

AP 316 – District Student Council

Purpose

In support of the development of citizenship skills, which involve students in decision-making, leadership and advocacy, Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools endorses the establishment of a District Student Council.

The purpose of the District Student Council will be three fold:

1. To enhance leadership and communication skills, fostering recognition and respect for the responsibilities and benefits of broad based decision-making.
2. To provide a forum for discussion of issues which connect student representatives from all secondary schools, valuing student perspective and providing experience in democratic decision-making.
3. To facilitate student input and/or feedback to the Management Team and to the Board.

Procedure

1. The Superintendent or his designate will provide leadership to the District Student Council.
2. The District Student Council will consist of two representatives from each secondary school, including VAST and the K-12 distributed learning school. Schools will be asked to forward their representatives to the District Council at the beginning of each year.
3. Staff sponsors will be encouraged to accompany student representatives to meetings of the District Student Council.
4. Meetings may be held on a monthly/bi-monthly basis.
5. The role of the Chair shall be rotated by school, encouraging the development of group organization, leadership skills and group facilitation.
6. Agenda items will be developed in co-operation with a District staff person and an agenda
7. Student representatives will be expected to report back to their schools using minutes of meetings and oral reports. The Council will report to the Board or to the Education Committee, as appropriate.

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8. All members of the District Student Council will be provided with workshops/training in leadership skills such as agenda setting, Robert's Rules, consensus building, public speaking and problem solving.

Adopted: February 23, 2002