

MARYLAND Student Member Of (or Representative to) the Board of Education

√ = Updated in June 2024

Boards of Education	Selection Process	Voting Rights	Where They Sit	Ability to Participate (speaking and closed sessions)	Position Established In State Law
√ STATE BOARD	Nominated by Public High Schools,; MASC Selection Committee narrows to five; MASC General Assembly elects 2 nominees; Governor appoints	Partial: No negative personnel or legal appeals	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; allowed in closed sessions	Established in State Law
√ ALLEGANY <i>Compensation:</i> <i>SSL hours</i>	ACASC General Assembly elects	None	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Established in State Law
√ ANNE ARUNDEL <i>Compensation:</i> <i>\$8000 College Scholarship</i> <i>\$325 monthly stipend for mileage, supplies, any other costs covered by the BOE office.</i>	Nominations submitted, after applications are due, Interview Committee selects three candidates to begin campaigning. CRASC General Assembly elects majority candidate, name is forwarded to Governor for appointment.	Full Voting Rights	With other Board Members	Speaks freely; allowed in Closed Sessions	Established in State Law
√ BALTIMORE CITY	Elected by all 9-12 graders (<i>SB0031 passed 2023</i>) • <i>note: called Student Commissioner</i>	Partial: No personnel, school openings/closings, student disciplinary, specific appeals (<i>votes on capital and operating budget matters HB175 passed 2023</i>)	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; Not allowed in Closed Sessions	Established in State Law Comar §3-108.1
√ BALTIMORE COUNTY <i>Compensation:</i> <i>Increase to \$1000 2019-2020</i> <i>SSL Hours if requested</i>	Selection Committee reviews applications, Interview Committee; All secondary student vote after viewing speeches & Q & A.	Partial: No collective bargaining, capital & operating budgets, school openings/closings, and boundaries.	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; has to be invited to closed sessions on all non-voting topics	Established in state law
CALVERT	Nominees are submitted to High Schools -any school with more than one nominees conduct school-wide election to select one nominee). Election at Regional General Assembly (electoral system – must win majority of electoral votes)	Opinion Vote	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; Not allowed in closed sessions unless invited	Established in state law

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CAROLINE	School SGA selects one student, the selection is approved by the principal (each high school has one representative)	None	Special Table in front of the Board	Allotted speaking time at the start of the meeting; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law
✓ CARROLL \$3,500 College Scholarship	CCSGA General Assembly holds a primary election and votes (rank- choice) for two candidates to advance to the general election. In March/beginning of April all high school students vote to elect the SROB	Opinion Vote	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Established in state law
CECIL	Each high school nominates two students. Selection committee of the County Council advisor, officers, and current SMOB narrow applications down to two people. The finalists participate in a Q&A with the County Student Council (reps from all high schools) who votes on the student to be presented to the BOE	None	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law
✓ CHARLES	Any qualified HS student may apply; primary election to select 3; general election for the final. All secondary school students vote in the primary and general elections	Partial: no vote on Special Ed appeals (and other hearings under 4–205 and 7–305); personnel matters; apt./salary/eval of superintendent; collective bargaining; capital & operating budgets; school closings/openings or boundary changes	With other Board Members	Unless invited by majority vote, is not allowed in closed sessions that relate to anything on which the SMOB cannot vote	Established in state law SB0749 (July 1, 2021) cross filed with HB1060
DORCHESTER	Appointed by principal (each high school has one Student Representative to the Board)	None	With other Board Members	Allotted time to speak; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law

