

Representing Your Class:

Student Council Representatives

Take a minute to think about the word representative. It is a form of the word represent, which means to act for another person or a group of people who have elected you.

The Student Council Representatives Job

Your main responsibility is to act on behalf of the students who elected you. This means that at every Student Council meeting, you must vote the way your classmates (those who elected you) ask you to vote. You will find out how they want you to vote during class meetings when you discuss topics the Student Council is considering and hear their ideas.

Class Meetings

You will want to schedule regular meetings with your class shortly before and after each Student Council meeting. Check with your teacher to decide on the best meeting times. When you meet with your class, talk with them about their ideas, ask them about issues the Student Council may be voting on, and let them know what actions the Student Council plans to take.

Understanding Majority Rule

It is important to understand that your classmates will not always agree on certain issues. For example, part of the class may want you to vote for a new dessert in the cafeteria, while part of the class may want you to vote against it. It is your responsibility as a representative to take a vote at a class meeting to find out what the majority of students want.



Top 10 Tips for Successfully Representing Your Class

1. Attend all meetings and be on time.
2. Listen carefully and think about all ideas and discussions.
3. Take notes and keep good records so you can report to your class.
4. Speak up when you have an idea to present or a comment to make.
5. Finish all projects on time.
6. Report to your class regularly.
7. Listen to the concerns of students outside your class.
8. Learn and follow the rules of parliamentary procedure.
9. Keep an open mind about new ideas.
10. Never make fun of others' ideas.