

Public Board Meeting

January 15, 2025 Decision Memo Item #13

From: Gabriel Liosis, Trustee

Topic: Trustee Motion: Student Voice Working Group

BACKGROUND

At the 2024 AGM, the following resolution was approved by the membership:

"That the BCSTA develop a process for the inclusion of non-voting student delegates at BCSTA Annual General Meetings, and that a report on progress be provided by the 2025 Annual General Meeting."

Through consultation with the provincial council and board chairs survey, member-boards identified significant logistical and operational challenges in implementing such a process.

Consequently, the board of directors recommended to the membership that a non-voting student delegate structure is unfeasible at this time.

While there was limited support for including students as non-voting delegates at AGMs, trustees expressed a strong interest in having the BCSTA support boards of education in strengthening student voice initiatives within their own districts.

This resolution seeks to address that interest by identifying best practices across all school districts and equipping boards with the necessary resources to enhance student engagement.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve the following motion for submission to the 2025 B.C. School Trustees Association Annual General Meeting:

"THAT the BCSTA establish an ad-hoc working group to conduct an environmental scan of best practices for incorporating Student Voice in board governance across all school districts and develop resources to support boards of education in building capacity within their student voice structures."