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FREDERICK	Open App; Nominated by school; Televised Town Hall Meeting & Candidate Forum; On-line voting by all secondary students; electoral votes cast (based on school population) at FCASC General Assembly for selection	Opinion Vote	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed session	Established in state law HB179 and SB153 (2007)
GARRETT	Regional General Assembly elects and ranks up to four nominees; based on rankings, presentations and Q&A, BOE elects one and potentially also an alternate.	None	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Established in state law SB 368 (1996)
✓ HARFORD	HCRASC General Assembly elects	Partial Voting Rights	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Established in state law- SB 816 (2012)
HOWARD	Students in Grades 8-11 elect	Partial Voting Rights	With other Board Members	Allotted speaking time; not allowed in closed sessions	Established in state law
KENT NO CURRENT SMOB	Elected by all public high school students in Kent County (Must have letters of recommendation & submit a resume)	Opinion Vote	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law
MONTGOMERY Compensation: • \$25,000 College Scholarship (HB 706, 2002) • 1 SS Credit • Documented SSL hours	Any qualified student may submit application; MCR Nominating Convention (reps from all MS/HS) narrows the field to two, all middle/high school students on-line voting in final; majority candidate elected	Basically, Full Voting: No negative personnel action related specifically and only to immorality [6-202(a)]	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; included in closed sessions (<i>invitation only for 6-202(a) – negative personnel related to immorality</i>)	Established in state law (1977) • partial vote (1989) • 99% full vote (HB 87, 2016)
✓ PRINCE GEORGE'S	Primary election by PGRASG then student in grade 6-12 vote for one candidate (HB1079 – passed 2023)	Partial: no budget, expulsions, school closings/re-openings/boundaries, student disciplinary matters, any personnel	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; has to be invited to closed sessions on hearings and collective bargaining	Established in state law

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QUEEN ANNE'S	Seven students from each of the two high schools form a panel and chooses a spokesperson (President and VP of SGA, President of each of the classes, and President of the NHS)	Basically, non-voting; Panel has 1 vote	N/A	N/A	Not established in state law
✓ SOMERSET NO CURRENT SMOB	Selected by school (each high school has one Student Representative to the Board)	None	With other Board Members	Allotted speaking time; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law
ST. MARY'S <i>Compensation: None</i>	If more than 5 candidates apply SMASC Officers narrow down to 5, SMASC General Assembly elects	None	With other Board Members	Speak Freely, not allowed in closed sessions unless invited	Established in state law
✓ TALBOT	Elected by the student Body. Two non-voting student members – one from each high school	None	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Established in state law
✓ WASHINGTON Compensation: 1 social studies credit & a scholarship toward postsecondary education OR SSL hours (75 hours) and Reimbursement for all out-of-pocket expenses related to conducting official board business	WCASC General Assembly elects	Recorded Opinion Vote	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law
✓ WICOMICO NO SMOB <i>(Student Advisory with the presidents of the four high schools serving)</i>	No SMOB - One representative from each high school (currently the SGA Presidents from the four HSs) serve as student advisory members to the Board. They give a monthly report to the Board. Each month one student representative sits at the board table while the other 3 sit in a designated section of the audience and this rotates between the 4 members.	None	Special seating area	Allotted time to speak; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law
✓ WORCESTER	Student Council at each school selects (each high school has one Student Representative (3 total)	None	With other Board Members	Speaks Freely; not allowed in closed sessions	Not established in state law

Student State Board Member Voting Rights

The student member of the State Board voting rights includes almost every action item before the State Board *except*:

- Dismissal or other disciplinary action involving personnel (can give opinion)
- Decisions on all appeals to the State Board (can give opinion)

Md. Code Ann, Educ., §2-203(c).

Student Local Board Member

There are statutes that establish which local boards must have a student member and which also define the voting rights of the student member(s) of those local boards. Only three local boards are not statutorily mandated to have student members – Kent County, Somerset County, and Wicomico County. All the others have one or two statutorily mandated student members, most of whom are non-voting members who may not attend executive sessions unless invited by majority vote of the board. In Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County, Montgomery County, and Prince George’s County, the student member(s) may vote except on certain matters listed in the statute. I have attached here a list of statutes and the voting rights of the student member(s) of each board.

Details:

Md. Educ. Code Ann §3-108 (updated August 14, 2017)

APPOINTED BOARDS

§3-110(a)&(d)

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

- one student member;
- does not specify what student may or may not vote on.

§3-108.1(c)(3)&(l)

BALTIMORE CITY *Education § 3-108.1*

- student may vote but not on personnel matters; capital and operating budgets; school closing and reopening and boundaries; collective bargaining; and student disciplinary matters.
- the student may not attend executive or special sessions.

ELECTED BOARDS

§3-201(b)&(f)

ALLEGANY COUNTY

- the student is a nonvoting member of the board.

§3-2A-05

BALTIMORE COUNTY

- the student may vote but not on collective bargaining; capital and operating budgets; and school closings, reopening, and boundaries;
- unless invited by a vote of the majority of the board, a student may not attend an executive session that relates to hearings on appeals of special education placement; hearings on teacher discipline or termination; collective bargaining.

§3-301(a)&(h)

CALVERT COUNTY

- one nonvoting student member of the board;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote of the board.

