

Glades Middle School Student Council Constitution

Article 1 - Name of the Organization

The name of this organization will be the Glades Middle School Student Council Association, (GMS SCA).

Article 2 – Purpose

The purpose of the Glades Middle School Student Council shall be:

- a. To improve the school, school programs and student life.
- b. To provide democratic school government through representation and participation of the student body in school affairs.
- c. To establish standards of leadership, citizenship, school spirit and honor based on school pride.

Article 3 - Affiliations

Glades Middle School SCA shall pay dues and maintain affiliations with the Broward County Association of Student Councils (BCASC), the District VI Chapter of Student Councils, and the Florida Association of Student Councils (FASC).

Article 4 - Composition of the Student Government

Section 1: The Representative Assembly is comprised of one representative from each homeroom/advisory/social studies class. (if used that school year)

Section 2: The Executive Board is comprised of elected and appointed officers/chairpersons.

Section 3: The General Assembly is comprised of all representatives and the Executive Board.

Article 5 - Powers of the Student Council Association

Section 1: The power of the Student Council is provided by the administration. Within this authority, the SCA general assembly and executive aboard shall have the power to pass legislation in matters concerning the best interests of the student body. All actions of the Student Government are subject to the approval by the principal

Section 2: The administration will appoint a faculty advisor to the SCA. The advisors role is to direct and guide the actions of the SCA. He/she does not have voting rights. The student council advisor has the responsibility to:

- a) Provide guidance in all SCA sponsored activities
- b) Chaperone all SCA activities (and secure additional chaperones as needed)
- c) Excuse the absences of students who miss class because of student government activities

Section 3: General Assembly

The General Assembly shall have all legislative powers. All expenditures of the SCA over and above ten percent (10%) of the treasury must be authorized by the general

assembly.

Section 4: The Executive Board

The Executive Board shall have all legislative powers save those superseded by the Constitution. The Executive Board has the responsibility to involve the general assembly in as many actions of the SCA as possible because it is the representatives, therefore the general assembly, which expresses the voice of the total student body.

Article 6 - Qualifications and Terms of Office

Section 1: General Qualifications

- a) All officers and representatives must maintain a 2.0 grade point average or better. In addition, any student serving on a SCA committee must maintain a 2.0 grade point average.
- b) All officers and representatives shall exhibit exemplary behavior and academic ethics. If reservations about behavior or academic ethics are brought forth by faculty and staff, the administration shall make the final decision concerning the qualification of the candidate in question.
- c) All officers and representatives are expected to attend all general assemblies of the SCA. Additional meetings are required as specific to the positions listed below.

Section 2: Specific Qualifications

- a) Officers - In addition to general assemblies, the executive board is expected to attend all executive board meetings. Officers will also attend committee meetings as assigned.
 - 1) President - the president shall be in 8th grade for the year of his/her service
 - 2) Vice Presidents - must be in 8th grade for the year of his/her service
 - 3) Treasurer - must be in the 7th or 8th grade for the year of his/her service
 - 4) Secretary – must be in 7th or 8th grade for the year of his/her service
 - 5) Historian – can be a member of any grade level (6th, 7th, or 8th) for the year of his/her service

Section 3: Term of Office

- a) All elected/appointed SGA officers/chairman shall serve a one-year term beginning immediately upon the announcement of the election results, until the last day of school in June the following year.

Article 7 - Responsibilities and Duties

President:

- a) Must attend all SCA Meetings
- b) Serve as co-official of all committees
- c) Preside over all business meetings of the Student Council
- d) Vote on any matter on which the Student Council is equally divided
- e) Act as a mediator between the council and the advisor/administration

Vice President:

- a) Must attend all SCA Meetings
- b) Perform the duties of the President during any presidential absence
- c) Assist the President in all matters of the Student Council
- d) Is in charge of all public relations for the Student Council and its activities

Treasurer:

- a) Must attend all Stu Co Meetings
- b) Maintain records of receipts of deposits and expenditures for the Student Council
- c) Present an up-to-date report of the Student Council's financial account at each business meeting of the executive board and Student Council
- d) Serve as a chairperson of all fundraising for Student Council Activities
- e) Maintain a schedule of all fundraising activities and their time table for all co-curricular activities with the school
- f) Receive and file any and all bills that are filed with the Student Council
- g) Work closely with Stu Co Advisor and Administrative Team Member over Clubs and Activities

Secretary:

- a) Must attend all Stu Co Meetings
- b) Record, publish, and read all minutes of business meeting of the Student Council and see that the minutes are made available to the entire Student Council
- c) Prepare and distribute an agenda for each executive board and full board Meeting with the guidance of the council, its Officers, and the advisor.
- d) Write all correspondences for the Student Council.
- e) Shall work with the Public Relations and Publicity chairman to write the SCA articles for appropriate newsletters

Chairpersons:

- a) Shall be responsible for the agenda, proceedings, and work of the assigned committee.
- b) Shall prepare, with the help of his/her committee, a project plan for the assigned activity.
- c) Shall prepare a report on committee activities to the general assembly.

