

**CONSTITUTION
STUDENT COUNCIL OF MILLER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Miller County High School, in order to contribute to the intellectual growth and social welfare of each student attending this school; to promote unity among students, faculty and administration; to maintain a desirable school; to stimulate and develop active participation in student activities; to motivate responsibility to our school and community; to create a student council elected and sustained by the students; to promote appreciation for the aims and objectives of Miller County High School, do ordain and establish this constitution of the Miller County High School Pirate Government Association.

ARTICLE I. Name and Objectives

Section 1. Name

The official name of the organization shall be the Pirate Government Association of Miller County High School, Colquitt, Georgia (commonly referred to as "Student Council" below.)

Section 2. Objectives

The objectives of the Council shall be:

- a. To provide a central agency by which students may help to promote the interest and welfare of Miller County High School.
- b. To assist in planning and regulating the activities of member student organizations.
- c. To represent through membership on high school committees, students' opinions on curricular matters and student affairs.
- d. To provide experiences in the democratic process.

ARTICLE II. Membership

Section 1.

All members enrolled must be students of Miller County High School.

Section 2.

A student shall not be denied membership because of race, color, creed, national origin, political beliefs, or gender.

ARTICLE III. Organization

Section 1. The Executive Branch

The executive shall consist of the president, vice president, and the secretary/treasurer.

Section 2. The Legislative Branch

- a. The legislative branch shall consist of the executive branch together with the class officers and club representatives.
- b. The legislative branch shall be the policy forming branch of the Student Council.
- c. The legislative body shall meet regularly along with the executive branch and at any necessary called meetings.
- d. Three fourths of the Student Council must be present to constitute a quorum to transact business.
- e. Any member who is absent or tardy without a reasonable excuse will have his name stricken from the records making way for the appointment of another member.
- f. Club representatives will be elected by club members or appointed by club advisor and/or club officers.

Section 3. Advisors

- a. Faculty advisors shall be appointed by the principal.
- b. The advisor should have an interest in the Student Council.
- c. The duties of the advisors shall be to give advice and assistance when it is needed.

Section 4. Principal

The principal shall have final veto over any action of the Student Council.

ARTICLE IV. Qualifications and Duties

Section 1. The President

- a. Qualifications
 1. Shall be of senior rank the year in which he/she holds office.
 2. Shall have and maintain an 85 cumulative average.
 3. Shall display qualities of initiative, executive ability and service to the school.

4. Shall have spent a minimum of one semester or two nine weeks in Miller County High School before filing as a candidate for election.
 5. Shall be available for a full year.
 6. Shall be a registered voter at Miller County High School.
- b. Duties
1. Shall preside at all meetings of the Council.
 2. Shall call special meetings whenever necessary.
 3. Shall appoint committees to act within the Council.
 4. Shall preside at assemblies.
 5. Shall be chairman of the general election for the election of the general student officers.
 6. Shall attend all meetings of the Council unless a reasonable excuse can be submitted.
 7. Shall assume the responsibility and see that each class is organized the first month of school.
 8. Shall appoint a parliamentarian from the Council to see that Robert's Rules of Order are followed in the conduct of all Council sessions.

Section 2. Vice President

- a. Qualifications
Same as for president.
- b. Duties
1. Shall act as president pro-tempore.
 2. Shall perform any duties assigned by the president.
 3. Shall have charge of the devotional program in assemblies and Council meetings.
 4. Shall serve as chairman of all standing committees appointed by the president.

Section 3. Secretary/Treasurer

- a. Qualifications
Same as for president and vice president.
- b. Duties
1. Shall keep accurate records of all Council meetings.
 2. Shall file all minutes and records of the Council at the end of the school year in a central location of the school.
 3. Shall keep a financial record of all the money belonging to the Council.
 4. Shall be able to read the status of the Council treasury at any time.
 5. Shall attend all meetings of the Council unless a reasonable excuse can be submitted.
 6. Shall attend to all correspondence of the Council.

ARTICLE V. Class Officers (Grades 9-11)

Section 1. Class President

- a. Qualifications
 - 1. Shall have and maintain an 85 cumulative average.
 - 2. Shall display qualities of initiative, executive ability, and service to the school.
 - 3. Shall be a registered voter at Miller County High School.
- b. Duties
 - 1. Shall attend all meetings of the Council.
 - 2. Shall attend and preside over all class meetings.
 - 3. Shall report to the class on the meetings of the Council and receive suggestions regarding Council activities.
 - 4. Shall attend to all matters relating to the class.

