

Grant School Student Council

Executive Board Application Packet



This packet contains information on applying for a position within Grant Student Council Executive Board for the 2015-2016 school year. Students **MUST read all portions** of this packet carefully, complete all necessary pages and return completed packets to Mrs. Pellizzari by **3:00 p.m. Friday, May 1st**. Application packets can be turned into the main office to be put into Mrs. Pellizzari's box. ***Do NOT submit individual pages/documents – submit the entire packet at one time!***

Eligibility for Student Council Executive Board:

- Must have a 2.7 grade point average for the current (2014-2015) academic year. Student Council occasionally means students miss class and students must be able to maintain their grades.
- May not have a history of class disruptions, insubordination, discipline issues or any suspensions.
- Candidates for President and Vice President must be in 8th grade and have prior student council experience.
- Candidates for Secretary and Treasurer may be in the 7th or 8th grade.
- All Candidates must complete the application packet and present a campaign speech to the student body. (See attached sheet for election rules).
- Students must be able to participate in extra-curricular activities and lunch meetings. Some of these activities will be after school, and your participation is critical to our success. Participation in a school sport is an acceptable reason to miss an activity.

Application Packets Must Include the Following

- **Student Council Parent Permission Slip:** Each candidate must submit a signed parent/guardian permission slip.
- **Student Council Questionnaire:** This is your chance to demonstrate quality writing and provide insight to your leadership skills to the selection committee.
- **Student Council Executive Board Position Preference:** This sheet allows you to let the leadership selection committee know which position(s) you are most interested in. ***All Applicants must also sign their acknowledgement that they have read and agree to the Student Council Rules of Electioneering and Campaign Speeches. (See pgs. 7 & 8).***

Student Council Executive Board Responsibilities

1. Attend ***ALL*** meetings. ***Three unexcused absences*** will result in dismissal from the Council. We will be meeting this August, prior to the start of school for team building and leadership activities, as well as planning for the upcoming school year. The date for this will be set after the executive board has been established, to best accommodate all summer schedules.
2. Chair one committee and help ***with all Student Council sponsored events and activities*** during the year, contributing your ***time and effort*** to make each Student Council activity the best it can be.
3. ***Act responsibly*** at all meetings and activities/events and as a ***leader*** at Grant School.
4. ***Good citizenship*** is a must.
5. ***Keep grades as high as possible.*** A 2.7 yearly cumulative GPA and no F's is required to remain active on the Student Council Executive Board.
6. ***Maintain a strong school attendance record.***
7. ***Solicit input*** from your classmates. You ***ARE*** their representatives.

Student Council Parent Permission Slip

Student Name: _____

Grade 2015-2016 _____

I/We are aware our child is applying for a Student Council Executive Board Position at Grant School. I/We have reviewed the above Student Council Executive Board responsibilities with them. I/We realize that these positions require time and effort both during and after school. Failure to fulfill these responsibilities may result in the dismissal of our child from their Student Council Executive Board Position.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Grant Student Council Executive Board Position Preference

The following Student Council Executive Board Positions are available for the 2015-2016 School Year. Homeroom representatives will be elected in September by homeroom classes, no applications will be required. If you do not receive the Student Council Executive Board Position you desire at this time, remember this is another option for you.

Position Appointments – Executive board positions will be decided by a combined score of applications, speeches and student performance (60% as evaluated by the selection committee) and student vote (40%). The selection committee will include the Student Council Advisor, Principal, out-going Student Council President and at least one additional Grant Staff Member. The qualified students with the 6 highest combined scores will be given a position on the Grant Student Council Executive Board. Please rank your interest in each position rated with a 1 for your first choice, 2 for second, etc. If you are not interested in and/or qualified for a particular position, please do not indicate an interest for that position.

_____ ***President*** - The president shall preside over all meetings of the Student Council. The president shall appoint special committees and supervise the work of all committees. The president shall prepare an agenda for each Student Council meeting and submit it to the Advisor(s) for approval. *Must be an 8th grade student with prior student council experience. Good leadership and organizational skills are required.*

_____ ***Vice President*** - The vice president shall perform the duties of the President in the President's absence. The Vice President shall also assist the President in the duties of that office. *Must be an 8th grade student with prior student council experience. Good leadership and organizational skills are required.*

_____ ***Secretary*** - The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Student Council, keep a record of all correspondence, write monthly newsletter articles, post necessary bulletins, and assist the President in the preparation of the agenda. The Secretary shall submit the minutes to the advisor(s) on the day of the Student Council meeting. *Good organizational skills and the ability to meet deadlines are necessary.*

_____ ***Treasurer*** - The treasurer shall work directly under the supervision of a faculty advisor in the accounting of any student body funds. *Must be able to work well with numbers.*

_____ ***8th Grade Student Senator*** - Will be responsible for representing the 8th grade students, coordinating 8th grade student council activities. *Must be able to listen and present ideas to classmates.*

_____ ***7th Grade Student Senator*** - Will be responsible for representing the 7th grade students, coordinating 7th grade student council activities. *Must be able to listen and present ideas to classmates.*

I have read and agree to abide by the rules governing Grant Student Council Elections and Campaign Speeches.

