

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
Vista Middle School  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

**PREAMBLE**

We, the students of Vista Middle School, in order to develop democratic ideals; to teach respect for law and order; to maintain high standards of cooperation, loyalty, and school spirit; to prepare for adult life and citizenship; to encourage all worthwhile activities in the school; and to help students prepare for their careers, do form this constitution for the Associated Student Body of Vista Middle School.

**Article I- Student Organization**

**Section 1.** An organization known as the Associated Student Body of Vista Middle School (known as A.S.B.) is hereby formed. This organization shall hereby be referred to as the Student Body Association.

**Section 2** The membership of the Associated Student Body of Vista Middle School shall consist of all the students enrolled in Vista Middle School.

**Article II- Student Council Legislative Powers**

**Section 1.** The legislative powers of the Associated Student Body shall be vested in an executive body which shall be called the Student Council.

**Section 2.** The student council shall consist of twelve (12) voting members and the principal or teacher who will act as an adviser.

**Article III - Membership and Election**

**Section 1.** The Associated Student Body (Student Council) membership shall include (twelve) elected representatives: four from each grade level voted in by the student body.

**Section 2.** The grade representatives shall be elected by their grade level student body before April 30<sup>th</sup> for the following year for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> representatives and by Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> for 6<sup>th</sup> grade at the start of the school year. Those elected will serve their position until their successors are elected in for the following school year.

**Section 3.** Representatives can be recalled by a petition signed by three-fourths of the electing body and three-fourths of the student council.

**Section 4.** Vacancies among representatives shall be filled at a special election called by the student council.

**Article IV-Officers**

**Section 1.** The student council membership shall include the twelve officers of the student association: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and class representatives.

**Section 2.** The president and treasurer shall be an eighth grader. The vice-president and secretary shall be a seventh grader. Representatives shall be represented by two eighth graders, two seventh graders and four sixth graders.

**Section 3.** Any student of Vista Middle School meeting the qualifications set forth in Article IV, Section 2, above, may file for office in the Associated Student Body of Vista Middle School. There shall be at least two candidates for each office to be voted on by the electing body in April of each year; except for sixth grader representatives which will be done in the fall of the following school year. Persons of the electing body may write in the candidate of their choice on the official ballot of either the primary or general election described below. An election will be held in April and fall of each year to determine candidates for each office. A majority vote is necessary for election. The term of office for each elected officer is from the first day of school until the last day of school the next school year for seventh and eighth or the same year elected for sixth grade. Dates for filing and for the elections will be determined and announced each year by the officers of the Associated Student Body.

**Section 4.** Candidates shall be passing all classes and have approval of one staff member to run for office.

**Section 5.** To remain in office, students must maintain the qualifications under which they were elected. Any officer or representative who commits a major infraction of school rules as determined by the principal may be dropped from his/her/he/she/they/them office.

**Section 6.** The principal of the school, or any person designated by the principal, shall serve as faculty sponsor to the council. The faculty sponsor shall be a non-voting member. All members of the student council are active until replaced.

**Section 7.** Vacancies among officers shall be filled by appointment by the student council.

#### **Article V- Meetings**

**Section 1.** The council shall hold a minimum of two meetings each month of school from September through June.

**Section 2.** The president shall call special meetings whenever necessary.

**Section 3.** Eight (8) members of the student council and the faculty sponsor shall constitute a quorum.

#### **Article VI- Powers and Duties**

**Section 1.** The powers and duties of the student council shall be:

- a. To act as a barometer of student opinion.
- b. To grant audiences to any club or individual at any time.
- c. To promote general social life in the school, including the sponsoring of parties.
- d. To sponsor assembly programs, including honors assemblies.
- e. To stimulate student interest in activities.
- f. To authorize special days.

- g. To organize and promote general and special elections.
- h. To promote respect for school and private property.
- i. To pass on social calendar events.
- j. To have the power to develop policies, set standards, and suggest any rules necessary for the betterment of the school.
- k. To pass on any necessary legislation to carry out any of the foregoing powers.

**Section 2.** Duties of the representatives shall be to –

- a. Attend all meetings of the ASB
- b. Attend meetings of committees of which they are members
- c. Bring to the council the suggestions and concerns of students

**Section 3.** Duties of the President shall be to –

- a. Preside over the business meetings of the ASB
- b. Use correct parliamentary procedure

**Section 4.** Duties of the Vice President shall be to:

- a. Assist the President as he/she/they/them deems necessary
- b. Preside over ASB meeting in the absence of the President
- c. Chair committees appointed by the President

**Section 5.** Duties of the Secretary shall be to –

- a. Keep minutes in a word document in OneDrive shared with the Registrar, Advisor and Principal/Vice Principal and read minutes of all official meetings of ASB
- b. Keep an official written record of all of the ASB proceedings during the term of office
- c. Write correspondence for the ASB

**Section 6.** Duties of the Treasurer shall be to –

- a. Assist the school secretary when he/she/they/them are absent
- b. Share money available for clubs/sports when requests are being made for spending

**Article VII - Veto Power**

Because the powers of the student council are delegated to it by the principal, he shall have the right to veto any measure the student council may pass. The principal, however, must explain the reason for the veto.

**Article VIII – Amendments**

**Section 1.** Amendments shall be made to this constitution whenever necessary

**Section 2.** Amendments shall be initiated by a petition signed by 10% of the Associated Student Body and become part of the constitution when approved by three-fourths vote of the Associated Student Body.