§3-3A-02(a)(2)&(f)

CAROLINE COUNTY

- there are two nonvoting student members of the board, one from each high school.

§3-401(a)(2)&(f)

CARROLL COUNTY

- one nonvoting student member;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote of the board;

§3-4A-01(a)&(f)

CECIL COUNTY

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- one nonvoting student member of the board;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote of the board

§3-501(a)(2)&(g)

CHARLES COUNTY

- the student is a nonvoting member of the board, but may indicate a preference for or against any question;
- unless invited by a vote of the majority of the board, the student member may not attend an executive session that relates to hearings on appeals of special education placement; hearings on teacher discipline or termination; collective bargaining.

§3-5A-01(a)(2)&(g)

DORCHESTER COUNTY

- one student nonvoting member of the board from each high school;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote.

§3-5B-01(a)(2)&(e)

FREDERICK COUNTY

- the student is a nonvoting member of the board;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote of the board.

§3-601(b)(3)&(f)

GARRETT COUNTY

- the student is a nonvoting member of the board;
- may not attend executive session.

§3-6A-01(b)(4)&(g)

HARFORD COUNTY

- one student voting member except for:
 1. Geographical attendance areas under §4-109 of this article;
 2. Acquisition and disposition of real property and matters pertaining to school construction under §4-115 of this article;
 3. Employment of architects under §4-117 of this article;
 4. Donations under §4-118 of this article;
 5. Condemnation under §4-119 of this article;
 6. Consolidation of schools and transportation of students under §4-120 of this article;
 7. Appointment and salary of a county superintendent under §§4-201 and 4-202 of this article;
 8. Employee discipline and other appeals under §4-205(c) of this article;
 9. Budgetary matters under Title 5 of this article;
 10. Appointment and promotion of staff under §6-201 of this article;
 11. Discipline of certificated staff under §6-202 of this article;
 12. Collective bargaining for certificated employees under Title 6, Subtitle 4 of this article;
 13. Collective bargaining for noncertificated employees under Title 6, Subtitle 5 of this article;
 14. Student suspension and expulsion under §7-305 of this article;
 15. School calendar and curriculum. (2009, ch. 745, §2; ch. 746, §2; 2012, ch. 66, §6; ch. 91).
- may not attend executive session related to any matter in 1-15 above unless invited by majority vote.

§3-701(a)&(e)(7)

HOWARD COUNTY

- the student member may vote except for:
 1. geographical attendance areas;
 2. acquisition and disposition of real property (school construction);
 3. employment of architects;
 4. donations;
 5. condemnation;
 6. consolidation of schools and transportation of students;
 7. appointment and salary of county superintendent;
 8. employee discipline and other appeals;
 9. budgetary matters;
 10. appointment and promotion of staff;
 11. discipline of certificated staff;
 12. collective bargaining for certificate employees; and
 13. collective bargaining for non-certificated employees.
- may not attend executive session related to matters in 1-13 above unless invited by majority vote.

§3-801

KENT COUNTY

- does not address the issue of student members.

§3-901(b)(3)&(e)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

- the student member may vote but not on:
 - negative personnel action related specifically and only to 6-202(a) immorality

§3-1002(b)(3)&(g)(2)

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

- the student member may vote but not on:
 - (i) capital and operating budgets;
 - (ii) school closings, reopening and boundaries;
 - (iii) collective bargaining;
 - (iv) student disciplinary matters;
 - (v) certificated personnel disciplinary matters; and
 - (vi) other personnel matters
- may not attend executive session relating to appeals of special education placements, hearings, or discipline or termination of certificated personnel or collective bargaining unless invited by majority vote.

§3-10A-01(a)(2)&(c)(3)

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

- one nonvoting student member from each high school;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote.

§3-1101(b)(3)

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

- the student is a nonvoting member of the board.

§3-1201

SOMERSET COUNTY

- does not address the issue of student members.

§3-12A-01(a)(2)&
§3-12A-06

TALBOT COUNTY

- two student nonvoting members, one from each high school;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote.

§3-1301

WASHINGTON COUNTY

- does not address the issue of student members.

§3-13A-01

WICOMICO COUNTY

- does not address the issue of student members.

§3-1401(a)&(h)

WORCESTER COUNTY

- one nonvoting student member from each high school;
- may not attend executive session unless invited by majority vote.