

Maplewood Middle School Student Council

CONSTITUTION

We, the students of the Maplewood Middle School, in order to promote the general welfare and the best interest of the school, to develop a meaningful exchange of ideas between students and administration, and to exercise our capacity for self-government in the preservation of the American Democratic ideals, in order to assume the maximum powers and responsibilities thereof, not consistent with responsibilities and policies of the school administration, do hereby establish the constitution.

Article I – Name and Purpose

Section A: Name

The name of this organization shall be the *Student Council Association of Maplewood Middle School*.

Section B: Purpose

The purpose of the Student Council Association is as follows:

1. To promote and maintain at all times the standards of Maplewood Middle School
2. To represent the student body in an upstanding manner by conveying their opinions, ideas, wishes, and needs to the administration and faculty
3. To create and execute any measures beneficial to the student body.
4. To serve as the student voice in the governing of the student body.
5. To serve the student body and the community in a way that is most beneficial.

Article II – Qualifying Criteria

A voting process involving the middle school student body shall decide the membership of the Student Council Association. Representatives must meet all necessary qualifications as stated in the constitution, the rules, and the procedures.

The qualifying criteria are as follows:

1. Students must possess and maintain an overall grade point average of 2.5 or higher. This includes all subjects. Each 9 weeks, students are expected to show a copy of their report card to their grade level advisor no later than 3 days after report cards have been given to students.
 - a. First offense will result in nine weeks probation.
 - b. Second offense will result in removal from Student Council.

2. Student may not be a member of another organization that may inflict unnecessary burdens or stress upon the student or this organization.
3. Student must be of good character and reputation at all times.
4. Student must submit an essay with the theme, "What I have to offer the MMS Student Council."
 - a. The essay will be a one page, handwritten document. Any other submissions will result in disqualification.
 - b. The essay must be submitted by the due date and time.
5. Student who successfully completes the essay will be placed on the ballot. Each grade level will choose their class representatives. Campaigning, other than posters on the day of the election, is not allowed and will result in disqualification. This includes handing out gum, candy, pencils, etc., as well as other printed material.
6. Students are expected to attend all meetings and be on time.
7. Students are expected to earn service points throughout the academic year to remain in active status. 6th and 7th grade representatives who do not earn service points and participate in service projects will not be eligible for the following year's ballot for Student Council representatives.

Article III – Behavioral Clause

Probation and Removal Procedures:

1. First behavioral reprimand (i.e. detention, in-school isolation) will result in probation and a deduction of 3 points.
2. Second behavioral reprimand will result in removal from Student Council.
3. Suspension for any reason results in immediate dismissal from Student Council for the rest of the year.
4. Disrespect of any kind toward any Student Council sponsor will result in immediate dismissal for the rest of the school year.
5. A representative who does not maintain a grade point average of 2.5 after the probation period of nine weeks will be removed for the rest of the school year.
6. A representative will be put on probation for the next nine weeks period if he/she has a D on his/her report card. If after the probationary period, the representative has another D, he/she will be dismissed for the rest of the school year.
7. A representative who has an F on their report card will be dismissed from Student Council.
8. Any member who misses two meetings for reasons other than illness, medical reasons, or extreme emergencies will be removed for the rest of the school year.
9. Any member in non-compliance with the rules set forth in this constitution may be dismissed for the remainder of the year.

10. Under extreme and unusual circumstances a student may be dismissed by administrative decision.

Article IV – Executive Branch

Section A: Purpose

The purpose of the Executive Branch of the Student Council Association is as follows:

1. To act as a liaison between the administration and the student body.
2. To oversee the activities on the individual class branches of the Student Council.

Section B: Membership

The Executive branch shall consist of the following:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Parliamentarian
5. Reporter
6. Photographer

Section C: Duties of Executive Branch Members

All officers will be chosen by the Student Council. Campaigning, other than posters on the day of election, is not allowed and will result in disqualification. This includes handing out gum, candy, pencils, etc., as well as any printed material.

Qualifications and duties are as follows:

1. President
 - a. Shall be an 8th grade returning member
 - b. Cannot be President of any other club at Maplewood Middle School including but not limited to Beta, French Club, 4-H, The Way, etc. nor serve as head cheerleader or dance line captain.
 - c. Serves as presiding officer of the Student Council and Executive Branch.
 - d. Shall possess characteristics of leadership and responsibility.
 - e. Represents the student body at meetings held in the interest of the students.
 - f. Should be able to communicate with peers as well as faculty, administration, and community.

2. Vice President
 - a. Shall be an 8th grade returning member
 - b. Cannot be President of any other club at Maplewood Middle School including but not limited to Beta, French Club, 4-H, The Way, etc. nor serve as head cheerleader or dance line captain.
 - c. Assumes the duties of president during the president's absence
 - d. Assists president in all duties as necessary

3. Secretary
 - a. Shall be a 7th or 8th grade returning member
 - b. Keeps minutes of meetings
 - c. Keeps record of attendance at all Student Council meetings

4. Parliamentarian
 - a. Shall be a 7th or 8th grade returning member
 - b. Keeps order during meetings

5. Reporter
 - a. Shall be a 7th or 8th grade returning member
 - b. Submits articles related to the activities of the Student Council to the media, both school and community
 - b. Keeps students informed of said activities

6. Photographer
 - a. Shall be a 7th or 8th grade returning member
 - b. Keep photo records of all Student Council activities

Article V – Merits/Demerits

1. Merits
 - a. Report Cards to sponsors on time
 - b. Attending meetings
 - c. Donations for philanthropic cause adopted by Student Council

2. Demerits
 - a. Report Cards to sponsors are late
 - b. Missed Meetings

Article VI – Activities and Trips

1. Activity participation such as district convention/field trips is based on merit points.
 - a. Members with the most merits are allowed first for activities

2. Student Council shirt purchase is required to participate in any off campus activities.