

Student Council Guidelines

Student leadership development is the process of involving students in meaningful ways both in and beyond the classroom. It is providing opportunities for students to demonstrate their talents, skills, and interests while continuing to develop new skills. It is also about giving students more ownership of the programs they attend.

It is important that there is a clearly defined purpose of the student council. Here is a list of some responsibilities of the council members:

- To give input about program policies
- To plan special events or projects
- To fundraise for student activities or the program in general
- To support students
- To give the student body a "voice"
- To socialize with other students
- To work as a team with your peers
- Show positive leadership initiative

We will be having meetings before and after school. The students becoming involved **MUST** be able to meet before and after school because this is when the majority of the meetings take place. The students involved must show respect toward all members on Student Council and work well with others.

- **THIRD GRADE:** One **representative** will be elected from each homeroom
- **FOURTH GRADE:** One **representative** will be elected from each homeroom
- **FIFTH GRADE:** One **representative** will be elected from each homeroom as well as one **Secretary** and one **Treasurer** from the grade level
- **SIXTH GRADE:** One representative will be elected from each homeroom as well as one **Vice President** and one **President** from the grade level

Fifth Grade Officers:

- **Secretary:** The class secretary keeps accurate record of meetings and student activities, programs, and sessions. You should be organized and like to write if you run for this position.
- **Treasurer:** Are you good with numbers? Interested in bookkeeping or accounting? The treasurer keeps track of funds.

Sixth Grade Officers:

- **President:** The class president normally runs council meetings. You can't be shy if you want to be president! The president may also represent the student body in meetings with school administration members. The president is also responsible for the disbursement of funds.

- **Vice President:** The vice president assists the president in many duties. The vice president also stands in for the president when necessary.

Essentials for Running OFFICERS ONLY

Academics are important and therefore you must have at least a C average to run for Student Council.

- Complete the application in a professional way. No sloppy handwriting or lazy answers. Teachers and advisors will be more supportive if you demonstrate that you are serious.
- You must ask three teachers (current teachers) to sign your application in order to run for a position on Student Council (Officers and Representatives)
- You must have 20 student signatures in order to run.
- Identify a certain problem or policy that is meaningful to your classmates and make it part of your platform. However, be sure not to promise things that are not realistic.
- Create a catchy slogan.
- Find an artistic friend who can help you create publicity material. Why not create postcard-sized ads? Just be sure to follow school rules when it comes to publicity (Officers and Representatives).
- Prepare a campaign speech (Representatives give speeches in their own homeroom and Officers will speak during the assembly on Monday, October 24).
- Remember to play fair. Do not remove, destroy, or cover over other students' posters.

Campaigning

You will have ONE week to campaign for the election. Your only campaign displays may be posters and signs advertising your candidacy. Before displaying any posters, they **MUST** be approved by either Miss Gregory or Mrs. Liber. Below please find the rules and guidelines for all posters and signs. Anyone who does not abide by these rules will be immediately disqualified from the election:

1. All posters must be appropriate and may not harm anyone else involved in the running of office.
2. Posters can be hung above lockers, or on the blank wall space throughout the building. Posters **MAY NOT** be hung on windows in the halls or on doors, bulletin boards, lockers, or vending machines.
3. **Word to the wise:** Use common sense when creating campaign information – if you are not sure what is appropriate and what is not, please ask Miss Gregory. Anything deemed inappropriate will be taken down immediately and will be disqualified. Remember, all posters and hanging items must be approved before being hung up! **A good rule of thumb:** If you think something is inappropriate, it probably is! Be sure to ask if you are unclear.
4. Once you have turned in your permission slips and application, you will be able to begin preparing your speeches. You will be reading your speeches to the student body on **Monday, October 24.**
5. Once the officers have been elected, **ALL POSTERS and SIGNS** must be disposed of by the end of school on **Tuesday, October 25.**