



Policy Section: **Trusteeship and the Board**

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Policy Name: **Student Trustees**

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Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board (KPDSB) that pupil representation on the Board is an essential component of Trusteeship and governance. Pupil representation enables the interests of the student body to be clearly reflected in the decision making of the KPDSB. In the KPDSB the pupil representative shall be called "Student Trustee".

Rationale

Pupil representatives increase communication between the KPDSB Trustees and students as well as provide the viewpoints and perspectives that students have in regard to the impact of KPDSB decisions on their education and school life.

A pupil representative(s), under subsection 55 (3) of the Education Act, is entitled to require that a matter before the KPDSB or one of its committees on which the Student Trustee sits, be put to a recorded vote, and in that case, there shall be:

1. A recorded non-binding vote that includes the Student Trustee's vote; and
2. A recorded binding vote that does not include the Student Trustee's vote. 206 c.10, s.6 of the Education Act.

A pupil representative(s), under subsection 55 (5) of the Education Act, is not entitled to be present at a meeting that is closed to the public under clause 207 (2) (b).2006, c.10, s.6 of the Education Act.

1. The disclosure of intimate, personal, or financial information in respect of a member of the KPDSB or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the KPDSB, or a pupil or their parent(s) or guardian(s).

Cross Reference
Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c .E.2.
Policies:
202, Electronic Meetings
401, School-Student Activities Outside the Classroom

Date Adopted: 28/04/1988
Dates Reviewed: 11/06/2002; 04/2005; 16/01/2007;
14/10/2008; 13/10/2009; 13/11/2012;
10/11/2015; 05/03,2019; 09/03/2020; 03/26/2024

Review By: 2028

Guidelines

1. Qualifications for Student Trustee(s)

- a) At the time of assuming office on August 1, a Student Trustee(s) must be in or entering the senior division;
- b) The Student Trustee(s) must be attending a public KPDSB operated secondary day school program full time during the term of office; or
- c) An exceptional pupil in a special education program for whom the KPDSB has reduced the length of the instructional program on each school day, so long as the pupil would be a full-time pupil if the program had not been reduced.

2. Roles & Responsibilities

- a) The Student Trustee(s) shall participate in accordance with the policies, By-laws, and Rules of Order of the KPDSB.
- b) The Student Trustee(s) will act in concert with other elected Trustees to examine and discuss issues leading to a vote at the regular meetings of the KPDSB. However, the Student Trustee(s) is not a member of the KPDSB and is not entitled to exercise a binding vote on any matter before the KPDSB or any of its committees (Education Act 2006, c.10, s.6). The Student Trustee(s) is not entitled to move a motion but is entitled to suggest a motion on any matter at a meeting of the KPDSB or one of its committees on which the Student Trustee(s) sits, and if no member of the KPDSB or committee, as the case may be, moves the suggested motion, the record shall show the suggested motion (Education Act 2006, c.10, s.6).
- c) The Student Trustee(s) may be a participating member, with a non-binding vote, of any of the KPDSB standing committees, as appointed by the Chair.
- d) The Student Trustee(s), in an effort to support their role and in understanding the responsibilities of the KPDSB, shall be mentored by a designated Trustee, at the request of the Chair of the Board.

- e) The Student Trustee(s) must treat issues within limits of confidentiality and with discretion.
 - f) The Student Trustee(s) shall act on behalf of the KPDSB only where authority has been specifically delegated by the Chair of the Board.
 - g) The Student Trustee(s) shall, upon receipt of complaints, questions, or suggestions regarding a school or service, direct the person or persons to the appropriate Principal or supervisor of service.
 - h) The Student Trustee(s) must make a reasonable effort to represent the interests of students across the KPDSB.
 - i) The Student Trustee(s) shall conduct an electronic meeting with all student school representatives by October 31, and then hold monthly meetings. The Student Trustee(s)' report to the KPDSB shall summarize these meetings.
 - j) As ambassadors of the KPDSB, Student Trustee(s) will exhibit exemplary behaviour towards their fellow Trustees and the public. The Student Trustee(s) will conduct themselves, at all times when representing the KPDSB, in a manner that brings respect to their position.
 - k) The guidelines outlined in Policy 401 – School-Student Activities Outside the Classroom, apply in principle to the Student Trustee(s).
 - l) The Student Trustee(s) may access meetings electronically as per KPDSB Policy 202-Electronic Meetings.
3. Procedural Guidelines for Election of Student Trustees
- a) Term of Office
 - i) The term of office shall be for one (1) year, commencing August 1, and ending July 31.

