



# Johnsonville High School Student Council Constitution

## **PREAMBLE**

We, the students of Johnsonville High School, do hereby establish a Student Council to be a forum for student opinions, promote positive relationships between faculty and students, provide opportunities for school and community service, and develop a culture that fosters student citizenship and leadership. To confirm our dedication to these ideals, we do hereby adopt this constitution for the Student Council of Johnsonville High School.

## **ARTICLE ONE**

### **Organization**

#### ***Section 1***

The governing organization of the study body shall be known as the Student Council and shall be recognized as the official representative organization of the student body and as such its actions supersedes those of all other student organizations.

#### ***Section 2***

The Student Council shall be divided into two branches: the Student Body Officers and the Class Officers. These groups will work together to create a more engaging high school experience.

#### ***Section 3***

All powers of the Student Council are delegated to it by the principal who has the right to veto any act of the body or revoke any powers held by it.

#### ***Section 4***

The Student Council shall:

- Sponsor one service activity each semester of the school year
- Promote school spirit through appropriate activities
- Recognize students and staff for accomplishments
- Organize a school wide spirit week during football season

## **ARTICLE TWO**

### **Positions and Responsibilities**

#### ***Section 1***

The Student Body Officers of the Student Council shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

#### ***Section 2***

Student Body Officers, along with the approval and assistance of the Student Council Advisor, shall

- Provide leadership for the entire Student Council. This includes meeting prior to full Student Council meetings, when necessary, to set an agenda and talk over possible ideas to present to the council for consideration.
- Not oversee class activities during Spirit Week and other class lead activities. They can participate as standing members of their class, but they do not have more influence over class decisions than other members of the class.
- Appoint committees and committee chairs as necessary to carry out the business of the Student Council.

### **Section 3**

The President shall:

- Be a senior with previous Student Council experience (see ARTICLE FIVE, Section 2)
- Be the chief executive of the Student Council
- Be the chief executive of the Student Body Officers
- Be the Master of Ceremonies of all programs and assemblies as designated by the principal
- Shall serve as an intermediary between the administration, faculty and student government
- Shall present all government business to administration unless they, and/or the Student Council Advisor, delegate another council member the responsibility to do so

### **Section 4**

The Vice-President shall:

- Be a junior with previous Student Council experience (see ARTICLE FIVE, Section 2)
- Be a junior with prior experience on Student Council
- Perform the duties of the president in their absence
- Shall serve as chairman of the constitution committee
- Shall perform all other duties which may be assigned by the president or the advisor

### **Section 5**

The Secretary shall:

- Keep an accurate record of all Student Council meetings and business
- Keep an accurate record of all Student Body Officer meetings and business
- Perform all Student Council correspondence

### **Section 6**

The Treasurer shall:

- Keep all Student Council financial records
- Report all council finances at meetings and submit a copy of the report to the secretary
- Count and receipt funds received and deposit them in the main office

### **Section 7**

The Advisor shall:

- Be appointed by the principal
- Ensure the council performs their responsibilities consistently and correctly
- Interpret situations not addressed directly in the constitution
- Accompany selected delegates to the State Conference when applicable

### **Section 8**

Attendance to State Conference and Workshops will be decided by the advisor with input from the council and approval by the principal.

### **Section 9**

The principal and the advisor have the authority to appoint, from time-to-time, additional [ex officio] member(s) to Student Council for such purposes as filling positions related to special projects and including students who have been selected to serve in local, state, and/or national positions

## **ARTICLE THREE**

### **Voting**

#### **Section 1**

All legislative powers of the Student Council shall be vested in the Student Council

## **Section 2**

The voting members of the Student Council will be both Student Body Officers and Class Officers

# **ARTICLE FOUR**

## **Class Officer Responsibilities**

### **Section 1**

Class Officers are responsible for cultivating the well-being of their respective classes

### **Section 2**

Each class shall have a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer

### **Section 3**

In addition to general council activities, class officers will be specifically responsible for the following for their class:

- Freshmen Class – organizing Spirit Week activities; additional class activities during the year
- Sophomore Class – organizing Spirit Week activities; help with Open House; additional class activities during the year
- Junior Class – organize Spirit Week activities; help with Open House; serve on the Ring Committee and at Ring Ceremony; help organize prom and other class activities as needed
- Senior Class – organize Spirit Week activities, help with Open House; help with Senior Supplies, organize Class Night and Class Reunions

# **ARTICLE FIVE**

## **Eligibility and Elections**

### **Section 1**

To be eligible for any Student Council office, a rising freshmen to seniors must:

- Have attended either Johnsonville High School or Johnsonville Middle School one semester prior to taking office
- Be in good academic standing (as defined by the district for participation in school activities)
- Have a conduct record free of suspensions and/or administrative disciplinary actions

### **Section 2**

To be eligible for any Student Body office, a rising sophomore to senior must have previously served on Student Council at Johnsonville High School at least one (1) semester and ended or completed their term of service/office in good standing.

