

EDISON STUDENT COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

Preamble

We, the students of Thomas A. Edison High School, in order to promote a spirit of unity, to provide a means of expression of student opinion, to better our understanding of the democratic process and to improve the general welfare of the school, do hereby form ourselves into this council.

Article I: Name

Section 1: This organization shall be known as the Edison High School Student Council.

Section 2: the purpose of this organization shall be to provide leadership and direction towards an overall goal of improving our school and community.

Article II: Membership

SECTION 1. The Student Council shall consist of officers, a teacher sponsor, and active members of the student population determined by application. All grades must be recommended. All members must pay the Student Council dues.

SECTION 2. Each member shall have one vote except for the President, who will vote only in one case of a tie, and the sponsor, who serves only as an advisor.

SECTION 3. All representatives shall serve a term of one year. Representatives must meet all requirements in regard to eligibility.

Article III: Officers

SECTION 1. The officers of the council shall include a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and appointed officers as determined necessary by the President and the Student Council Sponsor. Officers will meet weekly to determine the needs of the Council.

SECTION 2. The duties of the President shall be to preside at all meetings of the council, to appoint all committees unless otherwise provided for, and to confer with the administration on a regular basis. The President may speak on behalf of the Council when requested and may make special appointments as he/she sees fit, which may include, but not be limited to, the parliamentarian and historian.

SECTION 3. The duties of the Vice-President shall be to assist the President and to preside in his absence. The Vice-President shall serve as ex officio member of all committees and coordinate evaluations of committees.

SECTION 4. The duties of the Secretary shall be to record the minutes of the meetings and to keep accurate records of the activities and attendance of the council.

SECTION 5. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to keep accurate records of the expenditures of the council, and to serve as the council's representative on the Board of Control.

SECTION 6. Each office shall be held for the duration of one year.

SECTION 7. An officer, elected or appointed, may be removed from office for failure to uphold his duties within the council or failure to meet requirements contained in the Officer Contract. Impeachment is accomplished by first presenting the council with a resolution of intention and secondly with a two-thirds vote at the following meeting.

SECTION 8. If an officer either resigns his/her office or is impeached, a replacement is chosen by the executive officers and the Student Council Sponsor.

Article IV: Meetings

SECTION 1. The Student Council shall meet bi-monthly at a designated meeting time and place.

SECTION 2. A majority of the total membership of the council must be present in order to have a quorum and, thus, an official meeting.

SECTION 3. Parliamentary procedure as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed in meetings of the Student Council.

Article V: Elections

SECTION 1. The elections of Student Council and Class Officers shall be held in the spring.

SECTION 2. Any student filing for office must meet eligibility requirements set forth by the O.S.S.A.A.

SECTION 3. All members of the Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior classes may vote for Student Council officers. In Class Officer elections, only members of the class involved votes.

SECTION 4. Additional rules and procedures shall be explained in the bylaws of this council.

Article VI: Appointed Officers

SECTION 1. The President of the Student Council shall reserve the right to appoint additional officers, based on application and interview process conducted by a committee consisting of faculty representatives, the Student Council sponsor, and outgoing appointed officers.

Article VIII: Amendments

SECTION 1. Amendments to this Constitution shall be ratified by a majority vote of the Student Council.

Article VIII: Ratifications

SECTION 1. This Constitution shall be ratified by two-thirds of the student body.

Ratified April 1985

Amended April 2019

VOTING AND ELECTION RULES

**Students should not see the actual nominations or ballots. Teachers should return sealed recommendations to the Student Council sponsor once they are complete.

Homecoming Queen

Members of grades 10-12 can submit nominations for their grade's Homecoming Court members. The top five nominations in the 10th and 11th grade will be selected as finalists to be voted on by each individual class, with the top two becoming members of the Homecoming Court. The top five senior nominations will be voted on, with the nominee with the most votes being selected as Homecoming Queen. The other four seniors will be members of the Homecoming Court. Each nominee will choose three teachers to complete recommendations. Members of the Homecoming Court must have a minimum 3.0 GPA and no disciplinary infractions.

Mr. and Miss Edison

Any student in the school may submit nominations for Mr. or Miss Edison. Nominees must be a Senior with a minimum of 3.0 GPA and no disciplinary infractions, as verified by the Dean's office. They must also be involved in a minimum of 2 school activities. The five students receiving the most nominations and meeting the criteria will be on the final ballot for the whole school to vote on. Sealed recommendations must be received from all of the nominee's teachers. Final student vote will count for 90%, teacher recommendations will count for 10%.

Student Council and Class Officer Elections

Students must attend the informational meeting with the Activity Director to review election rules and procedures, unless specifically excused before the meeting. Either removal from or abandonment of either an elected or appointed position will result in that person being unable to file for another office for one calendar year. Once an election petition has been filed, students may not change the office for which they are running. Candidate videos must be submitted and will be either shown in class or posted on the Edison web site. No negative campaigning is allowed. All of each candidate's teachers must complete and submit a sealed recommendation form to the Activity Director, with these scores counting for 10% of the final vote. To be declared the

winner, candidates must receive a minimum of 50% plus one of the popular vote. If no candidate receives these votes, a run-off will take place between the two top candidates. Campaign signs may be put up after school on the Friday before the campaign starts and must be removed within 24 hours of the election.

ELECTION RULES AND REGULATIONS

Requirements for Filing for and Holding Office

1. Each student filing for office must have passed all classes for the preceding semester, and must be OSSAA eligible with no current F's. Students running for office may have no history of disciplinary infractions in high school, as verified by the Dean's office.
2. Everyone running for an office MUST attend the rules and procedures meeting with the Activity Director unless officially excused before the meeting. Students will receive and review all necessary paperwork at that meeting.
3. Filing paperwork must be turned in no later than 3:30 pm on the designated due date. Once filed, students may not change the office they are running for.
4. Each student filing to run for Class Officer must have attended Class Board meetings during the previous semester. Students filing to run for Student Council Officer must have been active in a Student Council-sponsored project or activity during the previous semester.
5. Each student will submit their current schedule and teachers for recommendations as to the student's character, behavior, etc.
6. Each student filing for office must submit 25 signatures of support from his/her respective grade level if running for class office. If running for Student Council office, the signatures may be from anyone currently in grades 9-11.
7. Posters, flyers, and buttons must be in good taste. Those found to be inappropriate will be removed and could result in the removal of the candidate from the election. No incentives are to be distributed during the campaign. Posters may be hung after school on the Friday before campaigning begins on Monday and must be removed within 24 hours of the election. In regards to social media while campaigning, posts may be made mentioning the election and asking for votes; however, there should be no mention of opposing candidates. Violation of this may result in disqualification.
8. Candidates may not interrupt instructional time to campaign. Violation of this may result in disqualification.
9. All officers must commit to attending all officer and organizational meetings. All officers should plan to enroll in the Student Leadership Program; Student Council and Junior/Senior Class Officers should plan to enroll in either Leadership III or Leadership IV. If possible, officers should plan to attend the BASIC Leadership Summer Camp sponsored by the OASC.
10. All officers must plan to attend the mandatory officer retreat the weekend before the start of school.
11. Voting will take place online.

12. If a candidate receives 50% plus one of the ballots cast, the student will be declared the winner. If this is not the case, there will be a run-off.

Amended April 2019