

ONTARIO STUDENT TRUSTEES'
ASSOCIATION

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L'ASSOCIATION DES ÉLÈVES
CONSEILLERS ET CON-
SEILLÈRES DE L'ONTARIO

By-laws Document – Public Board Council
Amended: February 2015

- 1.1 The Public Board Council is a subsidiary of OSTA-AECO and is comprised of all public student trustees in the province of Ontario. *(It provides a forum for public student trustees to communicate with their peers across the province regarding topics relevant to the public students of Ontario.)*

Article II – Mission Statement

- 2.1 The objective of the Public Board Council is to effectively provide a united student voice to support public education in Ontario and to continue to advocate for the success of public education.

Article III – Composition

- 3.1 The elected members that compose the Public Board Council Cabinet shall be:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-President
 - c. Communications Officer
 - d. Secretary
- 3.2 Five (5) Representatives, representing the Southwestern, Golden Horseshoe, Eastern, and Northern regions, as well as the Public French language boards.
- 3.3 All Student Trustees of Public School Boards shall be part of the Public Board Council.

Article IV – Meetings

- 4.1 The Public Board Council shall meet at least three (3) times every year.
- 4.2 The agenda for each meeting shall be distributed in both official languages to all members of the Public Board Council a minimum of five (5) days prior to the meeting date.
- 4.3 Quorum shall be at least fifty percent (50%) of all regularly attending Boards, where regular Boards are defined as those who have at least one student trustee attending a minimum of one meeting per month.
- 4.4 A majority vote (50% + 1) of the board council shall determine all matters except constitutional amendments, which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority.

- 5.1 Shall be responsible for communicating with Representatives and the Student Trustees under their respective regions to ensure they are fulfilling the responsibilities of their position.
- 5.2 Shall sit on the Senior Executive Council of OSTA-AECO.
- 5.3 Shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of the Public Board Council, or delegating them respectively to Public Board Council members.
- 5.4 Shall be responsible for monitoring all Public Board Student Trustees to ensure that they are fulfilling the responsibilities of their position.
- 5.5 Shall be the official spokesperson of the Public Board Council
- 5.6 Shall advise and consult frequently with the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA), and other stakeholders in education.

Vice-President

- 5.7 Shall carry out the duties of the President in the absence of the President and shall assume the office of the President should the President cease to be eligible or unable to fulfill his/her mandate.
- 5.8 Shall act as Vice-Chair for all meetings of the Public Board Council and Public Board Council Cabinet, or as chair when appointed by the Public Board Council President.
- 5.9 Shall supervise the planning of Public Board Council related events and shall communicate regularly with the President and Cabinet regarding these plans.
- 5.10 May be invited to attend Public Board Council meetings at the discretion of the Public School Board, and at no cost to OSTA-AECO.
- 5.11 Shall sit on the Senior Executive Council of OSTA-AECO.

Communications Officer

- 5.12 Shall present an annual report on an issue of significance to public education and its students at AGM, following Public Board Council approval.
- 5.13 Shall be responsible for taking minutes during the Public Board Council meetings if the secretary is absent.

Secretary

- 5.15 Shall take minutes at all meetings of the Public Board Council.
- 5.16 Shall distribute the minutes to all Public School Board Student Trustees no later than five (5) days after the Board Council meeting.
- 5.17 Shall be responsible for distributing the agenda for upcoming meetings to all members of the Public Board Council a minimum of five (5) days prior to the meeting
- 5.18 Shall work with the French Relations Officer to translate all Public Board Council agendas and minutes to French upon request.
- 5.19 Shall keep an accurate record of the agendas and minutes of all meetings of the Public Board Council and the Public Board Council Cabinet and shall make available minutes to the public upon request.
- 5.20 Shall take attendance at every Public Board Council and Public Board Council Cabinet Meeting
- 5.21 Shall notify the Public Board Council and Public Board Cabinet of all upcoming meetings
- 5.22 Shall keep an up-to-date contact list of all Public Student Trustee in the province including a preferred phone number and email address.

