

COLUMBIA MIDDLE SCHOOL CONSTITUTION

We, the students of Columbia Middle School, do hereby establish this Constitution for the betterment of our school and for the settlement of general matters of student concern.

Name and Membership

ARTICLE I.

Section I. This organization shall be known as the Associated Student Body of Columbia Middle School.

Section II. Members of this organization shall be all regularly enrolled students of Columbia Middle School.

Purpose

ARTICLE II.

The purpose of this organization shall be to provide worthwhile experience in a democratic self-government; promote general interest in the school activities on the part of the student body as a whole; and to make and enforce rules for the student body.

Qualification of Officers

ARTICLE III.

Section I. The officers of this organization shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section II. The President must be in eighth grade and shall have maintained a scholastic average of a "C" (2.0) or better in the seventh grade

Section III. The Vice President must be a seventh grade student and have maintained a scholastic average of a "C" (2.0) or better in the sixth grade.

Section IV. The Secretary and Treasurer can be from the sixth, seventh or eighth grade and must have also maintained a "C" (2.0) average in school.

Section V. In order to hold office in any club or organization, participate in any interscholastic contests, or belong to any organization, students must have purchased an ASB membership card.

Duties and Powers of Officers

ARTICLE IV.

Section I. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization, shall make introductions at student body assemblies and shall perform all the usual duties pertaining to that office.

Section II. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in case of absence or removal of the President and shall assist the President on committees and in activities whenever he/she is needed.

Section III. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings and shall answer all letters and correspondence.

Section IV. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all money received and expended by the Student Council.

Election Procedures

ARTICLE V.

Section I. Candidates will sign up with the election advisor at a designated time during the spring.

Section II. Two candidates from each category will be selected from the primary election. One week later, students will assemble to hear the final candidate participate in a debate. After the debate, the student body will vote by secret ballot. The candidate with the most votes will win the election.

Student Council

ARTICLE VI.

Section I. The general legislative power of the student body shall be vested in the Student Council under the guidance and supervision of the principal or his designated authority.

Section II. The Student Council shall consist of one representative from each class and the elected student body officers. Members of the Student Council shall hold office for one semester unless removed or impeached.

Section III. A quorum for conducting business meetings of the Student Council shall consist of one half plus one of the members with at least one student from each grade level present. The Student Council, with the advice of the principal, shall decide each year as to when to meet. The President shall have the power, with the approval of the principal, to call a special meeting at any time.

Section IV. Each representative shall be responsible for reporting to his/her class all business transacted at the Student Council meetings. Each shall be required to perform all special duties assigned to him/her by the Student Council. Every member of the Student Council must maintain a "C" or better scholastic average.

Section V. The power of the Student Council shall be to discuss and make rules necessary for the betterment of the school and its interests, to be responsible for financial affairs of the student body and to assist in supervising activities at the middle school.

Vacancies and Removals

ARTICLE VII.

Section I. Each class representative in the Student Council and the student body officers shall be subject to impeachment or removal from office for:

1. Neglecting his/her duties
2. Receiving quarter grades below those set by this Constitution
3. Committing a serious breach of school rules.

Section II. Impeachment proceedings may be started by any member of the Student Council. Written charges must be offered against the office holder and be filed with the principal one week prior to the vote. The office holder will be given an opportunity to reply to the charges. It will require a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Council to remove a class representative and a two-thirds majority of the entire student body to remove a student body officer.

Section III. If a class representative should cease to be a member of the Student Council due to impeachment, removal from office, or transfer to another school, he/she shall be replaced by popular vote

of the class from which he/she came. If a student body officer is impeached, removed from office, or he/she transfers to another school, the Student Council shall select a new officer among its members.

Amendments

ARTICLE VIII.

All amendments must be proposed by the student council. Students may request the Student Council to propose amendments through their class representative. It must be passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Council. If passed, the student body officers must post the amendment on the bulletin board for two weeks. If two-thirds of the student body votes to include the amendment, it shall become part of the Constitution.

By-Laws

ARTICLE IX.

To add a by-law to this Constitution, the proposed by-law must be written in ink and presented to the student body officers. It must be passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Council in order to become part of this Constitution.

Election Procedures

ARTICLE X.

Campaign advertising materials may include signs which may be displayed in the halls. All campaign materials must be removed from the halls the day following the final election. Persons selected by the principal will count the election ballots.

Amendment to the Constitution:

In the event that the office of the President is vacated, the vacancy shall be filled by the following:

1. Runner-up vote recipient from the previous Presidential election.
2. ASB Executive Officers and Class representatives will seek out a replacement and appoint such replacement provided the prerequisite guidelines of the presidency position are followed. Principal and/or Advisor will make final approval.
3. Appointment of one of the Classroom Representatives who satisfy the prerequisite guidelines of the presidency. Principal and/or Advisor will make final approval.
4. A general election will take place among eligible candidates from the general student body following the election guidelines set forth by this constitution.

The determination of the new president shall follow the order as prescribed above, moving only to the next option when the first one has failed.

This constitution was recognized by the District Board of Directors.

Signature of President of District Board of Directors

Date