

## News release May 27, 2016

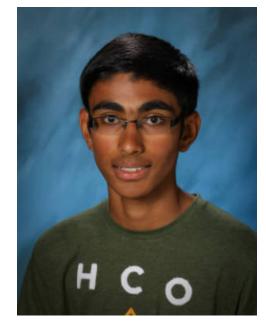
## Jackson High's Dhruvik Parikh is new school board student rep

Parikh selected to fill the seat vacated when student rep Scott Pease graduates in June

In September the school board will have a new member – the latest in a series of student representatives whose voice, if not vote, weighs in on district governance issues. Although Dhruvik Parikh's term as a student representative to the board will begin in September, he was introduced to the rest of the board on Tuesday evening.

Henry M. Jackson High School sophomore Parikh will step into the seat held by Scott Pease of Cascade High School who graduates in June. Parikh will hold the position during his junior and senior years until he graduates.

In his application for the position, Parikh wrote that he wishes to work to make STEM education a priority and help every student, regardless of challenges, graduate from high school. He believes



this work is done by helping every student feel connected to the administration and school community.

The district added student representatives as non-voting, advisory members in 2011. The <u>policy</u> and <u>procedure</u> for such selection outlines two-year terms for student members. To be selected as a student representative, students apply and undergo an interview process to be chosen by a selection committee. To ensure each district high school is represented over time, the representatives come from a different high school on a rotating basis.

Board members are enthusiastic about having students at the dais. "What better way to have our number one customer 'at the table' when we make decisions?" said Board President Ted Wenta. "I've watched these young men and women during meetings and in public sessions with other students and adults. They are articulate, thoughtful, so very wise and solidly credible. It is a pleasure to work with such stellar examples of our future leaders."

## For more information:

Mary Waggoner, Director of Communications, 425-385-4040