

It shall be the responsibility of the President of the Board or his/her designees, to arrange an orientation program to take place, if possible between the time of the student's election and assumption of office.

The ex officio student member of the Board shall be entitled to sit with Board members at all public meetings of the Board and participate in all Board hearings and meetings. The ex officio student member shall:

- Receive a copy of the Board's agenda and supporting materials except those which are confidential in nature;
- Provide a report to the Board as scheduled;
- Be entitled to participate in all discussions of the Board except those undertaken in executive session; and
- Be entitled to serve on committees of the Board, at the discretion of the Board President and in a manner and capacity determined by the Board President or full board.

The ex officio student member of the Board shall not be allowed to vote, shall not be allowed to attend executive sessions, and shall not be entitled to receive compensation of any form for participating at Board meetings.

If the representative must withdraw from his/her position for any reason during the first semester, a new appointee may be named by the high school Principal and selected from the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade.

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There are three circumstances under which a representative may be removed/withdrawn from office:

- a) Automatic removal if the student has committed a personal offense against the District's rules which requires a hearing with the Superintendent resulting in disciplinary action;
- b) A change in the student's schedule which results in his/her having less than a majority of his/her classes (periods) in the high school building;
- c) Failure to attend three consecutive Board meetings without a valid reason.

If the student representative wishes to resign from this position, he/she should provide the President of the Board of Education, the Student Council and the high school Principal with two weeks' advance notice.

The student representative shall be notified in writing of the proposed action of removal (for any reason) and shall be given the opportunity for a hearing with the Board President. The Board of Education has the final responsibility by majority vote for determining whether the student shall continue in the position of student representative to the Board.

Education Law Sections 1702(3), 1702(3-1), 1804(12);  
1804(12-a), 1901(2), 1901(3), 2502(10) and 2502(10-a)

Adopted 9/15/16