b) Election of Student Trustees

- i) Two Student Trustees shall be elected, which shall include one (1) Indigenous Student Trustee who voluntarily self-identifies as First Nation, Métis, or Inuit.
- ii) The Principal will be responsible for working with the student council and/or the student council representing Indigenous pupils, to fill the vacancies for Student Trustees.
- iii) The vacancy for Student Trustees shall be filled by an election held by the student body of the secondary school designated by a rotational schedule.
- iv) One Student Trustee shall be elected by each of the designated secondary schools for that school year. Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, the rotation of schools shall be:
 - I. Sioux North High School, (2019-2020)
 - II. Beaver Brae Secondary School, (2020-2021)
 - III. Red Lake District High School, (2021-2022)
 - IV. Dryden High School, (2022-2023)
 - V. Ignace High School, and (2023-2024)
 - VI. Crolancia High School. (2024-2025)

The two Student Trustees shall not come from the same school at the same time. The First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Student Trustee rotation will begin with Dryden High School in the 2020-2021 school year :

- I. Dryden High School, (2020-2021)
 - II. Ignace High School, (2021-2022)
 - III. Crolancia High School, (2022-2023)
 - IV. Sioux North High School, (2023-2024)
 - V. Beaver Brae Secondary School, (2024-2025) and
 - VI. Red Lake District High School. (2025-2026)
- v) If the designated secondary school is unable to fill the vacancy for their turn on the schedule, and, in the professional opinion of the Principal, it is determined that an acceptable candidate based on the approved criteria is not appropriate, the school may have an additional opportunity to select a Student Trustee the following year (only).

- vi) The election process will be determined and conducted by the designated secondary school prior to March 1.
 - vii) Prior to March 1, the Principal shall notify the Director of Education of the name of the Student Trustee.
 - viii) At the first KPDSB meeting in March, the KPDSB shall appoint the Student Trustees. This will permit the Student Trustees to participate in orientation activities with the acting Student Trustees.
- c) Vacancy During School Year
- i) If for some reason the elected Student Trustee(s) cannot complete the term of office, the Principal working with the student council, shall determine if the seat should be filled by another election or by appointment.
 - ii) Subject to 3.c.i above, the new Student Trustee(s)' name(s) shall be determined and forwarded to the Director of Education within fifteen (15) days of the vacancy occurring.
4. Expenses
- a) The Student Trustee(s) will be reimbursed for all out-of-pocket expenses reasonably incurred in connection with carrying out the roles and responsibilities of a Student Trustee in accordance with KPDSB policy and procedures applicable to other Trustees of KPDSB.
 - b) The Student Trustee(s) who is appointed for the coming school year may attend the June Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA) annual meeting prior to commencing their term.
 - c) The Student Trustee(s) will be eligible to attend OPSBA events upon approval of the KPDSB pending the fulfillment of their duties under roles and responsibilities as per this policy.

5. Disqualification of Pupil Representative

The Student Trustee(s) shall be disqualified to fill the Student Trustee seat in the following ways:

- a) Does not continue to hold qualifications under Section 1.a, 1.b, and 1.c; or



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- b) Is convicted of an indictable offence;
- c) Absents themself(ves) without being authorized by resolution entered in the minutes, from three (3) consecutive regular KPDSB meetings of the KPDSB without making a request for absences to the Director of Education twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting of the KPDSB;
- d) Breaches confidentiality;
- e) Breaches the KPDSB Code of Conduct;
- f) Ceases to hold qualifications to act as a member of the KPDSB; and
- g) Is the decision of the majority of the KPDSB Trustees.