

DISTRICT 3 OFFICER SCHOOL ELECTION
CAMPAIGN RULES AND REGULATIONS
Revised July 2026

District 3 expects all candidate schools to be familiar with the rules and abide by them. Any questions or suggestions should be made electronically to the District 3 Vice-President School at bstroud@coppellisd.com.

NOTE: All campaign materials, including the skit, should reflect the HIGH STANDARDS of Student Council in a positive manner.

I. **Goals**

A. To equalize opportunities for running for office among different sized schools, schools of varying economic potential, etc.

B. To allow each candidate an opportunity to present its qualifications.

C. To ensure an organized and safe campaign for all people, facilities and places involved.

II. **Filing for Office**

A. Schools should file for office as early as possible, but no later than **JANUARY 20**. Schools are encouraged to submit a completed rough-draft script for the candidate presentation when filling the Intent to Run. Schools must submit a final draft no later than two weeks prior to the District 3 Spring Conference. Candidate schools should prepare for a morning campaigning that will conclude during breakfast until the beginning of the first general session.

B. An application and letter of intent signed by the school principal is required to officially file for office.

C. A preliminary financial statement showing the budget for the campaign must be submitted to the District 3 Vice-President School, along with the script for the candidate presentation at the time of the filing. (No receipts are due at this time.)

D. Timing for the skits begins when the first nominator speaks. A limit of six (6) minutes is allowed for each school. Please write the nomination and acceptance speeches and include practicing them in your candidate presentation so you will not be surprised by the extra time. A violation of this rule is grounds for disqualification.

E. Be safe and bring a copy of the nomination speech you would like for the Nominating, and Seconding School of your choice to make. An appropriate statement of nomination could be: “I, _____, from _____ high school, would like to nominate _____ high school for the position of _____ ....

III. Campaign Finance

A. Campaign expenditures are limited to $500.

B. All items purchased or borrowed to be used specifically for the campaign must be accounted for in the expense report. This includes items distributed at any student council event by the candidate school or by any other school or organization on behalf of the candidate school.

1. **Purchased or rented items:** Items purchased or rented must be claimed at cost (actual amount spent).

2. **Donated Items:** Schools may accept donated items; however, these donated items must be counted against the $500 total. Reasonable market value or rental fee of the donated items must be assigned and noted in the campaign Financial Statement.

3. **School items:** Standard school uniforms (i.e., football, cheerleader, or drill team, etc.) or equipment (i.e., flats used in performances, audio visual equipment, etc.) may be used in the campaign and will not be charged against the $500. If ALL schools would easily have access to a standard school item, it does not count against the $500. HOWEVER, if the school item used is not standard (i.e., special stage sets, prom decorations, costumes), the item must be accounted for at a reasonable amount.

4. **Clothing/costumes:** Clothing that is purchased, made, rented, or borrowed to be used specifically in the campaign must be counted (see #1 and #2). If t-shirts or clothing items are something that students would normally have, the cost does not have to be counted. General Student Council t-shirts or clothing items that refer to the campaign or election, regardless of when they are purchased and worn, must be counted.

5. **General Items**: Any items that are common items do not count against your budget. For example, a hammer, screwdriver, power strip, tape measure, drill, computer, or other general items that are available to most schools are considered general items. If you have ANY questions, contact the VP school.

C. A school may spend up to $500 on the campaign. An official budget sheet must be submitted digitally to the Vice-President School prior to the District 3 Spring Conference. (See Excel spreadsheet provided as an example for that purpose.) The budget sheet should include all expenses, give-away items, t-shirts, skit expenses, and any miscellaneous expenses related to the campaign. The budget should **NOT** include expenses related to convention registration and transportation.

***** THE FOLLOWING WILL BE COMPLETED AT THE DISTRICT 3 SPRING CONFERENCE****

A statement to verify expenditures will be given to schools on-site which states:

I certify that _____ has not had expenditures in excess of $500.
(Name of school)

for materials, outside labor, etc., in seeking the office of TASC District III _____.

_____ _____
(Advisor's signature) (Date)

IV. **Campaign Materials**
- A. Candidate schools will be contacted by the Host school as to where any campaign materials may be posted within the building.

V. **Political Rally**
- A. Statement of Standards
  1. Morning candidate campaigning should:
     - a) begin set-up 15 minutes prior to breakfast
     - b) end at the beginning of the first general session
     - c) showcase the candidate school representative
     - d) be in good taste
  2. Morning candidate campaigning should NOT:
     - a) exceed the designated time
     - b) include the nominating school representatives
  3. Candidate presentations should:
     - a) demonstrate knowledge and understanding of officer position
     - b) showcase how the candidate school plans to contribute to the District 3 board by serving in the desired leadership position
     - c) be in good taste
  4. Candidate presentations should NOT:
     - a) be entirely project/issue-based
     - b) reflect violence
     - c) be demeaning or degrading to any gender, race, and/or religion
     - d) include ANY sexual innuendo (such as, but not limited to, revealing clothing, suggestive language, and/or body language.) This applies to multimedia clips (i.e. movies/songs) as well.

General rule: *If there is any question or doubt about whether something is inappropriate, it probably is, so avoid using it.*

All distribution of campaign materials must CEASE before the political rally at the District 3 Spring Conference.

B. Each school will have up to **one** minute to set the stage prior to nomination. Once nominations begin, each school will have **six** minutes during which time **nominating and acceptance speeches may be made, candidate presentations will be performed, and stage exited**. Schools will receive silent notification after five and one-half minutes, after which schools will have 30 seconds to complete all presentations. At this time, the representative from the Vice-President School will announce, "Your time has expired." Any continuation of presentation beyond five seconds after notification will result in disqualification. The Vice-President School will provide a large clock /timer to be set off stage (center) and visible to the candidate schools.

