

The
CONSTITUTION
of
THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
of
MESA GRANDE ACADEMY

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Mesa Grande Academy, in order to encourage active support of the school's ideals, to provide opportunities in leadership and to prepare students as responsible social and spiritual citizens do hereby establish this Constitution of the Student Association of Mesa Grande Academy.

ARTICLE I: Name and Membership

Section 1.1

The name of this organization shall be "The Student Association of Mesa Grande Academy".

1.2

All students, faculty and staff members in and associated regularly with grades 9-12 of Mesa Grande Academy shall be members of the Student Association. All students assigned by Administration to a particular Class, and the Class sponsors shall compose the members of a Class.

ARTICLE II: Officers and Duties

Section 2.1.1

To ensure its effective operation, the Student Association shall have the following officers: President, Social Vice-President, Religious Vice-President, Legislative Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Promotion Director, Parliamentarian, Sports Director, Class Presidents, two Class Senators, Reflections (yearbook) Editor-in-Chief(s) and "Good Day, MGA" (school newspaper) Editor-in-Chief(s).

2.1.2

To assist the Executive Committee in planning events when requested a Class Committee shall be elected in a manner determined by the Class sponsors. The Classes shall have the following offices: President, Social Vice-President, Religious Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Historian.

2.1.3

The Class Committee shall plan and implement all class activities.

2.1.4

For descriptions of the Class office positions of Social and Religious Vice-President and their duties, replace any mention of "Student Association" with that of "Class." For all other offices there is a separate description.

2.2.1

The President, an ex-officio member of all committees but that of the Class Committee and Chairman of the Executive Committee (S. A. officers and Advisors), shall be in charge of all Student Association functions, familiarize himself with Robert's Rules of Order and shall assist the Parliamentarian in ensuring that all Student Association business meetings are conducted accordingly.

2.2.2

The Class President, and chairman of the Class Committee (Class officers and Advisors), shall be in charge of all Class functions, familiarize himself with Robert's Rules of Order and assist the Parliamentarian in assuring that all Class meetings are conducted accordingly.

2.3

The Social Vice-President shall be responsible for the organization, promotion and execution of all social activities of the Student Association. Also, in the absence, impeachment or resignation of the President, he shall assume all duties of the office of President and vacate the office of Social Vice-President.

2.4

The Religious Vice-President shall be responsible for the organization, promotion and execution of all religious activities of the Student Association. Also, in the absence of the Secretary, he shall assume all duties of the office of Secretary.

2.5.1

The Secretary shall maintain accurate minutes of all Senate and Executive Committee meetings in triplicate. One copy should be filed with the Principle's Office, one in the Student Association records and one in the library for general use. Also, he shall be responsible for roll call at all Senate and Executive Committee meetings. In addition, he shall be responsible for collecting, tabulating, and reporting all points from Class competitions.

The Secretary shall maintain accurate minutes of all Senate and Executive Committee meetings in a Google Document that is shared with all student association members and faculty. Also, he shall be responsible for roll call at all Senate and Executive Committee meetings. In addition, he shall be responsible for collecting, tabulating, and reporting all points from Class competitions.

2.5.2

The class Secretary shall maintain accurate minutes of all Class Committee Meetings in duplicate. One copy should be filed in the Class records and one should be placed in the room where Class meetings are held for his Class. This location should be known to the whole Class. He shall also be responsible for roll call at all meetings.

The class Secretary shall maintain accurate minutes of all Class Committee Meetings in a Google Document that is shared with all members of the class. He shall also be responsible for roll call at all meetings.

2.5.3

The Legislative Vice-President shall be in charge of all Senate meeting and functions familiarize himself with Robert's Rules of Order and shall assist the Parliamentarian in ensuring that all Senate meetings are conducted accordingly.

The Legislative Vice-President shall be in charge of all Senate meeting and functions familiarize himself with Robert's Rules of Order and shall assist the Parliamentarian in ensuring that all Senate meetings are conducted accordingly. They are also responsible for reading the Mesa Grande Constitution to the entire senate at the beginning of every school year.

