

STUDENT COUNCIL

Members of a student council

A **student council** (also known as a **student union** or **associated student body**) is a curricular or extracurricular activity for students within elementary and secondary schools around the world. These councils are present in most public and private K-12 school systems across the United States, Canada, Greece, Australia and Asia. Student councils often serve to engage students in learning about democracy and leadership, as originally espoused by John Dewey in *Democracy and Education* (1917).

Function

The student council helps share students' ideas, interests, and concerns with teachers and school principals. They often also help raise funds for school-wide activities, including social events, community projects, helping people in need and school reform. Most schools participate in food drives and parties. Many members learn skills that were an extension of their formal education.

In elementary schools, there are typically one or two student representatives per classroom and one presiding set of officers. However, many secondary schools have one set of officers per grade level.

In some schools, a student council representative is assigned to each class. That person passes on requests, ideas and complaints from students in that class to the student council. In other schools, the elected students are automatically members of the student council.

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In India, student councils have been introduced in almost all Private and Public Schools.

Student councils in India may be elected, nominated or selected after interview (or written examination or both).