Representatives

- 5.23 There shall be five (5) Regional Representatives (abbreviated as Rep).
 - a. The Southwestern Rep will be responsible for:
 - a. Avon-Maitland DSB
 - b. Bluewater DSB
 - c. Lambton-Kent DSB
 - d. Grand Erie DSB
 - e. Waterloo Region DSB
 - f. Thames Valley DSB
 - g. Simcoe County DSB
 - h. Upper Grand DSB
 - i. Greater Essex County DSB
 - b. The Golden Horseshoe Rep will be responsible for:

- d. Toronto DSB
- e. Durham DSB
- f. DSB of Niagara
- g. York Region DSB

- c. The Northern Rep will be responsible for:
 - a. Near North DSB
 - b. Patricia-Keewatin DSB
 - c. Superior-Greenstone DSB
 - d. Algoma DSB
 - e. Rainbow DSB
 - f. Rainy River DSB
 - g. District School Board Ontario North East
 - h. Lakehead DSB

- d. The Eastern Rep will be responsible for:
 - a. Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB
 - b. Trillium Lakelands DSB
 - c. Ottawa-Carleton DSB
 - d. Upper Canada DSB
 - e. Limestone DSB
 - f. Renfrew Country DSB
 - g. Hastings and Prince Edward DSB

- e. The Public French Language Representative will be responsible for:
 - a. Conseil scolaire Viamonde
 - b. Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario
 - c. Conseil scolaire public de district du Nord-Est de l'Ontario
 - b. Conseil scolaire du district du Grand Nord de l'Ontario

- 5.24 Shall be responsible for contacting all student trustees within the board they represent.

- 5.25 Shall be responsible for maintaining an up to date contact list of all Student Trustees within the regions they represent.

- 5.26 In case of the inability or refusal to act or fulfill his/her duties of a PBC Cabinet member, the Cabinet shall select a temporary replacement from applicants from the PBC membership. The new Cabinet member shall continue to occupy the position until such time as the Cabinet approves the

- 5.28 Regional Reps are members of the Public Board Council Cabinet
- 5.29 May be invited to attend Public Board Council meetings at the discretion of their Public School Board, and at no cost to OSTA-AECO.

Article VI – Election of Cabinet

The Election Chairs

- 6.1 Shall be the incumbent President of the Public Board Council.
- 6.2 A member of the previous serving Public Board Council Cabinet shall act as Chair for each Regional Representative election.

Nominations

- 6.3 The Election Chair shall oversee the nomination process.
- 6.4 The Election Chair shall open the floor for nominations. At this time a school board may nominate a candidate.
- 6.5 The Election Chair shall then close the floor to nominations. At this time, the nominated candidates shall accept or decline his/her nomination.

Speeches

- 6.6 All nominated candidates may make a speech up to one (1) minute in length.

Voting

- 6.7 Each District School Board present shall be entitled to one (1) vote per District School Board for all motions and election(s) of Cabinet Members.
- 6.8 All boards represented at the election session may be eligible to vote for the Regional Representative in their region and all boards present may vote for other Cabinet positions.
- 6.9 The elected candidate must receive a majority vote (50% + 1) of the votes cast. If no candidates receive a majority of the votes, a second vote will be held and the candidate with the fewest votes shall be dropped from the bal-

determine who the vote is for.

- 6.11 If there is only one (1) candidate for a position, the candidate must receive a vote of confidence from the General Assembly in order for the candidate to take office.
- 6.12 If a candidate cannot be chosen, the Election Chair may be instructed by the voting members in said region to motion to open the voting to the incumbent Senior Executive Council.

Article VII – Amendments to the By-laws Document

- 7.1 Amendments to the Public Board Council’s By-laws Document may be made at a meeting of the Public Board Council at an OSTA-AECO Annual General Meetings, Fall General Meetings, or the Board Council Conferences at the request of any member of the Public Board Council.