Student Signature

Date

Student Council Applicant Questionnaire

Directions: Please neatly answer the following questions. Take your time and use your best writing and thinking skills. You may answer them in ink or "type" them on a separate sheet of paper and attach to your completed application. You must answer all questions to be considered for a student council position.

1. *What do you believe are the most important characteristics of a leader? Why?* _____

2. *Student leaders have many different roles. They can be categorized in three ways: the planner (enjoys organizing events, is very responsible, can be trusted with almost any task), the speaker (does not mind explaining things and has no problem being the voice for a group or speaking in front of larger groups), and the artist (often has big ideas, enjoys the creative side of planning an event and making that event beautiful). Which one best describes you?*

Explain why. _____

3. *Describe any previous leadership experience you have had either in the school or community. (If you have little or no experience, it will not disqualify you from a student council position.)* _____

4. *As a student council member you will be representing the student body. Explain how you will obtain the desires of the student body and how you will go about implementing appropriate ideas.* _____

5. *If you could make ONE improvement at Grant School, what would it be and why? How would you go about implementing this idea?* _____

6. *The Grant Junior High Homeroom classrooms occasionally have Cougar Cup Competitions. As a Grant Student, describe an idea you have for a homeroom competition that you would like to participate in.* _____

7. *Student Council raises money every year to benefit our school. Please explain how you think this money should be used and why.* _____

8. *Each Executive Board Member will also chair one committee. The committees include the following: Dance, Grams, Service Projects, Spirit Days, Sports & Games, and Assemblies. Which committee do you think you would best serve as chair? Why?* _____

Congratulations!

*You have made it to the end of your application packet!! The following information is important for you to have, so remove this page and keep it for your records. You need to pay special attention to the **RULES of ELECTIONEERING and Campaign Speeches**. Failure to follow these rules can result in your disqualification.*

Student Council Application Timelines

Wednesday, April 22nd – Student Council Leadership Application Packets available from homeroom teacher

Friday, May 1st - Student Council Leadership Application Packets due to Mrs. Pellizzari by 3:00

Monday, May 11th – Election Posters due

Tuesday, May 12th – Electioneering period begins

Wednesday, May 13th – Draft speeches are due to Mrs. Pellizzari by 12:45 pm for review

Friday, May 15th – Final speeches are due to Mrs. Pellizzari by 12:45 pm

Friday, May 22nd – Student Council Elections

Tuesday, May 26th – 2014 Student Council Executive Council Positions Posted at 8:00 a.m. back door of gym

CAMPAIGN SPEECH GUIDELINES

- 1. **Speech Drafts and Revisions:** Drafts must be submitted to Mrs. Pellizzari for review by 12:45 p.m. Wednesday, May 13th and Final Speeches must be turned in by 12:45 pm on, May 15th. Candidates **MUST** keep a copy for themselves – we will **NOT** return submitted drafts and revisions. Changes to the final speech are not allowed and may result in disqualification.*
- 2. **Use of technology/electronic devices:** A podium, microphone, and sound system will be commonly provided to all candidates for use in their speeches. Time limits: Speeches will have a 3 minute time limit. Candidates will be warned when 15 seconds remain in their allotted time.*
- 3. **Speeches should NOT include promises that are inappropriate or impossible to deliver:** For example, candidates should not promise more dances or a looser dress code – the calendar for next year has already been set, and the dress code is determined by school administration.*

4. *Negative attacks on the personal character of any fellow candidate, student, or faculty member are inappropriate and will NOT be tolerated. Mentioning of running mates is not appropriate.*

RULES OF ELECTIONEERING (For 7th & 8th Grade Senators):

*Electioneering is the process where candidates who successfully complete the application process will attempt to convince their fellow students to vote for them. **The Electioneering Period will begin on May 12, 2015.** All candidates must carefully follow these rules, and are responsible to ensure that their campaign workers also follow them:*

1. **Campaign posters:** *Posters are due to Mrs. Pellizzari by 3:00 pm on Monday, May 11th. Candidates may submit only TWO posters each, which cannot be larger than 24 by 36 inches. All posters submitted – along with anything attached to them – will become the property of the Grant Student Council and will NOT be returned. Only posters with Mrs. Pellizzari’s signature will be allowed to be posted.*
2. **No candy, toys, pencils, or any other giveaways may be made on behalf of any candidate.** *Illegal campaign materials will be confiscated, not returned, and could lead to your disqualification (see #6 below).*
3. **At no time should campaign activity interfere with classroom instruction.** *Teacher reports of this will be thoroughly investigated, and could lead to your disqualification (see #6 below).*
4. **In Case of a Tie** *the selection committee will make the final decision.*
5. **Interference in another candidates’ campaign may result in disqualification** *(see #6 below).*
6. **Disqualification:** *Article V Section VII of the Student Council Constitution empowers the Advisor and a unanimous vote of the 8th grade members of the current Executive Board to disqualify a candidate for any violation of these Rules of Electioneering, including the Campaign Speech guidelines.*