Article 8 - Elections and Appointments

Section 1: Election/appointments of the Executive Board shall take place in September/October/November of the year of service.

Section 2: Specific election guidelines are written by the advisor and are available with the application materials. Candidates shall receive a copy of all election guidelines when they apply for candidacy.

Section 3: The candidate receiving the most votes cast (popular vote) will win the election.

Section 4: In case there is no one running for a specific position, the students coming in

runner up to President and Vice President will be appointed as Treasurer and Secretary, in that order.

Article 9 - Meetings

Section 1: All meetings, as deemed appropriate, shall be conducted using Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Section 2: The executive board shall meet a minimum of twice a month.

Section 3: The general assembly shall meet a minimum of once a month.

Section 4: Committees shall meet as needed.

Article 10 - Impeachment and Succession

Section 1: Impeachment

a) All officers (elected/appointed) and representatives shall be subject to impeachment for behavior deemed inappropriate by the administration.

b) Suspension or expulsion from school requires automatic impeachment from any SCA position.

c) A report card with lower than a 2.0 grade point requires automatic impeachment from any SCA position.

d) Missing 3 or more meetings, unexcused, shall be subject to impeachment proceedings.

e) Any officers or representative who fails to carry out his/her duty in a responsible manner may have impeachment charges brought against him/her.

f) Impeachment proceedings are defined in the bylaws.

Section 2: Succession

a) In case of the president's permanent inability to serve, the SCA Vice President will assume all responsibilities of the office of president. The Vice President will be replaced following clause (b) below.

b) In case of all other elected/appointed officer's inability to serve, the president shall appoint from general applications or previous candidates, with approval from the executive board, a person to complete the term. The principal must confirm the appointment.

Article 11 - Amendments

This constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) of the legislative body.

Bylaws to the Constitution

Article I - Standing Committees

Section 1: All standing committees shall be composed of any SCA member that wishes to serve on them.

Section 2: The standing committees shall be as follows:

a) Public Relations and Publicity - Is responsible for the maintenance of the SCA bulletin board, all advertisements for SCA events, working with the secretary for all newspaper

- articles, and other school publicity as submitted and approved by the SCA advisor.
- c) Service - Is responsible for the planning and implementation of any SGA service projects.
 - d) Social - Is responsible for the planning and implementation of any SCA social projects.
 - e) Spirit - Is responsible for the planning and implementation of any SCA spirit projects.

Section 3: All committee chairmen shall:

- a) Attend all Executive Board and General Assembly Meetings
- b) Actively participate in SGA activities
- c) Maintain regular communication with officers, other staff members, and the advisor
- d) Give monthly progress reports on committee activities
- e) Submit a year-end report relating to the actions of the committee during that year

Article III - Impeachment

Section 1: From Article 10, Section 1 in the Constitution, these are the proceedings to be implemented when charges are brought before an elected/appoint SCA officer/chairman/representative.

- a) Charges should be submitted in writing to the SCA advisor
- b) The SCA advisor will inform the Executive Board and a committee of students, faculty, and administration shall be convened to discuss the charges.
- c) If the committee finds the charges to be credible, the SCA member charge with the impeachment shall present his or her defense to the committee.
- d) The committee shall vote by secret ballot to determine the outcome. The principal must confirm the outcome. If the principal overturns the result, he/she must submit in writing, within five school days, to the committee his/her reasons for reversing the decision. The decision of the principal may be appealed following grievance procedures.

Article IV

Adoption and Amendments

Section 1: This document shall take effect upon its approval by the administration and two-thirds vote of the Executive Board.

Section 2: These bylaws may be amended upon approval by the advisor and 3/4 vote of the executive board.

Article V

Jurisdiction

Section 1: This document shall be appended to the Constitution for the duration of its authorization, but shall be superseded by the Constitution in any conflicts.