

REGULATION

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Related Entries: JCA

Responsible Office: STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

REPRESENTATIVE STUDENT LEADERSHIP

A. PURPOSE

To establish structure for the Anne Arundel County Public Schools representative student leadership programs.

B. BACKGROUND

State law recognizes the Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils (CRASC) as the governing body that annually selects the Student Member of the Board of Education (SMOB). In addition to that important function, CRASC provides the student perspective at Board of Education meetings and other venues.

In addition to CRASC, there are many other opportunities for student leadership in Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) including, but not limited to, the Superintendent's Teen Advisory, SMOB, and school based student government associations.

C. DEFINITIONS

Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils (CRASC) – the representative organization of all students enrolled in the secondary schools of AACPS, to develop leadership skills, promote good sportsmanship, and to initiate improvements and activities for the general good of AACPS students.

CRASC Advisor – a designated staff member who coordinates the countywide leadership activities.

CRASC Officer Team – an elected CRASC leadership team that includes the president, first vice president, second vice president, treasurer, secretary, middle school coordinator, and SMOB.

School based leadership coordinator – a designated staff member at every secondary school who shall receive and distribute information about student leadership. The staff member shall facilitate participation in leadership opportunities and ensure that the school is represented at CRASC events.

Superintendent's Teen Advisory – the Superintendent's optional cabinet of student leaders that provide the student perspective and share ideas about the school system and the teen experience.

Student Member of the Board (SMOB) – one member of the Anne Arundel County Board of Education who is currently enrolled as an AACPS senior. This member is elected through a process to be determined by CRASC, and appointed by the Governor of the State of Maryland.

D. PROCEDURES

1. Countywide Initiatives

- a) Students shall have a voice in school system affairs through participation in CRASC.
- b) Information regarding student leadership activities and opportunities shall be communicated from the Office of Student Leadership to the school based leadership coordinator.
- c) Schools shall make reasonable efforts to remove any obstacles to participation by all students in leadership opportunities.
- d) Faculty, students, and volunteers shall adhere to all AACPS policies and regulations while participating in all leadership events.
- e) Secondary schools are required to provide representatives for all countywide leadership initiatives including all CRASC events. High Schools are required to provide representatives to the Superintendent’s Teen Advisory, and the SMOB Elections. If a high school representative does not attend the SMOB Elections, it will not invalidate the SMOB Election results.

2. CRASC

- a) All AACPS secondary schools shall provide a student delegation to attend all CRASC assemblies and elections.
- b) Each school shall be entitled to a number of votes determined by school population, as specified in the CRASC Bylaws. Each school’s votes shall be determined based on the prior year’s enrollment.
- c) CRASC may take an official position on any school system or community issue, subject to the approval of the CRASC advisor.
 - i) Positions requiring an amendment to the CRASC Constitution must be approved by the CRASC General Assembly.
 - ii) Positions not requiring an amendment may be approved by the CRASC officer team, executive staff, or designated subcommittee.
- d) The General Assembly shall consist of the student delegates from all secondary schools and secondary students from all public charter schools and

alternative learning centers in AACPS.

- e) The General Assembly shall be presided over by the elected CRASC officers as it is outlined in the CRASC Constitution.
- f) The duties and responsibilities of the General Assembly shall be:
 - i) to discuss and formulate the policies of CRASC;
 - ii) to conduct all legislative business;
 - iii) to approve all major CRASC activities;
 - iv) to establish any standing or temporary committee which it deems necessary or beneficial to the functioning of CRASC; and
 - v) to work toward the goals identified in the CRASC Constitution Preamble.
- g) The General Assembly shall meet at least once per marking period, or when approved by the elected officers and advisor.

3. School Based Organizations

- a) All secondary schools shall maintain a school based student leadership organization such as a student council or student government, as a mechanism for student activism within the school.
- b) Each school shall designate a leadership coordinator who shall receive and distribute information about countywide student leadership events and opportunities.
- c) Leadership coordinators shall maintain communication with the Office of Student Leadership and the school based student leadership organization.
- d) School based leadership organizations shall maintain subcommittees that manage school activities.
- e) School based leadership organizations shall maintain a cooperative relationship with all other school organizations.
- f) Student leadership organizations shall accurately represent the interests, character, and demographics of the student body.
- g) Students have a responsibility to prepare a written constitution or amendments to the existing constitution for the student government, with advice from school staff/advisors as needed.
- h) The student leadership organization of a school may submit requests and recommendations to the principal.
- i) The centralized student leadership of a school may submit requests and proposals to CRASC for countywide support.

4. All Student Elections for Representative Leadership
 - a) Student elections shall be held by secret ballot.
 - b) Written election procedures shall be made available to all interested parties at least 2 weeks prior to the election.
 - c) Any questions concerning the election process or election results shall be submitted in writing to the Office of Student Leadership.
 - d) For school based elections, voting rights shall be provided to all currently enrolled students.

5. Superintendent's Teen Advisory
 - a) Students shall be appointed to the Teen Advisory by a method determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
 - b) Students on the Superintendent's Teen Advisory shall be expected to represent the perspective of the collective student body of their school.
 - c) When a student cannot attend a meeting of the Superintendent's Teen Advisory, a proxy representative shall be appointed by the principal.
 - d) The number of students on the Superintendent's Teen Advisory shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent.

6. Student Member of the Board (SMOB)
 - a) The method by which the SMOB is elected shall be approved by the CRASC General Assembly prior to the start of the nomination process. The details of this selection method shall be made available to all students and shall be distributed through the school based student leadership coordinator.
 - b) All secondary schools shall be required to provide a full voting delegation for the election.
 - c) Counseling in areas related to the election process, campaigning, and candidacy shall be made available to all candidates by the Office of Student Leadership.
 - d) The SMOB is appointed by the Governor of the State of Maryland.

7. Other programs
 - a) Other county leadership programs and initiatives promoted by the Office of Student Leadership are always expanding and include but are not limited to the Maryland General Assembly Page Program, the Mock County Council

Program, the Maryland Youth Advisory, the Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership Program, Maryland Leadership Workshop, and the Maryland Association of Student Councils.

- b) Request for student representatives shall be evaluated by the Superintendent or his/her designee, and when appropriate, a student representative shall be selected to serve on committees countywide.
- c) Student leaders may be selected or nominated by the Office of Student Leadership to serve on committees and councils within the community.

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Note previous regulation history: none