

Chaparral High School Student Council Constitution 2022-2023



ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Chaparral High School Student Council.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

It shall be the purpose and function of this organization to receive and act upon suggestions from the student body, the school administration and members of the faculty; to recommend measures; to be a medium of service to the student body; to offer a means of cooperation between the students of other organizations of the school, promote school spirit, and serve as a role model for the student body and community.

ARTICLE III Composition

Section I - Membership

Any CHS student may join student council that meets the criteria in Article IV.

Section II- Committee Chairs and Members

Committee chairs will serve to actively lead each committee to the best of their ability.

Section II- Officers

The officers of Student Council shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Reporter, Historian and Parliamentarian. This team collectively shall be recognized as the executive council or officer team.

Section III- Leadership Team

The Leadership Team will be comprised of Officers and Committee Chairs.

Section IV- Advisor

The principal shall appoint the advisor. The National Association of Secondary School Principals sponsors the Student Council; therefore, the Principal and Supervising Principals are advisors as well.

ARTICLE IV Qualifications of Members

Section I- General Qualifications

In order to be considered an "active member", members shall have the following qualifications and maintain them during the entire school year:

1. Must have good standing in behavior and maintain point requirements
2. Must agree to fulfill Student Council Membership duties
3. Must be current on all dues and paperwork
 - a. Members pay \$15.00 dues each year
 - b. Dues may go toward national and state affiliation and supplies for members and community service projects.
 - c. Opportunities such as scholarships, reduced or waived dues may be available to qualifying students in need of financial assistance.

Section II- Officer and Committee Chair Qualifications

Officers shall have the following qualifications and maintain them during the tenure of office:

1. Must remain UIL eligible and meet general qualifications for membership throughout the school year
2. If the candidate is issued an ISS assignment, advisor will decide eligibility
3. Must have a knowledge and understanding of Student Council Constitution, Bylaws and parliamentary procedure
4. Must attend a TASC leadership camp annually and facilitate leadership camp for leadership team members prior to the start of the school year
5. Must sign and abide by the Declaration of Commitment
6. The advisor will make changes as deemed appropriate

Section III- Term of Office

Members in grades nine through twelve as from the time of election in the spring to the end of the next school year. Each term being one school year in length.

Article V- Officers

The Elected Student Council officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Historian, and a Parliamentarian. These officers shall be elected by the Student Council to serve for one school year. Anyone wishing to be a candidate for Student Council Officer shall submit an application supporting their candidacy. If a student has been previously removed from the council, he/she will not be eligible for an officer position for a full academic year. In order to be eligible for an officer position, candidates must have passed all classes for each of the current school years 9-week grading periods and have no previous disciplinary placement for the current year and be in grades Sophomore-Senior.

Article VI- Duties of Officers

1. The President shall chair the Executive Board and shall preside at Council and Executive Board meetings.

2. The Vice-President shall preside over council meetings when the President is absent and is responsible for all events and activities occurring during the President's absence.

3. The Secretary shall keep, read, correct, and distribute the minutes of all meetings, providing a copy to the Advisor, and keep points earned by members towards cords.

4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for reporting the financial status of the Student Council. The treasurer will also make budgets for each activity and event and work closely with the activity fund clerk.

5. The Reporter will be responsible for all publicity of Student Council events. This office works closely with Nilda Rios the activity coordinator to assist the advisor. Additional correspondence with CHS yearbook staff, school newspaper, and assist with social media accounts.

6. The Historian must take pictures at all student council events. Create a slideshow and photo album recording the year's activities. Responsible for coordinating updates with the reporter for social media accounts. Make a written record of feedback on events to hand down to the next year's officers.

7. The Parliamentarian will enforce rules of order during meetings, keep record of all service hours and event participation for Student Council members through collecting tracking

cards for members to earn letter jackets. Assist with writing State Records, which will be turned into the Texas Association of Student Council for verification.

ARTICLE VII- Replacement of Officers

Section 1-

If an officer is temporarily unable to perform the office, the vacancy will be filled by the officer immediately underneath them in order of position. In the case that all officers have moved up and there is need for a Parliamentarian, the Advisor will appoint a temporary replacement.

Section 2-

If an officer is unable to complete the term of office, the vacancy will be filled in the following manner:

Vacancy:

Action:

President

The Vice-President will assume the responsibilities of the President. If there are any complications with the Vice-President completing the President's term of office, an election will be held within the council.

Vice-President

The Secretary will assume the responsibilities of the Vice-President. If there are any complications with the Secretary completing the Vice-President's term of office, an election will be held within the council.

Secretary

The Treasurer will assume the responsibilities of the Secretary. If there are any complications with the Treasurer completing the Secretary's term of office, an election will be held within the council.

Treasurer

The Historian will assume the responsibilities of the Treasurer. If there are any complications with the Historian completing the Treasurer's term of office, then an election will be held within the council.

