

CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

OF

CROSSLAND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Article I. The purposes of this Student Government shall be:

- A. To organize this school into a representative democracy similar to that of the United States, in order to prepare youth for the responsibilities of living in a free nation.
- B. To promote the growth of leadership in the youth of this school, that they may become better citizens for today and tomorrow.
- C. To promote the welfare and integrity of the school.
- D. To coordinate the various extra-curricular activities of this school.

Article II. The legislative powers of this Student Government shall be vested in a Congress of the Student Government, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

- A. The House of Representatives shall consist of one Representative from each homeroom, chosen by plurality vote in that homeroom.

No person who shall not be a member of the homeroom he seeks to represent, or who shall have received any average lower than a "C" during any quarter of the year preceeding his election, shall be a Representative.

When a vacancy occurs in the representation of any homeroom, that homeroom shall elect a new Representative.

The House of Representatives shall elect their presiding officer, the Speaker of the House. The Speaker of the House shall appoint a Parliamentarian of the House, and any other officers deemed necessary by a majority of the members of the House of Representatives.

The House of Representatives shall have the power of impeachment of the President and the Vice President of the Student Government. A two-thirds vote of the members of the House of Representatives shall be required for impeachment.

- B. The Senate shall be composed of Senators elected from each class. Each class body shall elect eight Senators.

No person shall be a Senator who will not be a member of the class he will represent, or who shall have received any grade lower than a "C" during the year in which he shall be elected.

If a vacancy shall occur in the Senate seats of any class, it shall be filled by election in the class organization representing the class holding the vacated seat.

The Vice President of the Student Government shall be the President of the Senate. He shall have no vote except to make or break a tie.

The Senate shall elect a President Pro-Tempore, from its own members, who shall preside in the absence of the President of the Senate.

The Senate shall have the power to try all cases of impeachment. In all trials of impeachment the President Pro-Tempore shall preside. Two-thirds vote of the Senators shall be required for conviction. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall extend no farther than removal from office.

The President of the Senate shall appoint a Parliamentarian, and any other officers deemed necessary by a majority of the Senators.

During the 1965-1966 school year the Ninth Grade shall have two Senators. After the 1965-1966 school year this clause shall be null and void.

- C. The Representatives to the House of Representatives shall be elected during the first week of each semester, each school year. The Senators shall be elected the second Monday of April, during the school year preceeding that of their terms.

The Senators of the Sophomore Class shall be elected during the first week of the school year during which they shall serve; this day shall be the same as that established for the election of Representatives.

No member of the Senior Class of this school shall vote for any member of this Student Government other than the Representative from his homeroom.

- D. Congress shall convene, in joint session, on the last Monday of September. Thereafter, the Senate and House shall convene separately at regular intervals to be no longer than one month.
- E. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum in that house, but each house may do business with fewer present if there are no objections. The two houses shall convene separately except on occasions when the President shall call a joint session or a special session, or when this Constitution shall require a joint session.

The Senate and House of Representatives shall refer to Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, for all matters of procedure.

Each house shall establish rules for the conduct of its members, and may, with the concurrence of two-thirds of its members, expell a member.

Complete records of the proceedings of each house shall be kept by two clerks chosen by the presiding officer of that house. These records shall be published at regular intervals corresponding to the interval at which that house shall meet. These records shall be posted in each homeroom.

- F. Every bill which shall have the approval of both houses of Congress shall be signed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, and then forwarded to the President of the Student Government.

The President shall either sign the bill and forward it to the Principal, or he will veto the bill and return it to the house of Congress in which it originated with a written list of his reasons for rejection. The Congress may override a presidential veto by two-thirds vote of each house. The bill shall then be sent immediately to the Principal, with the list of reasons for the presidential veto still attached.

The Principal shall either approve the bill by signing it, at which time it shall become effective, or, the Principal shall veto the bill. If he shall veto the bill, he shall return it to the President of the Student Government, with a written explanation of his reasons for vetoing the bill. The President shall then return it, with the explanation attached, to the Congress. A veto of the Principal may not be overridden by the Student Government.

The President of the Student Government shall act upon all matters forwarded to him within one week.

Every resolution, bill, and proposal of the Student Government shall be subject to the veto of the Principal.

- G. Congress shall have the following duties and powers:
1. To initiate legislation pertaining to the welfare of the student body.
 2. To charter all clubs.
 3. To review all policies of the administration and the faculty which shall affect the student body. The Student Government shall not have the power to nullify these policies; however, it shall have the power to petition the faculty and the administration if it considers certain policies to be unfair.
 4. To regulate the financial affairs of the Student Government.
 5. To make all laws necessary and proper to the execution of the foregoing powers and all other powers granted to the Congress by this Constitution.
- H. Congress shall make no law which shall in any manner dictate:
1. The manner or actions of the faculty and administration of this school.
 2. The rights or functions of an extracurricular organization, unless this function shall affect members of the student body other than the members of that organization.
- I. All Acts of Congress shall be in effect until repealed or supplanted by further legislation enacted by due processes as set forth in this Constitution.

Article III. The executive department of this Student Government shall consist of a President and a Vice President, and any other aids or officers whom they shall choose.

- A. No person shall be President of this Student Government who shall not be a member of the Senior Class of Crossland High School during the school year in which he shall be President, except in the case of the Vice President or the Speaker of the House ascending to the office, or who shall have received any grade lower than a "C" during the year preceeding his term of office.
- No person shall be Vice President of this Student Government who shall not be a member of the Senior or Junior classes of Crossland High School, or who shall have received any grade lower than a "C" during the year preceeding his term of office.
- B. The President and Vice President of this Student Government shall be inaugurated before a joint session of Congress, during the last week of the school year in which they were elected.
- C. If the office of the Presidency of the Student Government should become vacant, for any reason whatsoever, the Vice President shall become the President of the Student Government. Should the office again be vacated, or the Vice President be unable to assume the office, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall become President.
- The President and Vice President may be removed from office by impeachment for reasons of poor conduct, low grades, or failure to attend to the responsibilities of the office.
- D. The President of this Student Government shall have the following powers and duties:
1. To execute all legislation which, by due processes, Congress shall enact and the administration shall approve.

