

STUDENT COUNCIL!

Those who serve on the Student Council are taking on important responsibilities. You represent your fellow students, making decisions about school projects and events, and learn how a Student Council works. You consider ideas other than your own. You consider your classmates' ideas and think about the entire school when you make decisions. Through the Student Council, every student's ideas can be heard and can become a part of the operation of the school.

Here are some basic duties Student Council members will be responsible for:

- During homeroom on Fridays, find out what ideas your fellow students have, what they think about the issues before Student Council, and take votes. During homeroom on Mondays, share meeting minutes with class.
- Attend all Student Council meetings; meetings will be held during Activity Period on Tuesdays, except when otherwise specified.
- Chair committees, serve on committees, and recruit other students for committees.
- Make decisions that reflect the ideas and will of the student body and are appropriate for our school.
- Student Council members may be asked or required to spend time outside of the regular school day on Student Council-related activities, such as dances, skate nights, movie nights, volunteer opportunities, etc.
- Student Council members are expected to represent the best of the school community.

The various positions on Student Council:

- **President:** The officer in charge of the group; presides at Student Council meetings; meets with staff advisor during Friday recess to plan agenda for meeting.
- **Vice President:** The officer who helps the president, works with committees, and replaces the president if he/she is absent; meet with staff advisor during Friday recess to plan agenda for the meeting.
- **Secretary:** The officer who takes minutes, keeps attendance, and writes "Student Council News" for Monday's homeroom; meet with staff advisor during Friday recess to plan agenda for the meeting.
- **Treasurer:** The officer who keeps records of the Student Council's money; meet with staff advisor during Friday recess to plan agenda for the meeting.
- **Class Representatives:** Those members who represent the students in their class and all students by attending meetings and reporting business discussed to other students during Monday homerooms.

Forms are due in the office no later than the end of school on Friday, February 10.

A copy of your speech is due to Ms. Wright by the beginning of school on February 14.

Campaigning will be on February 15 & 16.

Candidates will give speeches on Thursday, February 16, during activity period, in front of the office.

Voting will occur the following Friday, February 17 during history class.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

To be read by student & parent:

- Campaigning takes place on Wednesday, February 15 & 16.
- Speeches will be given on Thursday, February 16. Council Members will be elected on Friday, February 17.
- You may put up flyers (no larger than 8 ½ X 11) and posters (no larger than 11 X 14). Do not post on doors or on outside walls. All campaigning signs must be removed from the campus by the end of the day on Friday.
- **Those students who wish to promote their candidacies in other ways are limited to a budget of \$10.00.**
- Stickers may not be placed anywhere on a person other than their shirt.
- **Candy may NOT be passed out any time for campaigning.**

Exceeding the limits may disqualify your candidacy. Please respect the campaign materials of all candidates. Please maintain a high ethical standard around the election.

Eligibility Guidelines

Eligibility requirements to run for and serve on Student Council at Old Orchard Upper School:

- The President must be an 8th grade student, have 4 teacher recommendations based on citizenship, and a parent signature. The President must have previously served on Student Council.
- All other Student Council members must have 4 teacher recommendations based on citizenship and a parent signature. All Student Council members, including the President, must hold and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 during their time on Student Council. Council members whose GPA drops below this point will be given the opportunity to raise it.
- Class Reps from first semester may not run for Class Rep second semester (unless no one else in the class chooses to run), but may run for offices.
- If you are suspended from school during your term of office, you are no longer allowed to be on Student Council.
- If you do not fulfill your duties in your elected position, you will be removed from office.
- If you miss more than two meetings for reasons other than sickness or absence from school, you may be voted off of Student Council by Student Council. Meetings will be held during Activity Period, so make sure you are able to miss Activity Period at least one day per week with no detriment to your grades.

Speech Guidelines

- Students must be respectful about other candidates and their ideas.
- Speeches must be approved by Ms. Wright before they are given; drafts are due on Tuesday, February 14.
- No negative campaigning will be allowed. You may not put down the past Student Council members or their accomplishments; you may not put down the students who are running against you.
- **You may not promise things you can't realistically deliver.** For example, Student Council cannot change the dress code, add 5 dances or affect the curriculum. Running a campaign based on promises you can't keep is unethical and may result in you being disqualified.