Section 2. Class Vice President

- a. Qualifications
 - Same as for class president.
- b. Duties
 - 1. Shall attend all meetings of the Council.
 - 2. Shall preside over meetings only in the absence of the president.

Section 3. Class Secretary/Treasurer

- a. Qualifications
 - Same as for class president and vice president.
- b. Duties
 - 1. Shall attend all meetings of the Council.
 - 2. Shall keep and maintain accurate records of class meetings.

ARTICLE VI. Nomination and Election

Section 1. Nomination

- a. The president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer of the Student Council shall be nominated by a petition of 25 students, 5 faculty members, and all administrators.
- b. Class officers: president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer shall be nominated by a petition of 25 students, 2 faculty members, and all administrators.

- c. Any student who has been in ISS or OSS during the current school year can not seek nomination for a student body office or class office for the following year.
- d. Any student seeking nomination for student body officer, class officer, or class representative must be in good standing with teachers and administration.

Section 2. Election

- a. The president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer of Student Council shall be elected by plurality vote in May. The Student Council and principal will set the election date. Junior class officers will serve as student body officers.
- b. The class officers shall be elected by a plurality vote of the class members. The election of class officers will be held in May of each school year for the next school term.
- c. If there is a tie for student council president, vice president, or secretary/treasurer the whole student council will select by secret ballot the person to hold these offices. Balloting will be for the students who received tie votes.
- d. If there is a tie for class officers, those elected as officers and representatives will select the class officers or representatives by secret ballot. Balloting will be for the students who received tie votes.

Section 3. Campaign

- a. All campaigning will be limited to one week prior to the election.
- b. The campaign shall end the day prior to the election.
- c. All campaign posters, decoration, and publicity of any kind must be removed from the building the afternoon prior to election.
- d. There shall be no campaigning the day of the election.
- e. Campaign publicity is limited to telephone calls, posters, hand-outs, one banner and persuasive talks. Candidates can not use the radio, television, newspaper, or any paid advertisements for publicity. Students may use the Internet or unpaid social media posts, but posts must be approved by the advisor(s).
- f. Donations must be approved by the advisor(s) and the executive branch.

Section 4. Campaign Expense

- a. No candidate for any office may exceed the maximum amount of \$10.00 for her/his campaign.

- b. Each candidate MUST keep an accurate record with receipts of all of his/her campaign expenses.
- c. The tabulation of campaign expenses shall be subject to investigation by the advisors and the Election Committee.

ARTICLE VII. Term of Office

The term of office shall be for one regular school year.

ARTICLE VIII. Expulsion from Office.

Section 1. Dishonest Act

Any office holder in the Student Council Association who shall be found Guilty of any dishonest act shall on the first offense be dismissed from office.

Section 2. Failure to Assume Responsibility

When any member of the said Student Council shall fail to assume his/her full responsibility of any duties as members of the Council as a whole, or any committee assignment, he or she shall automatically be dismissed from the Council after three unexcused absences.

Section 3. ISS or OSS

Any student body officer, class officer, or class representative sent to ISS or OSS during his or her term in office will be immediately dismissed from his
or
her position and the vacancy will be filled as stated in this Constitution.

ARTICLE IX. Vacancies

Section 1. President

If for any reason the president of Student Council or a class shall vacate his/her office, the vice president shall immediately assume the duties of that office.

Section 2. Vice President

If for any reason the vice president of Student Council shall vacate his/her office, the Student Council shall nominate from the entire student body not

less than two nor more than five candidates who hold the qualifications of the vice president.

If for any reason the vice president of a class shall vacate his/her office, the class officers and representatives shall nominate from the entire class not less than two nor more than five candidates who hold the qualifications of the vice president.

Elections must be held within three weeks after the vacancy occurs. There will be no campaign for either election.

Section 3. Secretary/Treasurer

If for any reason the secretary/treasurer of Student Council or a class shall vacate his/her office the procedure shall be the same as for the vice president.

ARTICLE X. Committees

Section 1.

The president of the student council shall appoint committees as the occasion demands.

ARTICLE XI. Installation of Officers

The installation of all Council/class officers shall be held during the last Student Council meeting of the school year or as approved by the principal.

ARTICLE XII. Business Transactions

All business transactions must receive a majority vote except amendments of this Constitution, which must receive three fourths vote subject to the vote and approval of the principal.

ARTICLE XIII. Adoption

This Constitution shall be in effect immediately upon adoption and approval of the advisor(s), principal, and/or superintendent.

APPROVED:

Freddie Odom, Advisor

Jimmy Phillips, Superintendent