Historian

The Reporter will assume the responsibilities of the Historian.

Reporter

The Parliamentarian will assume the responsibilities of the Reporter.

Parliamentarian

In the event of this office becoming open, an election will be held within the Student Council to fill the position.

ARTICLE XIII. MEETINGS

Section 1.

Meetings of the full Student Council shall be held at a time designated by the Advisor. The President may designate a meeting to be a formal business meeting of the Student Council.

Section 2.

Minutes shall be kept by the Secretary of all business conducted by the Student Council. Within three school days, the minutes shall be given to the Advisor, communicated to the Student Council, and one copy kept in a permanent Student Council file.

Section 3.

Quorum: A simple majority of the voting members must be present to conduct formal business of the council.

Section 4.

The order of business and agenda for formal business meeting shall be determined by the officers and shall include the following:

1. Call to order
2. Roll call or distribution of sign in page
3. Reading of the minutes
4. Treasurer's report
5. Committee reports
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Announcements
9. Adjournment

ARTICLE XIV. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Section 1.

Expectations for conduct apply to Student Council members of any status. Under all circumstances while participating in council activities members shall conduct themselves in an appropriate manner in accordance with school rules and which reflects well on the school and the council. In accepting membership or office in the Student Council, students are also agreeing to abide by the expectations stated. Those general expectations are the same as those stated in the misconduct clause that is a part of the co-curricular activities' policy. In addition, eligibility for Student Council membership is in part governed by the schools' application of the Texas Association of Student Councils. Members are prohibited from using or possessing tobacco products, alcohol, or other mood-altering chemicals, and engaging in sexual, racial, or religious harassment, or sexual conduct of any kind, at any time. Members must also maintain social media accounts of all kinds that are free of profanity, vulgarity, or any inappropriate behavior.

Section 2.

Upon confirmation of a behavior that violates Student Council expectations, the Advisor and Administration will specify the dates for any suspension given or the duration of any other consequence. It is understood that all suspensions will be served during the school year. Suspensions for using or possessing tobacco products, alcohol, or other mood-altering chemicals, or engaging in sexual, racial, or religious harassment, or sexual conduct of any kind, or displaying social media accounts of all kinds that display any profanity, vulgarity, or any inappropriate behavior. shall be as follows:

1st offense: Two-week suspension plus loss of any officer position.

2nd offense: Dismissal from Student Council.

Members will be notified in writing of any suspension, dismissal, or other consequence imposed.

All consequences of any inappropriate actions taken by any member of the Chaparral High School Student Council will be decided by the Advisor and Principal. Each consequence is non-negotiable, non-transferable and subject to the Advisor and Principal's discretion.

Section 3.

Failure to conform to the expectations stated in Section 1 may result in disciplinary action by the council in accordance with ARTICLE XV REMOVAL FROM OFFICE/ IMPEACHMENT and/or by the school administration.

Section 4.

Behavioral/Attitude Policy: Student Council members are to be leaders in our school, and as leaders are role models and are looked up to not only by members of the council but by all students in the school. No member should show disrespect to other members of the council, teachers, administration, custodians, any school staff, or towards the Advisor.

If a member's conduct is not corrected after a warning by the Advisor and continues to be blatantly inappropriate, the member may be removed from council at the Advisor's discretion.

If the member is not removed he/she may be assigned an appropriate consequence as determined by the Advisor including options of suspension from the council, and/or making apologies.

ARTICLE XV. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1.

Upon recommendation, an officer may be removed or suspended from office for the remainder of his/her term for reasons of abuse of powers, neglect of duties, or conduct unbecoming of a council member upon the approval of the Advisor and the Principal.

Section 2.

A private meeting, with the officer who is being removed from office, the Advisor, and the Assistant Principal over Student Council will be scheduled. These parties will discuss the allegations, allowing the person charged to present his/her position. The Advisor and Assistant Principal will notify the officer of their official removal from office if deemed appropriate after the meeting.

ARTICLE XVI. AMENDMENTS/REVISIONS

Section 1.

Amendments or revisions to this Constitution may be submitted to the council by the officers, the Advisor, or any member of the Student Council. A member of the student body can propose an amendment/revision to the Constitution through a representative. The council is intended to be a representative and the voice of the student body of Chaparral High School.

Section 2.

All amendment proposals or revisions must be submitted in writing.

Section 3.

All amendment proposals or revisions shall be presented and voted on at a formal meeting of the Student Council.

Section 4.

Ratification of any amendment or revision must be by a simple majority of the voting members if a formal Student Council meeting with a quorum present. Ratification of any by-law must be by majority of the voting members at a formal Student Council meeting with a quorum present.

Section 5.

Amendments, revisions, and by-laws passed by the Student Council become effective after the next grading period.