2.6.1

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all fund raising efforts. He shall in the first Senate meeting of each semester present a proposed budget for that semester. He shall be responsible for the collection of all fees other than regular dues. He shall maintain accurate records of all business transactions of the Student Association and give a report of such whenever called for by the Executive Committee or Senate.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all fund raising efforts. He shall in the first Senate meeting of each semester present a proposed budget for that semester. He shall maintain accurate records of all business transactions of the Student Association in a spreadsheet and give a report of such whenever called for by the Executive Committee or Senate. This spreadsheet will be shared with all Senate members?

2.6.2

The Class Treasurer shall be responsible for all fund raising efforts of the Class (in consultation with Administration). He shall be responsible for designing a proposed budget for the Class. He shall be responsible for the collection of all fees other than that of Class dues. He shall maintain accurate records of all business transactions of the class and give a report of such whenever called for by the Class Committee.

The Class Treasurer shall be responsible for all fund raising efforts of the Class (in consultation with Administration). He shall be responsible for designing a proposed budget for the Class. He shall maintain accurate records of all business transactions of the class in a spreadsheet and give a report of such whenever called for by the Class Committee. This spreadsheet will be shared with all class members.

2.7.1

The Promotion Director shall be responsible for the Calendar of Events each month in the worship area. He shall also cooperate with the Social and Religious Vice-Presidents to design flyers, give announcements at assembly, and plan skits to announce upcoming events. He will be responsible (or make arrangements) for taking photographs and video footage of each event.

The Promotion Director shall be responsible for the Calendar of Events each month in the worship area. He shall also cooperate with the Social and Religious Vice-Presidents to design flyers, give announcements at assembly, and plan skits to announce upcoming events. He will be responsible (or make arrangements) for taking photographs and video footage of each event to be used in social media account? He shall also be responsible for arranging school texts.

2.7.2

There is no Promotion Director in Class office.

2.8.1

The Parliamentarian shall familiarize himself with Robert's Rules of Order and ensure that all meetings are conducted accordingly. He shall be responsible for the raising and lowering of the flag on each school day. He shall be responsible to work with the administration in regularly updating the school events sign. He shall, with the consent of the President, remove any person behaving in a disorderly fashion from any Student Association meeting.

The Parliamentarian shall familiarize himself with Robert's Rules of Order and ensure that all meetings are conducted accordingly. He shall be responsible to work with the administration in regularly updating the school events sign. He shall, with the consent of the President, remove any person behaving in a disorderly fashion from any Student Association meeting.

2.8.2

The Class Parliamentarian shall familiarize himself with Robert's Rules of Order and ensure that all Class meetings are conducted accordingly. He shall, with the consent of the President, remove any person behaving in a disorderly fashion from any Class meeting.

2.9.1

The Sports Director shall work with in cooperation with the P.E. Department in planning and executing all tournaments, noon-time activities and after-school activities. He shall also assist the Social and Religious Vice- Presidents in planning games for events when requested.

2.9.2

There is no Sports Director in Class office.

2.10

The Historian is exclusively a class office and is optional. He shall be responsible for finding background information about his Class and its members for graduation purposes and other specified functions.

2.11

Two Senators shall represent their respective classes at all Senate meetings and should report to their respective Classes at all Class meetings of the actions of the Senate. These are class elected offices appointed to the Senate.

2.12

The Newspaper Editor-in-Chief(s) shall be responsible for the publishing of the school newspaper and is not required to be at Executive or Senate meetings unless requested by the Chairman. This is a non-elected office.

The Newspaper Editor-in-Chief(s) shall be responsible for the publishing of the school newspaper and is not required to be at Executive or Senate meetings unless requested by the Legislative Vice. This is a non-elected office.

2.13

The Reflections Editor-in-Chief(s) shall be responsible for the publishing of the Student Association yearbook and is not required to be at Executive or Senate meetings unless requested by the Chairman. This is a non-elected office.

The Reflections Editor-in-Chief(s) shall be responsible for the publishing of the Student Association yearbook and is not required to be at Executive or Senate meetings unless requested by the Legislative Vice. This is a non-elected office.

