Wayne Middle School

**Student Ambassador/Council Member By-Laws**

(2018-2019)

Mission

The mission of the WMS Student Council is to contribute to the overall experience of constructive student interaction, school improvement, and educational enhancement for ALL students at our school.

Overview

Student Council is intended and designed to remain a flexible organization, with potential and opportunity to allow participation and utilization of talents of WMS students and Faculty/Staff. Student Council structure may be modified/adapted to meet the school’s needs in any given year.

By-Laws will be periodically reviewed and may be revised, subject to input from the Supervisor, the Advisor, or Faculty/Staff, and upon approval by the Supervisor.

Student Ambassador/Council positions provide WMS students the opportunity to serve their school, learn about citizenship and civic involvement procedures, gain a greater understanding of governing processes, and explore leadership and leadership skills.

Composition

WMS Student Ambassador/Council membership includes appointed and elected members from all grades, which represent a collective voice for all WMS students. This approach is modeled after the U.S. system of representative governance, consisting of appointed and elected leaders. Including both appointed and elected members provides a greater opportunity for more interested students to pursue and participate in the process. This approach helps alleviate any concern/s that the process “favors” one group of students over another (e.g. “popularity contest” or “students with the best grades” or “athletes” and so on). This approach also allows opportunities for qualified students to participate who may not necessarily choose to pursue Student Ambassador/Council involvement through the election process.

Student Ambassador/Council members (whether appointed or elected) serve for one semester. In the event a Student Ambassador/Council member is no longer able or qualified to serve, a replacement may be appointed by the Student Council Supervisor, based upon the Criteria For Appointment Or Election section, along with input from the Student Council Advisor and Faculty/Staff members (for appointed positions), or the Criteria For Appointment Or Election section, along with prior election results (for elected positions).

Criteria For Appointment Or Election

1. Must be a currently-enrolled WMS student.

2. Demonstrate personal initiative and self-motivation to participate and contribute to the WMS Student Ambassador/Council mission.

3. Punctual to school and classes with high attendance.

4. Diligence in classroom learning.

5. Be **model examples** of kindness, respect, and quality character at ALL times.

6. Follow ALL school/class rules and procedures throughout the day.

7. Be an active voice in stopping and reporting any bullying that occurs at our school. **Any incidents of bullying in which a Student Ambassador/Council member participates (in any way), may result in immediate removal as a WMS Student Ambassador/Council member.**

8.Represent our students and our school through involvement with discussing, planning, and organizing activities/events/projects, and by being actively engaged in addressing student/school issues and concerns.

9. **Actively** participate in ALL school activities.

10. Attend and participate in meetings. Direct or assist with Student Council assignments, tasks, or activities/events/projects.

11. Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.50 and have no failing grades (which will be checked at mid-term and the end of the quarter). **If grades are below acceptable level at mid-term, student/s will have two (2) weeks to make up the grade, or student/s will be ineligible to continue as a WMS Student Ambassador/Council member.**

12. No N’s or U’s on citizenship grade (which will be checked at mid-term and the end of the quarter). **If citizenship is below acceptable level at mid-term, student/s will have two (2) weeks to improve the grade, or student/s will be ineligible to continue to participate as a WMS Student Ambassador/Council member.**

**Failure to abide by the criteria outlined above, or significant behavior violations, may result in a student/s removal as a WMS Student Ambassador/Council member by school administration.**

Appointment and Election Process

1. The term of a Student Ambassador/Council member shall be one semester. No student can be appointed or elected for more than one full semester.

2. If the Student Ambassador/Council member fails to abide by the Criteria For Appointment Or Election section, the position shall become vacant.

3. If a vacancy occurs for any reason in the position of a Student Ambassador/Council member, the Supervisor may appoint a replacement who meets the qualifications set forth in the Criteria For Appointment Or Election section, and who shall serve until successor/s are appointed or elected.

4. The Supervisor shall, with the advice and consent of the Advisor and Faculty/Staff, appoint three (3) 8th grade Student Ambassador/Council members.

5. The election process (for elected positions) will take place at the beginning of each semester. Those interested may obtain a Student Ambassador/Council Application To Run from the Supervisor. Applications must be completed and returned by the due date. Guidelines for campaigning are included on the Application To Run form. An assembly will be held, and campaigning students will have an opportunity to speak at the assembly. After the assembly, an electronic ballot form will be distributed to all students and faculty/staff, so that all may participate in elections. 6th graders will only vote for 6th grade candidates, 7th graders will only vote for 7th grade candidates, and 8th graders will only vote for 8th grade candidates. Faculty/Staff may participate in elections for all grades. After elections close, ballots will be tallied and election results will be verified by the Supervisor and the Advisor, and election results will be announced. In the event no individual runs for a particular grade position, the Supervisor may choose to leave that position vacant, or may choose to appoint an individual to that position, subject to consultation with the Student Council Advisor and Faculty/Staff. In the event only one student runs for a particular grade position, an election will not be necessary. In the event only two individuals run for a particular position, the Supervisor may choose to allow both candidates to participate on Student Council, subject to consultation with the Student Council Advisor and Faculty/Staff.