**FSMS Student Council Constitution**

*As a member of the Fort Settlement Middle School Student Council, your goal is to exhibit FBISD’s Profile of a Graduate traits within your school and community.*

**Purpose of Student Council:**

1. To develop leadership qualities among FSMS students by providing services to the school and community.
2. To provide for an exchange of ideas among the student body and a way for each student to have a voice in Student Council decisions.
3. To plan and organize activities and projects which advance the social and civic development of the student body.
4. To promote community involvement through service projects.

**Membership:**

1. The Student Council will consist of elected representatives from the FSMS student body.
   1. There will be ten representatives from each of the grade levels.
   2. There will be five officers elected from the previous year.
2. **Meetings:**
   1. Regular meetings will be held on the first Friday of every month unless otherwise stated. Updates will be posted in Schoology.
   2. Special meetings will be called when necessary by the advisors.
   3. The majority vote rules in all voting that takes place in a meeting.

**Goals and School Projects:**

1. **Community Service -** Organize and carry out activities that benefit the school and/or surrounding community.
2. **Pride and Patriotism –** 1) Organize and carry out activities that help instill pride in the nation/state/city/community/school/self. 2) Encourage awareness and tolerance of the diverse cultures within the school and community.
3. **School Spirit** - Organize projects that promote school spirit among the students, faculty, and parent throughout the year.
4. **D.A.S.H. (Drugs Alcohol Safety Health) and No Place for Hate –** 1)Organize and carry out projects that prevent drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse. 2) Provide information and education about health issues that affect adolescents. 3) Provide information and education about bullying.
5. **Staff Appreciation -** Organize and carry out appreciation projects for our teachers, administrators, custodial/cafeteria staff, and bus drivers.

**Qualifications:**

Each member must . . .

1. be a student at Fort Settlement Middle School.
2. have at least a “C” average in all subjects.
3. submit a parent/guardian signature, poster, and press statement by **September 9, 2022.** The digital poster and press statement will be submitted via digital application: <https://forms.office.com/r/LLgHee3T1B> . The signature page comes to Mrs. Nguyen in Room 306.
4. run for election – voting will take place in Advisory on **Wednesday, September 14, 2022.**
5. have an established record of appropriate conduct.

*Candidates for membership may be subject to additional requirements, as determined by the advisor.*

**Duties:**

Each member must . . .

1. participate in all activities required by advisors.
2. attend all meetings or provide a valid parent excuse for their failure to attend.
3. maintain a passing grade in each class at all times, and maintain at least a “C” average.
4. display appropriate conduct at all times—No insubordination will be tolerated.

**Removal:**

1. Members who fail to meet the above qualifications and duties may be removed from the Council.
2. Only an advisor can excuse an absence from any meeting or event/activity.
3. Any member may be removed by the advisor or an administrator for violations of the FSMS Student Council.

**Elections:**

1. Each candidate must follow all election guidelines, as established by the advisors and/or the FSMS administration.
2. Officers will be elected by a majority vote by the student body.
3. Tiebreakers will go through an additional vote by the Student Council officers.
4. The term for each office will be one school year.

**Officers:**

In a normal year, three officers are elected by the Student Council body from the previous year. Last year we were unable to hold officer elections.

**Qualifications and General Duties:**

An officer must . . .

1. be in 7th or 8th grade.
2. maintain a “B” average in all subjects.
3. attend all scheduled Student Council meetings as well as additional officer meetings.
4. create agenda for each Student Council meeting
5. facilitate the Student Council meetings
6. maintain hallway display as needed.

As an officer, you are also expected to prepare and lead the meetings. This means meeting with Mrs. Cook or Mrs. Nguyen a week before the meeting to plan ice breakers, agenda items, and creating slides. On the meeting day, you are expected to share all necessary information with your peers and lead any activities.

If you’re interested, on **SEPTEMBER 16**, you will share a short speech with student council members, Mrs. Cook, and Mrs. Nguyen. Your speech should include the following information:

* Introduce yourself (Name, grade, any other information you feel necessary)
* What qualities should a FSMS StuCo officer have?
* How do you exemplify these qualities and how will you demonstrate them if you become an officer?
* What contributions have you made in the past to StuCo, your community, and/or the school? How has this prepared you for the officer position?
* Thank your audience for their attention.

**Poster & Press Statement Guidelines**

Poster Overview: As a candidate for the 2022-2023 FSMS Student Council, you will create a **DIGITAL** poster. This is due with your press statement on **Friday, September 9, 2022,** and will be displayed in a video reel on the announcements and in Advisory. You will submit it through a Microsoft Form that can be found on the StuCo webpage and here: <https://forms.office.com/r/LLgHee3T1B>

Your poster should be a JPEG or PDF and should include the following:

* + A picture of yourself
  + Your first and last name
  + Your grade (6th, 7th, or 8th)
  + Any other school appropriate words, phrases, or decorations that you think would help catch the eyes of your peers
  + **Poster Brainstorm:**

**Press Statement**

Your press statement form is to be turned in **digitally via Microsoft form** by **Friday, September 9, 2022,** with your poster. Submit your statement no later than 5:00 PM on the date above.

* Go to the Fort Settlement Middle School Student Council Website <https://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/35421>
* Click on the Application Form and fill it in completely (<https://forms.office.com/r/LLgHee3T1B>)

**What is the purpose of a press statement?**

Compose a press statement to convince your fellow students that you are a perfect candidate for FSMS Student Council. Your press statement will be given to the student body in advisory the day of elections.

**Requirements:**

* 2-3 sentences – Do not take space to introduce yourself. We will state your name and grade level on the document for you.
* Convince the student body that you would represent them well in StuCo
* Use the following questions to *guide* your thinking:
  + What leadership experience do you have in school or your community? How to you exemplify FBISD’s Profile of a Graduate traits in your daily life?
  + As a member of the Student Council, what specifically can you do to help the school and community?
  + Why do you want to be on Student Council?

**Press Statement Brainstorm**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Press Statement DRAFT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**If ANY part of your application is missing or late, you will NOT be eligible for Student Council.**

**FSMS Student Council Parent/Guardian and Student Signature**

*This is due with your poster and press statement by* ***Friday, September 9, 2022****.*

If you should have any questions, regarding the completion of the packet, contact Mrs. Nguyen at Katherine.Nguyen@fortbendisd.com

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Grade Level:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The signatures below indicate that my parents/guardians and I have read and understand all of the guidelines for the FSMS Student Council Constitution and the election process.

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Student Name Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name Parent Signature