2. To appoint any aids which he shall deem necessary to the efficient and just execution of the responsibilities of the office.
 3. To appoint, with the approval of the Senate and the House of Representatives, officers of those departments of the executive which Congress shall establish.
 4. To convene, in extraordinary circumstances, the Congress.
 5. To convene, in extraordinary circumstances, the Coordinating Council.
 6. To be responsible for representing Crossland High School at all times that this is necessary.
 7. To present to a joint session of Congress, a statement of the status and intentions of the Student Government, on the last Monday of September, a report on the status of the Student Government.
 8. To present to the student body, at the election assembly, a report on the status and achievements of the Student Government.
- E. The Vice President shall have the following powers and duties:
1. To be ready at all times to assume the office of the presidency of the Student Government.
 2. To preside over the Senate.
 3. To execute all obligations falling upon the office.

Article IV. A Nominating Committee of eleven members, three faculty members and eight students chosen by and from the House of Representatives, shall be established each year during the second week of March. The President Pro-Tempore of the Senate shall chair the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall choose from those qualified persons who desire to hold the offices of the Presidency or the Vice Presidency, no more than three and no less than two candidates for each office.

The Nominating Committee shall meet during the last week of March each year.

- A. The Nominating Committee shall meet during the last week of March each year.
- B. During the first week of April, one week after the convention of the Nominating Committee, an election shall be held at which the candidates for President and Vice President shall present their qualifications to the student body.
- C. Balloting for the President, Vice President, and Senators of the Student Government shall be held the second Monday of April. The entire student body (except Senior Class), the faculty, and the Administration of Crossland High School shall cast ballots for the President and Vice President of the Student Government.

The members of each class shall vote for eight of the candidates for the Senate seats of that class. The Senior Class shall not vote for Senators.

- D. The candidates for the offices of President and Vice President having a plurality of the votes cast shall be declared the victors. The eight candidates for Senator, from each class, having the highest number of votes shall be declared the winners of the Senate seats.

Article V. No person shall simultaneously hold a seat in the Senate and the House of Representatives. No person who shall be an elected member of Congress shall also be an officer of an executive department.

Article VI. The extracurricular organizations of Crossland High School shall be coordinated among themselves and with the administration through the Coordinating Council.

A. All those organizations of this school which sponsor or conduct extracurricular meetings, activities, or projects shall be members of the Coordinating Council. Each organization shall have one representative on the Council. The President of each organization, or a member appointed by him, shall be the representative. No person shall be a representative on the Coordinating Council who shall have received any average lower than a "C" during the year preceeding his term on the Council.

The chairman of the Coordinating Council shall be appointed by the President of the Student Government. The chairman shall appoint a secretary, and any other officers deemed necessary by a majority of the members of the Council.

The chairman shall, with the consent of two-thirds of the members, have the power to expel a representative and to require another in his place. A representative may be removed only in the case of poor grades or misconduct.

The Coordinating Council shall convene at least once a month, at a time to be decided by the Chairman.

B. The Coordinating Council shall have the following duties:

1. To correlate the activities of its members.
2. To review the proposals of the member organizations which shall require the approval of the Principal.
3. To require a copy of the minutes, activities, proposals, and membership of each of the member organizations.
4. To submit to the administration, with a recommendation for approval or rejection, all proposals of the extracurricular organizations which would require the approval of the administration.
5. To take all action necessary and proper to the just and efficient execution of the foregoing powers.

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Article VII. Powers denied the extracurricular organizations:

- A. No extracurricular organization shall carry out any activity which shall affect members of the student body other than the members of that organization without the review of the Coordinating Committee and the consent of the Principal.
- B. No extracurricular organization shall submit any proposal to the administration except through the Coordinating Council.

Article VIII. This Constitution shall be the supreme authority in this school in all matters covered by the Constitution.

However, the Principal may, if he deems it necessary, invalidate all or part of this Constitution.

Article IX. All proposed amendments to this Constitution shall come from the Administration, the Faculty, the Student Body, or the Student Government.

Amendments shall become effective upon two-thirds approval in each house of Congress, and approval of the Principal.

Article X. This Constitution shall be ratified when approved by two-thirds of the Student Council Representatives and the Principal.

Article II, Article III, and Article V shall be effective the first day of the 1965-1966 school year.

Article I, Article IV, Article X shall be effective upon ratification.

Amendments

I. The Rules Committee

The business of the legislature shall be coordinated between the two houses by the Rules Committee.

The Rules Committee shall be composed of the following members of the Student Government:

1. President of the Student Government
2. Vice President of the Student Government
3. Speaker of the House of Representatives
4. Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives
5. Parliamentarian of the Senate
6. Member from the Senate elected by the Senate
7. Member from the House of Representatives elected by the House of Representatives

The Rules Committee shall have the following duties and powers:

1. To schedule all legislation for debate in the two houses of the Congress.
2. To recommend legislation for consideration in the Congress.
3. To schedule all meetings of the Senate and House of Representatives.
4. To prepare and forward to all members of Congress a comprehensive agenda for the forthcoming meeting at least one full week before that meeting.
5. To propose a compromise measure when measures passed by the two houses disagree in wording.

The Rules Committee shall be chaired by the President of the Student Government but he shall have no special voting privileges.