



DRAFT

## ACWA Board of Directors Student Positions

*In fall of 2022, ACWA Board of Directors created the opportunity for young people to become involved with the administration of the organization through the establishment of a limited number of Student Board member positions. Student candidates are to be in 8<sup>th</sup> grade or higher. These positions are 1-year terms and are renewable until the student turns 18 years of age.*

### **Purposes of Student Representation**

- Students bring a new perspective to ACWA ideas and programs.
- Viewpoints and ideas of students are essential because most ACWA programs rely on youth volunteers and participation.
- Students and adults obtain a better understanding and appreciation of one another by working side by side on goal-related projects.
- Students gain leadership skills, such as goal-setting, decision-making, team building and conflict resolution while enhancing their own personal growth and development.
- Students obtain community service opportunities for high school credit. ACWA involvement is an excellent addition to any college or job application.
- Students are introduced to the legislative process and the importance of advocating for a cause.
- Student voices can be heard by adults and it is important for students to learn to use their voices for advocacy.

### **Student Responsibilities**

- Become a member of ACWA upon payment of membership dues.
- Attend ACWA meetings.
- Practice effective positive communication skills. Help create an atmosphere of mutual respect between students and adults in order to communicate the needs, desires and concerns of fellow students.
- Interact with peers and other school organizations/clubs to encourage participation in ACWA programs and activities.
- Represent ACWA at school and civic meetings, wherever student input is needed or requested.
- Show other students how ACWA activities benefit the whole community and the environment at large.