2.14.1

Upon elections, the duration of the term of office for all Executive Committee officers shall be one semester, beginning on the first day of the semester and ending on the last.

2.14.2

A student elected for a first semester Executive Committee office shall remain in that office for that school year, unless another student is elected to that office for second semester.

ARTICLE III: The Student Senate

Section 3.1.1

The Student Senate shall consist of the Legislative Vice-President as well as the rest of the Executive Committee members and Advisors, the Class Presidents, the two Senators from each class and one Faculty member appointed by the Administration.

3.1.2

The Senate shall be the final authority on all Student Association matters.

3.1.3

The Senate shall meet once a week at a time and place approved by the Administration.

3.1.4

The Legislative Vice-President shall be elected with the Executive Committee. That person shall be responsible for the planning and executing of all Senate meetings. Until that person is elected, the Executive Committee President shall serve as Chairman.

3.1.5

The Senate shall nominate within its members a student representative to the school board. That person shall serve for a duration of time determined by the Senate.

3.1.6

One of the responsibilities of the Senate shall be to nominate candidates for Student of the Month and Student of the Year.

3.2

All actions planned or taken by the Senate are subject to Administrations approval.

3.3

The budget proposed by the Executive Committee must be approved by the Senate.

ARTICLE IV: Committees

Section 4.1.1

To ensure the effective operation of the Student Association, standing committees may be organized at the discretion of the Senate.

4.1.2

All Committees shall meet as needed at a time and place approved by the Administration.

4.2.1

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President as Chairman, Social Vice-President, Religious Vice-President, Legislative Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Promotion Director, Parliamentarian, Sports Director and two Faculty Advisors appointed by the Administration.

4.2.2

The Executive Committee shall meet to plan all activities of the Student Association.

4.2.3

The Executive Committee shall meet once a week. The Chairman reserves the right to call extra meetings when necessary.

4.3.1

The Class Committee shall consist of the following Class officers: President as Chairman, Social Vice-President, Religious Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Historian and two Faculty Advisors appointed by the Administration.

4.3.2

The Class Committee shall meet to plan all activities of the Class.

4.4.1

The Nominating Committee shall consist of all members on the Senate.

4.4.2

The Nominating Committee shall meet to fill any vacancies in any Committees.

4.5.1

The Election Committee shall consist of the President as Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Executive Committee Advisors.

4.5.2

If the President, Secretary and/or Treasurer are candidates for elective office, the Nominating Committee shall appoint other persons to fill their positions on the Election Committee. No person who is a candidate for a Student Association office shall be a member of the Election Committee.

4.5.3

The Election Committee shall conduct all elections and shall meet whenever the Executive Committee or Senate deems necessary.

4.6.1

The Constitution Committee shall consist of the Legislative Vice-President, President, one representative from each of the classes appointed by the Nominating Committee and one Faculty Advisor appointed by the Administration.

4.6.2

The Constitution Committee shall answer all questions arising from this Constitution and shall review the Constitution in its entirety.

4.7.1

The Social Activities Committee shall consist of the Social Vice-President as Chairman, the Social Vice-Presidents of each Class, a Faculty Advisor appointed by the Administration and any Student Association member requested by the Chairman and approved by the Executive Committee.

4.7.2

The Social Activities Committee shall plan and organize all social activities of the Student Association when requested by the Chairman.

4.8.1

The Religious Activities Committee shall consist of the Religious Vice-President as Chairman, the Religious Vice-Presidents of each class, a Faculty Advisor appointed by the Administration and any Student Association member requested by the Chairman and approved by the Executive Committee.

4.8.2

The Religious Activities Committee shall plan and organize all religious activities of the Student Association when requested by the Chairman. It shall also promote and encourage Christian ideals among the members of the Student Association.

ARTICLE V: The Point System

Section 5.1.1

Class points shall be awarded to classes according to how they place in all school activities, as designated by the Executive Committee.