C. For technical specifications, candidate schools must contact **THE HOST SCHOOL**, who will provide detailed specifications concerning candidate presentation scripts, music, video, lighting, power, and microphones.

D. The student who will represent the school as student officer should accept the nomination and should clearly be identified to voters as the school representative. An appropriate statement of acceptance could be: "If ___ high school is elected, I will do my best to ...."

E. Any mechanical or technical delay, upon request of the advisor immediately upon occurrence, will be timed, and an extension equal to that amount of time will be added to the presentation. Please remember that any audience participation or audience reaction is included as part of the six minute total. A limited amount of time not to exceed one minute will be allowed between skits for set up.

F. Students from current officer schools or schools represented on the Credentials, may **not** nominate or second a candidacy.

G. Do not plan to hang a backdrop from the battens at the Host School for the skit. If a backdrop is necessary, plan to use a freestanding frame.

H. On the day of the Political Rally, each candidate schools' presentation performers will be asked to come forward. A representative from the Vice President School will escort schools to the appropriate area. Schools will have pre-set all set pieces/props in the designated storage space. The Vice-President school will provide students that act as guides once schools are in the holding area. All sets and props must fit through a standard door frame.

I. All props and set pieces must be removed from the backstage area immediately after the entire Political Rally is over.

J. If a candidate school plans to use technology in the skit or campaign, the candidate school must contact **THE HOST SCHOOL** before proceeding. Some technologies may not be available for your use.

K. A limit of appropriate available student delegates (not including the first and second nominator) may participate in the campaign skit.

L. No one may come to the stage from the audience as part of the skit. All stage skit participants must enter from backstage. Nothing may be tossed or thrown from the audience during the skit.

M. No fire code violations or District 3 safety issues (running in the aisles, standing on chairs, etc.) are allowed as a part of the skit or the campaign.

VI. Elections

A. The election shall be by secret ballot and shall be held following the Political Rally.

B. Position on the ballot is alphabetical.

C. Only advisors or student designees may pick up ballots.

D. No ballots will be distributed until all the skits have been presented.

E. Elections are decided by a majority vote (50% + 1 of the popular vote to make a winner). In the event no school receives 50% + 1 of the vote, the two schools receiving the highest number of votes enter a run-off election.

F. Run-off Election Guidelines
   1. If a run-off is required, candidate schools involved in the run-off will be notified.
   2. In the case of a run-off, advisors or student designees may pick up run-off ballots at an announced time and location. All ballots must be marked and deposited by the announced time.

G. In the event of a tie vote in a run-off election, the school with the greatest number of votes in the general election will win the election. In the event that two schools have a tie vote in both the general election and in the run-off election, the current board will convene during the Conference and select a school to fill the office.

H. In the event a school running unopposed for an office is disqualified, the current and present Executive Board will convene during the Conference to select a replacement from the remaining qualified candidate schools.

I. Election results will be announced at the Business Meeting. The student representative and advisor from the newly elected officer schools will report to the stage immediately following the conclusion of the District 3 Spring Conference.

VII. Obligations and Duties of Elected Schools

Obligations and duties of elected schools are as stated in the District 3 Constitution.

Obligations and Duties of Elected Schools

Section 1: Duties of the elected schools, advisors, and appointed positions.

1. All elected and appointed officers and any necessary committee chairs shall attend all meetings and the annual officer retreat.
2. Each board member shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
3. In conjunction with the advisor, the President shall:
    a. Preside at all board and student business meetings of the organization.
    b. Appoint all committees.
    c. Call all board and student business meetings.
    d. Work with the District Coordinator in planning the business meeting at the district conference.
    e. Call a Board meeting at least four (4) weeks prior to each district conference.
    f. Complete all other duties as assigned.
4. In conjunction with the advisor, the Vice President shall:
    a. Execute the duties of the President in case of the President's absence.
    b. Act as chairperson of the credentials committee.
    c. Coordinate filing for office of candidate schools and host schools.
    d. Notify member schools of vacancies before and after the deadline to file.
    e. Coordinate all officer school elections, including certifying candidates, acting as a timer for campaign presentations, and providing ballots for elections.
    f. Coordinate district membership initiatives in conjunction with the District Coordinator.
    g. Complete all other duties as assigned.
5. In conjunction with the advisor, the Corresponding Secretary shall:
    a. Ensure that member schools have current information regarding district and state activities through various forms of correspondence as stated in the TASC District 3 Communications Policy.
    b. Work closely with the Board to promote the District using social media.
    c. Complete all other duties as assigned.
6. In conjunction with the advisor, the Recording Secretary shall:
    a. Keep and distribute accurate minutes of all conference and Board meetings.
    b. Ensure that all membership lists and minutes are uploaded to the electronic repository and backed up annually.
    c. Verify eligibility of candidate schools desiring to run for a district office, and provide documentation to the Credentials Committee.
    d. Complete all other duties as assigned.
7. In conjunction with the advisor, the Parliamentarian shall:
    a. Interpret parliamentary procedure according to Robert's Rule of Order.
    b. Coordinate the scrapbook committee and District Top Projects
    c. Coordinate the resolutions committee at the district conferences.
    d. Coordinate the organization of the electronic repository.
    e. Coordinate district recognition and award programs.
    f. Obtain and present awards to outgoing officer schools, advisor Board members, Advisor of the Year, and retirees.
    g. Complete all other duties as assigned.