

**Board of Education  
Las Cruces Public Schools**

**POLICY BDF**

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Related Entries:

Responsible Office: Superintendent

**Student Advisors to the Board and Superintendent**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of Policy BDF is to ensure students’ advice, feedback and recommendations are considered in the decision-making processes of the Board of Education and the District.

**II. BACKGROUND**

- A. The Board of Education believes that students are among the stakeholders that have a vested interest in LCPS providing a student-centered learning environment that fosters academic excellence. The Board of Education values the input, ideas and talents of a diverse cross section of students. Therefore, it is imperative that students are part of the decision-making process.
- B. Through a Student Advisory Council, the Board and the Superintendent shall be able to foster dialogue and provide a platform for students’ voices in order to exchange ideas and allow students to make recommendations for the benefit of all students’ educations.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

- 1. “District Advisor” means an administrator selected by the Superintendent who shall facilitate the SAC meetings, and who shall assist the students in SAC activities.
- 2. “Student Advisory Council” (SAC) means an appointed committee of LCPS students who shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Education and Superintendent.

**IV. POSITION**

- A. Students from each LCPS high school shall be appointed annually to the Student Advisory Council, and their primary function is to provide advice, feedback and recommendations to the Board of Education and Superintendent.
- B. A SAC member shall sit with the Board of Education during Board work sessions/special meetings and regular meetings. The SAC member’s attendance at the meeting shall have no bearing on the statutory requirements that constitute a quorum of the Board. Although SAC members are not legally entitled to vote

- during Board meetings, the SAC representative shall provide a report at each Board meeting and shall offer comments, advice and/or recommendations, as necessary.
- C. SAC members shall not participate in executive sessions that are closed under the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, or be provided with materials related to closed sessions or materials that are confidential information and not subject to disclosure under the Inspection of Public Records Act.
  - D. Those eligible to serve are sophomores, juniors or seniors in good standing (a minimum grade point average of 2.0) at the time they are nominated to the Council and during their terms on the SAC. Students may serve up to three (3) academic years.
  - E. The principal shall oversee the selection of SAC members to represent his/her high school. All nominations shall be submitted in writing by a deadline determined by the school principal. All nominees must submit a written request to the principal in order to be considered for selection.
  - F. All nominations will be reviewed by the principal and by a committee of principal-appointed individuals representing a cross-section of administrators, teachers, staff, parents and student government leaders. The selection process shall also include an interview with the nominees. Selection of students will also be based on written recommendations from teachers, counselors, administrators and community leaders. Students can nominate themselves.
  - G. The Committee shall recommend to the principal which student(s) to select. In the event of a tie, the principal shall make the final decision.
  - H. The selection(s) must be named by the first week of May of each school year. Upon selection, the principal will notify the Superintendent or designee the names of those selected to serve in the subsequent school year.
  - I. SAC members shall select from within the Council as to which member shall sit with the Board of Education during Board work sessions/special meetings and regular meetings. The SAC representative at Board meetings shall rotate throughout the school year.
  - J. The Superintendent shall appoint an administrator who shall serve as a District Advisor to the Council.
  - K. The SAC members will develop, revise and follow their own bylaws, governing their role as advisors. All bylaws must follow federal, state or local laws and must be in compliance with LCPS policies and regulations, and consistent with the standards of the Board Member Code of Ethics in Policy BCA as appropriate.
  - L. The bylaws will include a provision allowing for additional members to be appointed during the school year should a vacancy occur or based on interest within the school community. The bylaws shall be submitted to the District Advisor each time an update is adopted by the SAC.

**V. REVIEW PROCESS**

This policy shall be reviewed on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.

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*Board of Education, President*

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*Date*

**History:** *New Policy April 2017*

**Legal Ref:**