### **Section 3**

Starting in the 2024 school year, students who wish to run for Student Council will file for office in March. To be placed on the ballot, candidates must:

- Attend the information meeting lead by the Student Council Advisor
- Complete the candidate packet (*see candidate packet*)
- Obtain and submit two faculty recommendations (*see candidate packet*)
- Submit a campaign video to the Student Council Advisor by a predetermined deadline

### **Section 4**

As stated in Article Five, section 3; candidates must submit a video to be available for student so view on election day. This video must:

- Be submitted to the Student Council Advisor by the predetermined deadline
- Approved by the Student Council Advisor
- Be at LEAST thirty (30) seconds long, but not exceed three (3) minutes
- Give reasons why the candidate is the best person for the office

All campaign posters and activities must be approved by the Student Council Advisor

Candidates cannot pass out campaign materials such as candy, buttons, gifts, etc.

### **Section 5**

Starting in the 2024 school year, approximately the third week of April, rising sophomores to seniors shall vote by electronic ballot to determine who will fill each Study Body Office and Class Office for the next school year.

Rising freshmen will vote by electronic ballot one week later to determine who will fill Freshmen Class Officers for the following school year. Rising freshmen will not be eligible to vote for Student Body Officers since they are not currently enrolled at Johnsonville High School.

Current seniors are not eligible to vote.

Students receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to their designated positions. In the event of a tie, a run-off will be held as soon as possible.

Write-in candidates shall be ineligible for election.

## **ARTICLE SIX**

### **Removal**

#### **Section 1**

The following are grounds for possible removal from office or other council disciplinary actions:

- Inappropriate behaviors or conduct inside or outside of Johnsonville High School
- Failure to perform duties to the best of one's abilities (*see Student Council Members Expectations*)
- Failure to maintain acceptable academic standards

#### **Section 2**

If a member breaks any of the conditions in the previous section, they will be required to appear before the advisor in a closed meeting to go over the details of what happened. At that time, the advisor will decide what, if any, disciplinary actions will take place.

Removal from the council will only be done so with the approval of the principal.

#### **Section 3**

In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of Student Council President, the Student Council Vice-President shall succeed to the office of President.

#### **Section 4**

In the event of a vacancy of any other Student Council position, a decision will be made by the advisor and principal on if the position needs to be filled.

If the position needs to be filled, an emergency election will take place where all previous stated eligibility procedures will be followed

#### **Section 5**

If a member is removed or resigns from office, they will no longer be eligible for office in the future without advisor and principal approval.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN**

### **Amendments**

#### **Section 1**

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed in writing by any Student Council Member.

## ***Section 2***

The Constitution will be reviewed by a specially appointed committee every spring semester. The committee will review and recommend any necessary changes. The committee will be chaired by the Student Body Vice-President and consist of one member from each grade level.

## ***Section 3***

In the event the constitution is rewritten or major changes are made, it will be voted on by the entire student council and must be approved by two-thirds majority of voting students.

## ***Section 4***

A copy of the constitution will be available on the school website.

# **ARTICLE EIGHT**

## **Meetings**

### ***Section 1***

A standing day of the week will be set for weekly Student Council meetings. The Student Body President or Advisor will announce when meetings will be held.

### ***Section 2***

Special meetings will be called as necessary by the Student Body President or Advisor

### ***Section 3***

Attendance at council meetings is required. Members unable to attend must notify the Student Body Secretary and Advisor in writing at least one (1) day prior to the meeting.

Any member having three (3) unexcused absences will be required to meet with the advisor to determine what, if any, disciplinary actions will be given. (See Article 6, Section 1)

Excused absences include:

- Any excused absence from school
- Absence from the school day
- Any preapproved after school commitments
- **In Season** practices, games, meets, events
- Making up schoolwork from being out of school