



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

MEMORANDUM

TO: Second Congressional District High School Principals, CTE Directors, and Guidance Counselors

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

DATE: January 10, 2024

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

It is time for the Maine State Board of Education to open the application process that will end with the appointment of a new student member. This year we are accepting applications from students who attend public school in the Second Congressional District. The student applicant must be a current sophomore in good standing.

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 seventeenth year of student membership. We ask that you make copies of the enclosed application form 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. This year as we work 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 will be as follows:

- February 16, 2024 – Applications accepted no later than this date
- February 2024 – Review of Applications
- March 2024 – Semi-Finalists are invited to an interview
- March 2024 – Interviews
- March 2024 – Names of three finalists sent to the Office of the Governor

Please note that the deadline for our receipt of the application and accompanying materials is February 16, 2024. 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, February 16, 2024. 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 Office Specialist 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
SBE Student Poster