5.1.2

The Point System shall be called the "Class Points Race"

5.1.3

The system shall be based on percentages set by the Executive Committee with the following two areas as parts: Participation and Outcome of Competitions. The Executive Committee also reserves the right to add areas as needed.

5.1.4

The Executive Committee shall designate which school activities will be awarded points.

5.1.5

Points for Participation will be based on paying attendees of all areas listed in Section 5.1.3. Outcome of Competitions will be based on the games at the activities. All other areas are to be defined by the Executive Committee.

5.2

Class points shall be awarded on a scale set by the Executive Committee.

5.3.1

The reward for winning the Class Points Race shall be a free day off of school chosen by the Administration. The activity shall be chosen by the Class and approved by the Administration. The Executive Committee members have the option of going on this activity. Up to two reward days may be accumulated during a class' first 3 years to lengthen the Senior Trip.

5.3.2

Names of the winning class each year will be displayed on a Spirit Trophy.

ARTICLE VI: Elections

Section 6.1

All members of the Student Association are eligible to vote in all Executive Committee elections. Eligibility for Class Elections is limited to members of that class.

6.2.1

All full time students who maintain a 2.5 G.P.A. (major office) or 2.0 G.P.A. (minor office), have no "F" and/or more than 2 "D" grades at of the prior quarter grades, have an acceptable attendance record as defined by administration, and are representative of the spiritual, social and scholastic standards of Mesa Grande Academy, are eligible to run for Student Association office.

6.2.2

A student must be a member of the Student Association for one semester immediately prior to the elections to be eligible to run for the office of President. In the same manner, a student must be a member of the Senate for one semester immediately prior to the elections to be eligible to run for the office of Legislative Vice-President. All other offices require the student to be a member for one semester immediately prior to the elections.

6.2.3

At the beginning of term the President must be a Junior or Senior and have served at least one year in the Executive Committee or Class Committee since becoming a member of the Student Association.

6.2.4

For the purposes of 6.2.1, a major office is defined as President, Social Vice-President, Spiritual Vice-President, or Legislative Vice-President.

6.3.1

All persons wishing to run for elective office must request from the Administration or sponsors a "Certificate of Eligibility Request." In order to qualify for the aforementioned certificate, they must meet the provisions of sections 6.2.1-6.2.4.

6.3.2

When the "Certificate of Eligibility Request" is issued, the student must obtain 25 names (12 names if running for class office) endorsing him as a candidate for the office on the form issued by the Administration. If running for Executive Committee office, this list must include 10 names of students not from the candidate's class. The aforementioned certificate and completed petition must be submitted to the Election Committee Chairman or a faculty advisor for approval before the specified deadline to be eligible to run for office.

6.3.3

Candidates for Student Association Office must read through this Constitution in the presence of an Executive Committee Officer, Senate member, or faculty member before they are eligible to run for office.

6.4

All Executive Committee elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.

6.5.1

Executive Committee elections for each year shall be conducted within the following time table:

All "Certificate of Eligibility Request" and petition papers must be obtained from the Administration and submitted complete to a faculty advisor before the faculty or administrative counsel meetings during the week of the election. The Election Committee Chairman may set a deadline within this time period.

If desired, Primary Elections shall be conducted on a Friday Chapel up to two weeks before the General Elections.

All General Elections shall be conducted on a Friday Chapel during the final two weeks of the semester.

6.5.2

All Special Elections shall be conducted on a date set by the Elections Committee and approved by the Administration.

6.5.3

All Class elections shall be conducted on a Friday chapel during the final 4 weeks of the school year but before the Executive Committee election.

6.6

There must be at least three candidates for an office for a Primary Election to be held. If there are fewer than three candidates for an office, the candidates automatically become eligible for the General Election. If there is an office which does not have two candidates, then the sole candidate shall be placed on the ballot. In the event that a candidate is running unopposed, they automatically hold the office if they receive at least one vote. Student Association members wishing to oppose a said candidate must run against him themselves. If there is no candidate for an office, the Senate shall decide whether the vacancy be filled by holding a Special Election of the Student Association, or through the selection process of the Nominating Committee as stated in Article XII.

