

## **Breaking Bearriers Student Board Election Rules**

### **(Approved on 8/13/2025)**

#### **Student Board Structure:**

- ☐ Co President: Two positions
- ☐ Vice President: One position
- ☐ Secretary: One position
- ☐ Treasurer: One position
- ☐ Publicity Officer: Two positions
- ☐ Information Technology Officer: One position
- ☐ Additionally, the student board may create non-board positions to retain/recruit candidates who make significant contribution to the club but are not elected to the student board

#### **Candidate Eligibility:**

- ☐ Must be enrolled in high school in the next school year
- ☐ Must be a Breaking Bearriers member for at least **ONE** year
- ☐ Must participate in at least **FOUR** student board meetings in the past 12 months (June of the previous year to May of the current year; the May meetings will be counted toward eligibility)
- ☐ Incumbent board members must have attended **SIX** student board meetings in the past 12 months
- ☐ Must participate in at least **THREE** Breaking Bearriers Projects OR lead/Co-lead at least **ONE** Breaking Bearriers Project in the past 12 months
- ☐ Must earn at least **TEN** hours of volunteer services within Breaking Bearriers Club
- ☐ Candidates running for the Co-President and Vice President positions must have served on the student board for at least one term
- ☐ Per club bylaws: “parents of club students seeking to run for the Co-Presidents and Vice President positions must serve on the board for at least one term unless there are at least eight directors on the board or there are reasonable conditions preventing them from serving.”
- ☐ The student and adult boards may appoint candidates whenever necessary, for example when there is no candidate runs for a particular position; Such candidates may not meet all the eligibility criteria but are determined by the student and adult boards that they make consistent contributions to the club

#### **Voter Eligibility:**

- ☐ Must be a Breaking Bearriers member for at least **THREE** months
- ☐ Must serve as a volunteer in at least **ONE** Breaking Bearriers Project in the past 12 months

- ☐ Must earn at least **TWO** hours of volunteer services within Breaking Bearriers Club in the past 12 months
- ☐ Members must be **TWELVE** years old or older
- ☐ **Members who graduated high school are not eligible to vote**

#### **Election Procedures:**

- The student and adult boards will do their best to ensure a fair and rule-guided election.
- Elections are conducted in May each year; Board transition occurs in June.
- The candidate may run for a 1st choice position and a 2nd choice position. Candidates will appear in both positions
- The candidacy form will be open for one week to accept applications.
- Voting will be open for one week. During the voting period, no information regarding the number of votes for each candidate—or any related details—should be disclosed to anyone inside or outside the club, especially individuals with a potential conflict of interest, such as the candidates themselves or the adult board directors.
- After the voting period ends, ballots must be verified by the student Co-Presidents, Student Vice President and the adult board President and Co-President:
  - Student Co-Presidents will individually verify each vote and keep a log of all votes that are dismissed
  - Student Co-Presidents will submit this log for the adult board President to audit
- Election results must be announced within 48 hours after the ballots are closed.
- Once announced, election results are final and cannot be contested

#### **Winning rules:**

- A **ranked-choice voting** system (RCV) is used in the election
- All candidates are first considered for their **first-choice position**. Candidate(s) with the leading votes win the position.
- If a candidate **wins** their first-choice race, they are removed from consideration for any second-choice positions.
- If a candidate **does not win** their first-choice position, then their candidacy for the **second-choice position** is activated. They are then included in the vote count or ballot for the second-choice position. However, only the votes the candidates receive in the second-choice position are counted.
- Second-choice votes may be counted only after the results of the first-choice elections are finalized.
- A candidate may not be elected to more than one board position. If a candidate wins both their first- and second-choice positions due to vote counts, they will assume only the first-choice role, and the runner-up for the second-choice position will be offered the role.