

Student Council Constitution

Article I Aims and Objectives

Section 1. The aims and objectives of the Student Council shall be:

- 1.01. To promote the general welfare of all students of Neshaminy High School.
- 1.02. To provide a mechanism for open communication between students, faculty, administration and community.
- 1.03. To coordinate and promote student activity and to encourage greater participation on the part of the students.

Article II Structure and Organization

Section 1. There will be five senior officers of the Student Council: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Relations Historian.

- 1.01. The President will preside over all meetings, oversee the general activities of the Council, and appoint and, with the Vice-President, supervise the committee chairpersons.
- 1.02. The Vice-President shall assist the president in all activities, serve as parliamentarian at meetings, and with the President supervise the committee chairs.
- 1.03. The Secretary shall take role and keep minutes of all meetings, maintain Council files, and be responsible for all Council correspondence.
- 1.04. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of all financial records, and sign all financial transactions with the approval of the adviser and principal.
- 1.05. The Public Relations Historian will keep the photo and video records of all activities. Along with working side by side with the other officers, act as the main spokesperson on Student Council events.
- 1.06. The five student council officers will oversee the elections in January and February for the following year with the student council adviser(s).

- 1.07. There will be an executive board of underclassmen (5 per grade, 6 if deemed necessary) that will also be elected to act as assistance to the 5 officers.

Section 3. It is the duty of all on the executive board to attend all Council meetings, to serve on at least one committee, and to accept responsibilities as assigned by the President.

Section 4. The Principal may approve or veto any action of the Student Council.

Article III

Membership Eligibility

Section 1. To be eligible to run for Student Council President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Public Relations Historian, a student must be a junior in good behavioral standing, as defined in Article III section 4, must have an accumulative 2.0 GPA average, and must be a student of Neshaminy High School.

Section 2. To be eligible to run for class officer or executive board, a student must be of the appropriate class in good social standing, with an accumulative 2.0 GPA average.

Section 3. In order to maintain eligibility, all members of Council are expected to attend all Student Council and class meetings and assigned activities. Members must also maintain an accumulative 2.0 average and must meet the eligibility requirements of the high school.

- 3.01. Any member who fails to appear at a required Student Council function must be excused by the adviser and President. Failure to appear at a required class function must be excused by the appropriate class President and adviser. An unexcused absence warrants a verbal warning that dismissal could occur with any further unexcused absence.
- 3.02. Any member who is late for a meeting will be marked tardy. Three tardy notations will be equivalent to one unexcused absence.
- 3.03. Any member who acquires three unexcused absences will be dismissed from the Council for that year.
- 3.04. Any member who falls below the grade point average requirements will be given a verbal warning and until the end of the year to raise it back up.

Section 4. To maintain membership in Student Council each member must be in good behavioral standing throughout the length of the term. To this end, all students in Student Council, and in Student Council Homerooms must sign the Student Council Constitution.

Section 5. Students interested in serving on Student Council in a non-elected position may do so by serving as a part of the representative homerooms. To obtain such membership, a student must follow specific procedures.

5.01. The student must be in good behavioral standing and have an accumulative 2.0 GPA average.

5.02. In the fall of the new school year, during the official election season, the student will answer preliminary questions along with acquiring 50 signatures from classmates. The questionnaire and signatures must be submitted by the date set by the advisers and current Council.

5.03. From those that apply, the at-large members will be selected by the teachers and by request. The number of at-large members will be set at a maximum of 30 for each class. There can be zero to thirty students selected to be at-large members per class.

5.04. At-large members may participate in all Council discussion and committee work if asked, but may not vote on any actions unless invited by the President. All attendance rules apply.

Article IV

Student Council Elections

Section 1. Any student interested in running for Student Council must attend a meeting with the advisers in the spring. Election procedures will be outlined and petitions will be distributed.

Section 2. Students interested in running for one of the five Student Council offices must secure a total of 50 signatures from classmates.

Section 3. Members of the student body may sign only one petition for each office and unlimited senate positions.

- Section 4.** Elections for Student Council office will be held first and only the members of the freshmen, sophomore, and junior classes will be eligible to vote. Any candidate who does not win may accept a nomination to run for class office or a senate position.
- Section 7.** Unsuccessful candidates may ask to join the student council homerooms which take part in full council meetings, once a month.
- Section 8.** The new body of the Student Council will be sworn in during the first council meeting.

Article V

Committee Structure

- Section 1.** There will be four (4) standing committees of Student Council.
- 1.01. Conference Committee – Will be in charge of either organizing or setting up various trips to conferences.
 - 1.02. Constitution Committee – Will be in charge of overseeing and updating the constitution so it is kept up to date with the activities of the Council.
 - 1.03. Senior Talent Show – Will be in charge of organizing and finding members of the student body to participate in the talent show
 - 1.04. Senior Dance Committee – Will be in charge of organizing the yearly senior citizen ball, that includes getting donations and contacting senior citizens.
- Section 2.** Additional committees may be formed as necessary. Can cycle out depending on the year, and what the council is doing.
- Section 3.** Membership to the committees may be constant or rotating.
- Section 4.** Committee reports should be submitted to the Council Secretary after each committee meeting.

Article VI

Enacting Legislation

Section 1. All meetings of Student Council will run according to Parliamentary Procedure when possible.

Section 2. The principal may override any legislation approved by the Council.

Article VII

Dismissal Procedures

Section 1. All members must maintain eligibility according to the standards set forth in Article III.

Section 2. Any member can be removed from the Council for actions deemed unworthy of a representative of the body.

- 2.01. Any member of Student Council can bring forth an action against any other member. A written statement citing specific cause must be submitted to the adviser of Council.
- 2.02. An officer of Student Council can be impeached only after a documented cause is brought before the entire body, and the officer is given notice and time to prepare a statement. The adviser will preside over a special meeting and a two-thirds majority is needed for impeachment. Impeachment from office includes dismissal from Student Council.
- 2.03. At-large members can be dismissed from office and Student Council if deemed unfit for duty by their homeroom teacher.
- 2.04. At-large members can resign from the student council homerooms by telling the teacher or council advisor that they would like to leave be discluded from future student council activities.

Article VIII

Vacancies

Section 1. Should the office of President become vacant, it will be filled by the Vice-President. Should the office of Vice-President become vacant, it will be filled by the junior executive members that would also take on all responsibilities of the Vice-President.

Section 2. If the positions of all 5 members become vacant, the Juniors will take over as next in line.

Section 3. Vacant executive board positions will be determined if filled, by the current officers and advisor.

Article IX

Amendments

Section 1. All amendments to this Constitution must be presented to the entire Student Council first at the primary meeting then at the full council meeting, and then voted in by a two-thirds majority and approved by the principal.