6.7.1

The two candidates, running for a given office, that receive the most votes in a Primary Election, shall move on to the General Election.

6.7.2

In a General Election, a candidate must receive a simple majority of the votes cast to be elected into the office.

6.7.3

In case of a tie, the Election Committee shall hold a runoff within a week after the General Elections.

6.7.4

For all elections to be official, the votes must be tabulated by the Election Committee.

6.7.5

Any candidate may call in writing for a recount of the ballots within three days of the election, or Special Election.

6.8

Class Committee elections shall be run according to a method decided upon by the Class and its Faculty Advisors.

ARTICLE VII: Impeachment

Section 7.1

Any officer, Student Association or Class, charged with conduct not in harmony with the principles of Mesa Grande Academy, with destruction of school property, with being negligent of the duties of his office, with being absent from more than two Senate or Committee meetings without a petition stating sufficient cause may be impeached and, if found guilty, removed from office.

7.2.1

In the case of such an event, an Impeachment Committee shall be organized consisting of the Principal, President, Secretary, Executive Committee Advisors and a Faculty member appointed by the Administration. The committee shall investigate and pass judgement upon all charges presented in writing by any Student Association member.

7.2.2

In the case that it is a Class officer that is being impeached, the Executive Committee Officers and Advisors shall be replaced by the Class Committee Officers and Advisors.

7.2.3

In the case that the President or the Secretary are being impeached, the officer shall be replaced in a manner designated in Article XII.

ARTICLE VIII: Veto

Section 8.1

The Senate may veto any Presidential or Executive Committee action by a two-thirds majority vote.

ARTICLE IX: Amendments

Section 9.1

The Constitution Committee shall propose all amendments it deems necessary to the Senate. After Senate and Administrative approval, the amendment must be placed on the next election ballot or a Special Election must be called for by the Senate upon the recommendation of the Constitution Committee and with the approval of the Administration.

9.2

One quarter of the members of the Student Association may propose by petition an amendment. After Senate and Administrative approval, the Senate must call for a Special Election to vote upon the amendment.

9.3

If the Constitution Committee deems necessary that the Student Association draft a new constitution, it must bring this request before the Administration which must approve the request by a two-thirds majority vote. Then and only then may a new constitution be drafted.

9.4

All amendments and new constitutions must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the votes cast by the Student Association members.

9.5

All amendments and new constitutions must be posted in public view at least a week before they are to be voted upon.

ARTICLE X: Attendance

Section 10.1

For any meeting of the Senate and Executive Committee to be official, at least one of the following officers must be present: Legislative Vice-President, President, Social Vice-President, Spiritual Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer.

10.2

For votes of the Senate to be official, a quorum of the members must be present and voting. A simple majority of the votes cast is sufficient for approval or disapproval of all action except in case of veto.

10.3

No action of the Senate or any Committee shall be official if a Faculty Advisor is not present.

ARTICLE XI: Initiatives

Section 11.1

If one quarter of the members of the Student Association shall in writing request that a special action be taken, the Senate must call for a Student Association meeting to vote upon this action.

11.2

If one quarter of the members of the Student Association shall in writing request the Student Association Advisors to initiate an action in the Senate, the Senate must consider this action.

ARTICLE XII: Replacement

Section 12.1.1

In case of resignation, expulsion or any other reason for which the office of President is vacated, the Social Vice-President shall assume all duties and responsibilities of that office and vacate the office of Social Vice President.

12.1.2

In case of resignation, expulsion or any other reason for which the office of Social Vice-President is vacated, the Treasurer shall assume all duties and responsibilities of that office and vacate the office of Treasurer.

12.2.1

In case of vacancy in any office, the Nominating Committee shall meet to decide whether to hold a Special Election or to fill it.

12.2.2

After the stipulations in Sections 12.1.1 and 12.1.2 have been met, the Nominating Committee shall nominate two names to fill the vacancy. The Committee may then by vote make the appointment, or have the Student Association vote on those nominated in a Special Election.

12.2.3

The nominees must meet the requirements for holding office as stated in Article VI.

