

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: Student Involvement in Decision-Making

ADOPTED: April 27, 1981

REVISED: December 17, 1990

232 STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

Purpose

The Board of Education believes that students should participate in the governance of school activities at levels appropriate to their ages and competencies because:

1. schools, as an institution fundamental to the operation of a democratic society, should exemplify citizen participation in decision making;
2. the curriculum should develop increasing knowledge, students' skills and responsibilities in planning and executing the cooperative activities;
3. students are a valuable resource whose contributions can materially aid and benefit the schools.

Authority

The Board *authorizes* the Superintendent to *encourage student participation in activities commensurate with students' understanding and abilities.*

Recommendations for the improvement of the schools may be offered by any student, provided the recommendations are of a constructive nature and contribute toward the realization of the educational goals of the district.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy which:

1. provide for the submission, consideration and response to constructive student suggestions;
2. designate the manner by which students shall be selected for participation in school matters;
3. insure that student participation is fairly *representative* of the student body;

4. insure that the student voice and vote in decision making is fairly balanced with those of faculty, administration and community members.

Legal References

1. Pennsylvania School Code Section 12.15(g)
2. Pennsylvania Code Title 22