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### 1.0 Student Trustee (Ed. Code, § 72023.5)

- 1.1 In accordance with the Education Code, the Los Rios Community College District Board of Trustees shall include within its membership, in addition to the number of members otherwise prescribed, a non-voting student as Student Trustee.
- 1.2 The term of the Student Trustee shall be one (1) year commencing on June 1 of each year.

### 2.0 Qualifications for Student Trustee (Ed. Code, § 72023.5)

- 2.1 A Student Trustee shall be required at the time he or she submits his or her petition for nomination and throughout the term of his or her appointment to:
  - 2.1.1 Be a California resident;
  - 2.1.2 Be enrolled in and maintain at least five (5) semester units at one or more of the Colleges of the Los Rios Community College District;
  - 2.1.3 Be a student in good standing and not be on academic probation.
- 2.2 During his or her lifetime, no student shall serve more than a single term as the Student Trustee.
- 2.3 The position of Student Trustee shall not be used for Cooperative Work Experience Education.

### 3.0 Election

- 3.1 A District-wide student election shall be held to select the Student Trustee.
- 3.2 It is the intent of the Board of Trustees that the election for the Student Trustee shall be held in accordance with all of the following principles:
  - 3.2.1 The election shall be a learning experience about representative democracy, free and fair elections and voting.
  - 3.2.2 The election shall be fundamentally fair.
  - 3.2.3 The election shall uniformly enfranchise eligible voters with elections open to students.
  - 3.2.4 The election shall be based on the universal suffrage principle of “one person – one vote.”
  - 3.2.5 The election shall preserve the confidentiality of the ballot.
  - 3.2.6 The election process shall provide for the adequate distribution and display of comprehensive campaign information to all eligible voters.

- 3.3 This election will be run and paid for by the student associations at each College and coordinated by the Student Advisory Committee and the Vice President of Student Services, or designee, at each campus. The elections shall be subject to the direction and supervision of the Vice Chancellor of Education and Technology, or designee.
- 3.4 The Student Trustee shall be elected at large by plurality vote of the voting students in all Colleges of the District.
- 3.5 The Board of Trustees retains oversight over the Student Trustee election and may direct the Chancellor, or designee, to investigate any election irregularities. In the event the Chancellor or designee concludes there was a material irregularity in the election, the Chancellor or designee may:
  - 3.5.1 Validate the election;
  - 3.5.2 Invalidate the election and require a re-election;
  - 3.5.3 Validate the election by excluding votes from a polling place where the irregularity occurred; or
  - 3.5.4 Make any other determination that fairness requires.

#### 4.0 Recall

- 4.1 A majority of Student Body Association Senates (at least 3 out of 4) that have each recorded a three-quarter (3/4) majority vote within their respective bodies shall be required to enact a recall election for the position of Student Trustee.
- 4.2 Recall shall be initiated for just cause only, including but not limited to illegal or unethical behavior while acting as a representative of the students of the Los Rios Community College District; being unresponsive, or acting contrary to the interests and welfare of the students of the District; disregarding the expressed intentions of the Student Body Association and each of its components and the District Student Advisory Committee; or not maintaining the qualifications of the Student Trustee.
- 4.3 The recall election shall begin no later than fourteen (14) days after the Vice Chancellor of Education and Technology declares the requirements to enact the recall have been fulfilled and shall comply with the requirements of Section 3.0 above.

#### 5.0 Student Trustee Vacancy

##### 5.1 Definition of Vacancy

- 5.1.1 If no student trustee has been elected as of May 31 of each year, the Student Trustee seat shall become vacant on June 1 of that year.
- 5.1.2 If a Student Trustee has two (2) consecutive unexcused absences from Board meetings, the Student Trustee seat shall become vacant. Absences may be excused using the same procedure applicable to other trustees.

- 5.1.3 In the event that a Student Trustee is unable to complete his/her term, the Student Trustee seat shall become vacant.
- 5.1.4 If the Student Trustee fails to meet the qualifications to hold office at any time, the Student Trustee seat shall immediately become vacant.
- 5.1.5 If the Student Trustee is recalled, the Student Trustee seat shall become vacant.

## 5.2 Procedures for Filling Vacancies

- 5.2.1 If the Student Advisory Committee is required to select the Student Trustee in the event of a vacancy, the Student Advisory Committee shall elect the new Student Trustee according to the following procedures:
- 5.2.2 Voting members of the Student Advisory Committee for this purpose shall consist of the College student association Student Senate presidents, or designees. In the event that a voting member of the Student Advisory Committee is also a candidate for Student Trustee, the College's respective student association Student Senate officers shall select a designee to replace this individual for the purposes of the Student Trustee election.
- 5.2.3 In the event of an election that has been invalidated, the pool of qualified and vetted candidates from which the Student Advisory Committee may elect the Student Trustee shall be those candidates who qualified for the Student Trustee election and appeared in the ballot, excluding any subsequently disqualified candidate.
- 5.2.4 In all cases not concerning invalidated elections, the pool of qualified and vetted candidates from which the Student Advisory Committee may elect the Student Trustee shall be the candidates that (a) meet the qualifications for Student Trustee described in Policy P-3122, Section 2.1; and (b) have filed a valid, recent nominating petition with either (i) at least fifty (50) signatures of currently enrolled Los Rios students, or (ii) a resolution endorsing the candidate by a College's student association Student Senate. Each College student association Student Senate may endorse only a single candidate. A petition will be considered recent if it has been filed within six (6) months of the announced election date.
- 5.2.5 The Student Advisory Committee in collaboration with the Vice Chancellor of Education and Technology, or designee, shall select a student trustee vacancy election date between two and three weeks after a declared vacancy.
- 5.2.6 Upon the declaration of a vacancy, a request for candidates, an explanation of the qualifications and vetting process, and the date of the Student Trustee vacancy election will be widely distributed to all Los Rios students. Petitions shall be available at each campus at the Student Activities Office immediately upon the announcement of a vacancy.

- 5.2.7 On the day of the election, each qualified and vetted candidate shall be given an opportunity to present their qualifications to the Student Advisory Committee. The Student Advisory Committee shall have the right to fix such time limits on presentations as it deems appropriate.
- 5.2.8 Voting shall be accomplished by a series of ballots during a meeting open to the public.
- 5.2.9 In the first ballot, each Student Advisory Committee member shall vote for a single candidate. If a candidate secures a majority of the votes in this initial ballot, that candidate shall be selected as the Student Trustee.
- 5.2.10 If no candidate receives a majority of the votes after the first ballot, then any candidate who received no votes shall be excluded from further consideration and a second ballot shall be cast in accordance with section 5.2.9.
- 5.2.11 If no candidate receives a majority after the second ballot, then preference voting shall be used. In this case, each voting Student Advisory Committee member shall rank each of the remaining candidates on his or her ballot. When counted, the top candidate on each ballot receives four votes, the second candidate receives three votes, the third candidate receives two votes, and the fourth candidate receives one vote. The votes are then totaled and the candidate with the highest weighted ranking (i.e. the most total votes) shall be selected as the Student Trustee.
- 5.2.12 In the event of a tie after the preference vote, the Student Trustee shall be selected as the Student Trustee by lot from the candidates involved in the tie.

## 6.0 Regulations

- 6.1 The Chancellor shall develop Administrative Regulations to implement this policy.

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