12.2.4

A Special Election may also be held in a manner similar to that of a General Election instead of using Nominating Committee procedures.

ARTICLE XIII: Publications

Section 13.1.1

The official newspaper of the Student Association shall be published monthly and in a format approved by the Senate. The name of this paper shall be determined by newspaper staff and approved by the Senate and Administration.

13.1.2

Reflections shall be the official yearbook of the Student Association and shall be published in a format approved by the Senate.

13.2.1

The Editor-in-Chief(s) of the newspaper shall be selected by the Faculty Advisor and must be approved by the Publications Committee. He shall be assisted by the Faculty Advisor appointed by the Administration.

13.2.2

The Editor-in-Chief(s) of Reflections shall be selected by the Faculty Advisor and must be approved by the Senate. He shall be assisted by the Faculty Advisor appointed by the Administration.

13.2.3

No person may serve as Editor-in-Chief of the same publication for more than two consecutive terms.

13.3.1

The newspaper staff shall be selected by the Editor-in-Chief and the Faculty Advisor with each member approved by the Senate.

13.3.2

The yearbook staff shall be selected by the Editor-in-Chief and the Faculty Advisor with each member approved by the Senate.

13.4.1

At the beginning of the school year the Editor-in-Chief of the newspaper will give a presentation to the Senate stating all information (i.e. staff, schedule, format) regarding the newspaper.

13.4.2

At the beginning of the school year the Editor-in-Chief of the yearbook will give a presentation to the Senate stating all information (i.e. staff, format, content) regarding the yearbook.

ARTICLE XIV: General Provisions

Section 14.1.1

The colors of Mesa Grande Academy shall be red and black.

14.1.2

The emblem of Mesa Grande Academy shall be the Cardinal as depicted in the P.E. uniforms.

14.1.3

The Constitution shall be available to all in the library.

14.2

At the beginning of each term the President shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I so solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the Student Association and will do to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Student Association."

14.3

The Constitution empowers the Senate to take all actions it may deem necessary for the proper and effective operation of the Student Association and for the complete implementation of all provisions of this Constitution.

14.4

The Student Association dues shall be set by the Administration upon the recommendation of the Treasurer and the approval of the Board of Directors of Mesa Grande Academy.

14.5.1

The Treasurer may, with the signature of the President and a Student Association Advisor, authorize the expenditure of miscellaneous funds of up to \$500.00. Any amount above and beyond that must be approved by the Executive Committee.

14.5.2

The Treasurer should give a monthly financial report at the first Senate meeting of each month and when requested by the Senate.

14.6

Student Week of Prayer shall be planned and executed by the Executive Committee with approval of all parts by the Administration.

14.7

No person may hold the same office for more than two terms. Also, no officer may hold more than one office at any given time excluding officers of clubs.

14.8

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the Student Association's official guide in all matters of parliamentary procedure.

14.9

The Executive Committee Advisors are responsible for making sure that all officers and members abide by this Constitution.

14.10.1

Whenever the word or forms of the word "Administration" are used within this Constitution, it shall be interpreted as meaning the Principal of Mesa Grande Academy, the Vice-Principal of Mesa Grande Academy, the Registrar of Mesa Grande Academy, the Faculty Sponsors, and/or the Faculty.

14.10.2

Whenever the word or forms of the word "he" are used within this Constitution, it shall be interpreted as meaning he or she.

14.11

This Constitution applies to all student run organizations.

14.12

Administration may, in consultation with the Student Senate, make exceptions to this constitution, where a specific need can be identified with a clear rationale for the exception.

ARTICLE XV: Ratification

Section 15.1.1

The ratification of this Constitution is a three step process.

15.1.2

The ratification by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the Senate sends this Constitution to the next step in the process of ratification.

15.1.3

The ratification by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the Faculty sends this Constitution to the next step in the process of ratification.

15.1.4

The ratification by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the Student Association members is the final step for the establishment of this Constitution.

15.2

Upon ratification, all previous constitutions are declared null and void.

15.3

All provisions of this Constitution shall go into effect immediately upon ratification.