



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0023
TEL: (207) 624-6616

MEMORANDUM

TO: First Congressional District High School Principals.

FROM: Fern M.Y. Desjardins, Chair
Maine State Board of Education

DATE: March 1, 2023

RE: Applications for Student Members to the State Board of Education

The Maine State Board of Education is extending the application period to receive applications from students who are interested in possible appointment as a new student board member. This year we are accepting applications from students who attend public school in the First Congressional District. The student applicant must be a current sophomore in good standing. The deadline for applications is now Friday March 10, 2023. Application materials were mailed to you earlier this month and have been attached to this email.

Student members serve on the Maine State Board of Education as members with voice but no vote. The Board will expect student members to have all the responsibilities and privileges of regular Board members. The responsibilities include: being informed about current education issues, carefully preparing for regular monthly meetings, with the support of the Department planning and facilitating Maine Department of Education Student Cabinet meetings, and participating actively in the discussions of the Board. The State Board has daylong meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. Other Board work is available according to the preferences of Board members. The privileges include: a per diem of \$55.00 per day, mileage reimbursement, and an extraordinary opportunity to practice civic engagement while serving as both a representative of Maine students and an active Maine education leader.

The State Board believes that strong student voices enrich our work and the educational community in Maine. We certainly appreciate your role in this endeavor and in helping us move forward on this sixteenth year of student membership. Could you please let your

students know about this opportunity and make copies of the application materials available to interested students in your school?

Students and parents should be aware that the content of applications received becomes available to the public upon request. The State Board of Education works in cooperation with the Office of the Governor to bring a nomination to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The nomination process includes a review of applications and semi-finalist interviews with the names of three finalists sent to the Office of the Governor in late March or early April.

Again, please note that the deadline for our receipt of the application and accompanying materials has been extended to March 10, 2023. Completed applications, hard copy or digital, should be sent to Sandra Bourget, Maine State Board of Education, 23 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0023 and received by the end of the day, Friday, March 10, 2023. The email address is sandra.a.bourget@maine.gov. All materials and additional information about the State Board of Education are available on the State Board of Education web page <https://www.maine.gov/doe/about/leadership/stateboard/student> or by contacting Sandra Bourget, Board Assistant at 624-6616 or email at sandra.a.bourget@maine.gov.

Once applications are received, they are considered by a process described in Maine Education and School Statutes, Title 20-A, Chapter 5, State Board of Education. This Chapter also describes the roles and responsibilities of the State Board.

Thank you for your role in making student membership on the State Board of Education a success.

Enclosures:

Student Member Application Form
Parent/Guardian Support Statement
School Support Agreement
Student Member Job Description
History and Steps to the State Board of Education