Hallsville Independent School District

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

**Article 1**: The name of this organization will be Junior High Student Council of Hallsville Independent School District.

**Article II PURPOSE:** The purpose of this organization is to provide leadership for student government; to promote a good student-teacher relationship; to provide an opportunity for student expression; to develop attitudes of and practice in good citizenship; and to promote harmonious relations throughout the entire year.

**Article III MEMBERSHIP**: The council will consist of an adviser, four officers, and then members from 7th and 8th grade.

**A. OFFICER POSITIONS-**

The officer positions will all be held by eighth graders who were previously members of student council. The positions will be President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Officers must keep above an 85 average in all classes and will turn in report cards to the Adviser at the end of each term.

**B. All Members-**

The members will be considered to be a good citizen of the school. All representatives must start out the year with a minimum grade of 80 in all classes and if not maintained will be removed from the council. All representatives will be held to the same guidelines and standards as the officers (see Expectations of STUCO Officers). Any violation will result in the same disciplinarian action as the officers.

**Article IV OFFICER’S ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITES**

**Section I. OFFICER DUTIES**

**A. President**

* To preside at all Student Council Meetings,
* To call special meetings with sponsor approval
* To work with the Student Council sponsors in determining the business and agenda for each meeting
* To willfully participate in any activity assigned by the Student Council sponsor
* To communicate with fellow officers, sponsors, and school population regarding Student Council affairs
* makes other members feel included and aware of all policies and procedures of SC
* Serve as leader on sponsor assigned committees

**B.  Vice-President**

* Will assist the President as needed
* To willfully participate in any activity assigned by Student Council sponsor
* Serve as leader on sponsor assigned committees
* To communicate with fellow officers, sponsors, and school population
* Orders School paraphernalia (t-shirts, rally towels, etc.)
* Makes other SC members feel included and aware of all policies and procedures
* To keep a record of attendance and make sure every member signs in
* Attends all meetings, events, and conferences made available throughout the year.
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**C. Secretary**

* Will keep the minutes of all Council meetings
* To make and record the proceedings of each council meeting
* Send out proper notices and announcements of Student Council meetings
* To bring to each council meeting the minutes of all previous meetings, the constitution of the Student Council, and a list of all Student Council members
* To willfully participate in any activity assigned by Student Council sponsor
* Serve as leader on sponsor assigned committees
* To communicate with fellow officers, sponsors, and school population
* Will define and interpret the Constitution
* Keep the meeting under some form of parliamentary procedure according to Rules.
* Attends all meetings, events, and conferences made available throughout the year.

**E. Treasurer:**

* Responsible for tracking all SC expenditures and fundraising efforts.
* Responsible for deposits and check requisitions (this includes getting tem signed by an advisor and submitted to the school secretary in a timely fashion.)
* Obtains from the school secretary a print-out of the SC account and communicates a financial report once a month at executive meetings.
* Attends all meetings, events, and conferences made available throughout the year.

**Article V REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

**Section I**.

A. An officer/member will be referred to the Sponsor, Principal, or Advisory Board for possible removal from office for any of the following reasons, but not limited to:

* Failure to represent his/her group properly and fairly as outlined by the officers duties in the Student Council Constitution
* Failure to carry out his/her duties as an officer
* Improper school behavior as outlined in the student handbook and non-favorable behavioral incidentals from faculty or staff
* Behavior referrals to the office
* Actions which reflect behavior not compatible with the image of school leadership as outlined in the Officer Behavior Expectations in appendix 1
* Actions which reflect negatively on the school
* Missing TWO (2) meetings without notifying the sponsor prior to the absence

B. Any officer/member not maintaining the grade point for his/her office or having an “F” will be placed on THREE (3) WEEK probation. At the end of THREE weeks if the officer has brought the grade point or “F” back up to his/her proper level, probation ends. **If the officer has failed to raise the grade point or the “F” or if the grade drops again he/she will be removed from office.**

C. Documentation from the administrator of the school that any officer has been suspended or ISS from school will result in termination from office. This member will no longer be allowed to run the following year.

D. Any officer/member who feels he/she cannot carry on with the required responsibilities and duties of the office or who transfers or moves away, will submit written resignation to the sponsors without going before the Council. The written resignation will be reported to the Council at the next meeting.

E. Any student who has been dismissed from student council will be granted five (5) days in which to file a written appeal to the head principal of the school. The dismissed member may appeal the decision of the principal by following the regular appeals process in place in the school.

F. An officer/member may only be placed on one probation period per term in office for behavior or grades.

G. An officer/member who fails to meet the requirements, duties, and responsibilities will result in the sponsor taking disciplinary action. If this becomes necessary, the following steps will be followed:

Step 1- Verbal reprimand

Step 2- Written reprimand with parents being notified

Step 3- Three weeks probationary period with parents being notified.

Step 4- Termination or referral to the Advisory Board for possible removal from office.

\*During the probationary period the officer must meet the requirements, duties, and responsibilities for the office or be dismissed.

**Section II. VACANCIES:**

A. If an officer resigns or is removed from office, a new representative may be selected.

B. If an officer resigns or moves after installation, but before September 1st of the next school year, the sponsors will select a replacement from the students who ran. If the office was opposed, the person having the next highest number of votes takes the position. If the office was unopposed, the sponsors will select from the remaining candidates regardless of the office they ran for as long as they have the proper qualifications for the vacated office. If there are no qualified candidates the sponsor can appoint a replacement officer from the council body.

C. If an officer resigns or is removed from office after September 1st, the sponsors will be empowered to fill the vacancy within the Council Body.

**Article VI** Officers must earn the right to attend convention. Sponsors and administrators have the responsibilities of the selecting the officers to attend the convention and any other school sponsored activities.

**Article VII MEETINGS:**

1. Officer and representatives will meet at twice once a month as a body. The 2nd, 4th, and 5th Thursday’s during Study Hall in Room 116 will be where are meetings are held. The President or sponsors may call a special meeting if the need arises.
2. Officers and sponsors must meet at least once a month. The president and sponsors may call any additional meetings as necessary. These meetings will be outside of normal school hours

**Article VIII**

**Section 1: SPONSORS**: Sponsors serve as advisors and do not vote.

**Sponsors will:**

1. Monitor the performance of the Student Council officers; replace them if they are deficient
2. See that the Student Council officers fulfill their duties. Sponsors are NOT to do the officers’ duties for them
3. Be available at all times to help the officers with any problems
4. Check grades
5. Discipline officers
6. Excuse members from class for Student Council activities
7. Help facilitate accomplishment of the Student Council goals without dominating or coercing
8. The sponsors reserve the right to terminate any officer

**Section 2: Advisory Board:** The advisory will consist of the sponsor and at least one individual from the admin team. This board will make decision regarding members when needed.

.**Article IX QUORUM:** Three of the Student Council officers and/or two-thirds (2/3) of the representatives/Senators will be present to conduct business.

**Article X POWERS:** All powers of the Student Council are delegated to it by the school administration. Therefore, the Principal has the right to veto any act of the Student Council or to revoke any of the powers held by the Student Council.

**Article XI VOTING:** Only officers/members may vote. All officers except the President have a vote; the President votes ONLY in the event of a tie.

**Article XII AMENDMENTS:** The constitution may be amended by a simple majority vote of the district sponsors and approval from the junior high principals.