

## **STUDENT VOICE**

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### **POLICY**

The Board will ensure that students have opportunities to actively shape their education and to have a voice in their learning.

### **RATIONALE**

The Rainy River District School Board recognizes that student voice and student leadership are significant forces in establishing a thriving learning environment for students.

Engaging students in their learning helps to develop their leadership skills and encourages active citizenship in schools.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

As per *Procedure 1.24 Student Trustee*, and Guidelines.

### **GUIDELINES**

#### **1.0 Student Voice**

- 1.1 In recognizing the importance of student voice, schools shall:
- promote opportunities for students to take on leadership roles in their learning and in a school environment, especially at secondary schools within the Board.
  - recognize the work of Student Leadership Councils and other student leadership groups in their schools; and
  - acknowledge and take into consideration suggestions and concerns made by Student Leadership Councils.

#### **2.0 Student Leadership Councils**

- 2.1 The Student Leadership Council shall:
- be the main contact for consultation with the principal or designate on matters related to the student body such as student-led clubs and activities.
  - work proactively with the school administration, when appropriate, to resolve issues related to the interests of the student body.
  - work to create a school climate that supports an environment of respect, acceptance, inclusion, and positive student health and well-being.

#### **3.0 Student Trustees**

- 3.1 Student Trustees shall:
- be role models for the student body.

- follow Board and school policies including the Board Code of Conduct and the Trustee Code of Conduct.
- participate respectfully and ethically in the student leadership process.
- endeavour to represent all members of the student body.
- act in good faith at all times.

**4.0 Student Senate**

4.1 The Board shall support an executive student leadership council known as the Rainy River District School Board Student Senate. Together with the Student Trustees, the Student Senate shall be comprised of ~~two~~ members appointed from each secondary school’s Student Leadership Council and other student groups.

4.2 The Student Senate shall:

- provide feedback to the Student Trustees and the Director of Education or designate on matters of governance related to the student body (e.g., policies related to students, strategic planning).
- work proactively to support the health and well-being of the student community.
- inform the Student Trustees about the activities of each school.
- inform and engage their schools’ student body in opportunities to shape their education.

**Definitions:**

**Student Leadership Councils** are responsible for a variety of student-run activities and initiatives to benefit the entire student body with a central focus on developing student leadership and promoting a positive school climate.

<b>CROSS-REFERENCE</b>	<b>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</b>
Policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2.67 Equity and Inclusive Education</li> <li>▪ 4.16 Safe Schools</li> <li>▪ 1.08 Trustee Code of Conduct</li> </ul> Procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1.23 Student Trustee</li> <li>▪ 4.02 Student Voice</li> </ul> RRDSB Code of Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>The Education Act</i></li> <li>▪ O. Reg. 7/07</li> </ul>