

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 960

Introduced by McKinney, 11.

Read first time January 12, 2026

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to provide for and require student
- 2 school board members as prescribed; to state an intent; to define
- 3 terms; to provide for the selection and terms of student school
- 4 board members; to provide powers and duties for student school board
- 5 members; and to provide duties for school boards.
- 6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 **Section 1.** It is the intent of the Legislature to promote civic
2 engagement leadership development, and student voice by providing for
3 student members on school boards.

4 **Sec. 2.** For purposes of sections 1 to 5 of this act:

5 (1) High school means a school operated by a school district to
6 educate students in at least grades ten through twelve and from which
7 such students may graduate;

8 (2) School board has the same meaning as in section 79-101;

9 (3) School district has the same meaning as in section 79-101; and

10 (4) Student school board member means a high school student duly
11 selected pursuant to section 3 of this act to serve as a nonvoting member
12 of a school board in an advisory capacity.

13 **Sec. 3.** (1) Each school board shall include student school board
14 members on the school board in a number equal to the number of elected
15 school board members on such school board.

16 (2) Student school board members shall be selected from high schools
17 in the school district as follows:

18 (a) If the school district has only one high school, all student
19 school board members shall be selected from the high school;

20 (b) If the number of high schools operated by the school district
21 equals the number of elected school board members, one student from each
22 high school shall be selected as a student school board member; and

23 (c) For all other school districts, the school board shall adopt
24 procedures for determining which high schools will have a student
25 selected as a school board member for each school year such that the same
26 number of student school board members are selected from each high school
27 over a designated period of years.

28 (3) Each school board shall adopt procedures to select student
29 school board members from the high schools determined pursuant to
30 subsection (2) of this section. The selection procedures may include, but
31 are not limited to, student elections, principal nominations, or

1 applications and interviews. Any student selected to serve as a student
2 school board member shall, at the beginning of the student's term as a
3 student school board member, be enrolled in good standing in grade ten,
4 eleven, or twelve at the high school from which the student was selected.

5 (4) Each student school board member shall serve a one-year term.
6 Each school board shall determine if, and in what circumstances, a
7 student may serve more than one term as a student school board member and
8 shall determine the beginning date of the term for the initial student
9 school board members except that such date shall be no later than the
10 first day of the 2027-28 school year.

11 **Sec. 4.** (1) Each student school board member shall:

12 (a) Attend all public meetings of the school board;

13 (b) Receive meeting materials and agendas for all public meetings of
14 the school board;

15 (c) Be seated with the school board at all public meetings of the
16 school board and be included in all public discussions of the school
17 board;

18 (d) Serve as a liaison between the student body and the school
19 board; and

20 (e) Be permitted to introduce and advocate for agenda items except
21 that a school board may, as part of the school board's policies and
22 procedures, require sponsorship from an elected school board member for
23 the introduction of an agenda item.

24 (2) No student school board member shall:

25 (a) Vote on matters before the school board;

26 (b) Attend or participate in closed or executive sessions of the
27 school board; or

28 (c) Access confidential student, personnel, or legal information.

29 **Sec. 5.** On or before January 1, 2027, each school board shall adopt
30 policies and procedures for student school board members to serve on the
31 school board in accordance with sections 1 to 5 of this act. Such

1 policies and procedures may also include, but are not limited to,
2 provisions for training, transportation, recognition, and evaluation of
3 student board members.