

Donna Shepard Leadership Academy

Student Council Middle Level Constitution

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Donna Shepard Leadership Academy Student Council, in order to promote harmony among the student body; to establish a better relationship between this school and others of its kind; and to raise the standards and ideals of the students themselves, do ordain and establish this constitution for the Donna Shepard Leadership Academy Student Council.

ARTICLE I: TITLE AND PURPOSE

Section 1

This organization shall be known as the Student Council of Donna Shepard Leadership Academy.

Section 2

The purpose of this organization is to serve and to represent our student body and our community by requesting their ideas and support for school improvement and support of community projects.

Section 3

We encourage student pride and school spirit. We recognize the contributions of the student body; support democratic procedures; value high academic achievement; and promote good relations among students, teachers and administrators.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Membership is based on grade/discipline review. Membership is open to both 5th and 6th grade students. Student Council members are expected to maintain satisfactory academic, discipline, and citizenship standing at Donna Shepard Leadership Academy.

Section 2

Membership is open to 5th and 6th grade Donna Shepard students who meet the required eligibility. Qualifications are based on CORE AVERAGE of the 1st six weeks report card (needs to be 85 or above) and earn an E in Citizenship. Students with any office referrals will not be eligible for membership. Students must also be able to attend monthly after school meetings.

If a student earned less than the 85 in all core classes, an exception may be made if the teacher for the specific subject where a student earned less than an 85 agrees to write a recommendation letter.

Section 3

Maintenance of membership will be the responsibility of each member to:

1. Maintain satisfactory academic (CORE AVERAGE of 85 or above) and citizenship grades (E) each grading period.
2. Attend appropriate meetings during the school year.
3. Volunteer for special projects and events.
4. Earn 4 participation points each six weeks grading period and turn in a point sheet showing such by the last Friday of each grading period.
5. Maintain appropriate discipline without office referrals at all times.

Section 4

Probation ... this occurs at the end of each six weeks grading period if you do not meet requirements in the regards to grades, citizenship/discipline, and points. You then have the following grading period to get back on track by participating in Student Council activities and meeting grade/citizenship criteria. **Leaders are responsible for informing parents of probation.**

Dismissal ... this occurs at the end of the next grading period if you were on probation and still do not meet criteria OR it could happen immediately due to an office referral.

Section 5

All council events shall follow DSLA school policies regarding illegal substances, weapons and safety, and dress code.

Section 6

No person, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, or disability shall be excluded from or denied the benefits of membership.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section I

Meetings will be held monthly. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the officers. A 25% presence of current members shall constitute a quorum to transact any business that requires voting. A simple majority of those voting shall constitute an affirmative vote.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1

Officer elections will take place in the last six weeks of each school year. Officers will be held by 6th graders, while 5th grade students will be members only.

Section 2

President:

Vice President:

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Historian:

Section 3

Officer duties are as follows:

President- Represent the student body at school district and civic events and other meetings. Supervise the functioning of the elected student body officers. Develop the agenda for and preside over the meetings of Student Council.

Vice President- Represent the student body at school district, civic events, and other meetings as requested by the president. Preside over Student Council meetings in the absence of the president.

Secretary- Maintain the student body files. Prepare agendas for meetings. Take and distribute minutes of meetings. Represent the student body at school district, civic functions, and other meetings as requested by the president. Sign all purchase orders.

Treasurer- Coordinate the preparation of the annual budget. Present the proposed budget to Student Council for adoption. Maintain financial records of the student body. Prepare financial reports for Student Council meetings. Coordinate fundraising projects for the student body. Sign all purchase orders.

Historian- Gather materials in preparation for the Student Council Scrapbook. Be responsible for the completion of the scrapbook. Maintain a file of materials about activities at school. Make sure pictures are taken of all activities. Coordinate work on other historical presentations (i.e., slide shows, video).

ARTICLE VI: ELECTIONS

Section 1

Elections will be held during the last six weeks of each school year. The elections will take place over a 2-week period where students will provide speeches and hang campaign posters around the school. Students will also provide campaign speeches in the form of a video if in person gatherings are not permitted. In order to take part in the election process, students will also be required to obtain and submit at least 1 recommendation form from a teacher of their choosing.

Section 2

Elections will take place in the cafeteria and will consist of voting booths using Chromebooks. Candidates will be able to conduct final effort campaigning while students are brought in to vote. Elections will take place in one day and results will be announced the following day.

If large group gatherings are not permitted, the 5th grade student body will be sent a Google Form in the form of a ballot. Students who do not win a specific leadership role will be offered the position of grade level representative.

ARTICLE VII: BY-LAWS

Section 1

On average, meetings will be held on Thursdays both before and after school from either 7:45-8:15 or 4:00-4:30 in Ms. Valentine's room (Room 102). A calendar is published monthly with the dates for that month. Each grade level group meets approximately once a month. Refer to the monthly calendar for meeting dates.

Section 2

Business meetings will be conducted using simple parliamentary procedure.

Section 3

Members are expected to attend monthly Student Council meetings on a regular basis. Missing a meeting due to other school activities will not be counted against you as long as you notify the sponsors.