

# Student Council Association Constitution

## Belton High School

### I. Name

- A. The name of this organization shall be:  
"The Student Council Association of Belton High School"
- B. The organization may also be known as: "STUCO."

### II. General Purpose of the Student Council Association

- A. As the official representative of the student body. Student Council Association shall:
  - 1. Promote a greater degree of unity, respect, spirit, and cooperation among students, faculty, staff, and administration.
  - 2. Offer and oversee activities for furthering the academic and social growth of the student body.
  - 3. Provide a democratic and representative forum through which students may address school-related issues affecting the student body.
  - 4. Represent to the faculty and administration the concerns of the student body regarding academic and disciplinary policies.
  - 5. Consult with the appropriate policy-making administrators regarding school policies and guidelines.
- B. The specific delegated responsibilities of the STUCO shall be to:
  - 1. Serve as the official representative of the student body to the faculty and administration.
  - 2. Act as consultants to the faculty and administration concerning all matters of student life.
  - 3. Promote school spirit and unity by sponsoring a variety of social events.
  - 4. STUCO will complete a minimum of one community service project and one fundraiser during each academic school year.

### III. Structure of the Student Council Association

- A. The Executive Council shall consist of the following four elected officials:
  - The Student Council President
  - The Student Council Vice-President
  - The Student Council Secretary
  - The Student Council Treasurer
- B. The elected representatives of STUCO will consist of the following 16 elected officials:

The Senior Class President	The Junior Class President
The Senior Class Vice-President	The Junior Class Vice-President
The Senior Class Secretary	The Junior Class Secretary
The Senior Class Treasurer	The Junior Class Treasurer
The Sophomore Class President	The Freshman Class President
The Sophomore Class Vice-President	The Freshman Class Vice-President

The Sophomore Class Secretary  
The Sophomore Class Treasurer

The Freshman Class Secretary  
The Freshman Class Treasurer

- C. Four class officers will be elected from each class the spring of the previous academic year. Students must have a minimum of 2 teacher recommendations and 20 student signatures in order to run for a class office. Class officers will be representatives of their class in STUCO. A representative will serve for one academic year and may be re-elected.
- D. The following committee chairs, who will be approved by the Executive Council, will serve as:
- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Spirit Committee Chair             | Teacher Appreciation Chair |
| Tigers Giving Back Committee Chair | Student Appreciation Chair |
| Public Relations Chair             |                            |
- E. Student Council committees will consist of at least three STUCO members including the committee chair. Members need to be active STUCO members.
1. Each committee will be delegated specific responsibilities, namely:
    - a) Spirit Committee
      - i. Mixers and Dances
      - ii. Homecoming Week
      - iii. Tailgating and Games - attending BHS sporting events and cheering
    - b) Tigers Giving Back Committee
      - i. Delegate community service opportunities and awareness campaigns to other clubs
      - ii. Organize and participate in community service opportunities and awareness campaigns
    - c) Public Relations Committee
      - i. Hang up signs for various events
      - ii. Take down signs for various events
      - iii. Write announcements for events
    - d) Teacher Appreciation Committee
    - e) Student Appreciation Committee

#### **IV. STUCO Officer Eligibility**

- A. Eligibility for a STUCO office is determined by the guidelines of the Belton High School Student Handbook. Students must be in good academic standing, have no major disciplinary issues during the current school year. Students must not have excessive absences. Students need the required merit points beginning in the Spring of 2016 to run for a student council officer position. Adequate merit points will be decided by STUCO sponsor(s) at the beginning of each school year.
- B. Any junior or senior STUCO member with enough merit points is eligible to serve as a STUCO President or Vice-President. Sophomore, junior, or senior STUCO members with enough merit points are eligible to serve as a STUCO secretary or treasurer.
- C. A student may become an STUCO voting member by paying their membership dues of \$5 each school year.
- D. All Belton High School students are welcome to become members of the Student

Council Association and are welcome to attend any Student Council Association General Assembly meeting. Only students who have paid their STUCO membership dues may cast votes at STUCO General Assembly.

- E. The Student Council Association and the grade-level classes will hold elections in the spring of each academic year.
  - 1. The students at-large will elect their four student class officers.
  - 2. Only active (paid members of STUCO) will elect the four STUCO officers.
  - 3. Students may NOT serve as a class officer and a STUCO officer in any position.
  - 4. STUCO officers are elected to serve for one academic year and may run for re-election.
  - 5. Only the returning student council members will vote on the positions of STUCO officers.
  - 6. Freshman class officers will be elected near the beginning of their first high school semester. Their terms will begin immediately after the election results are announced. The outgoing freshman class officers relinquish their position at that time.
  - 7. Election protocols will be published by BHS in a timely fashion prior to the spring elections. Any student wishing to run for a class president position must have an election platform approved by the BHS Administration team prior to running.

#### **V. Removal from Office**

- A. A student shall be removed from an elected office if ANY of the following conditions, but not limited to, exist:
  - 1. Placed in DAEP.
  - 2. Misconduct resulting in a suspension.
  - 3. Excessive unexcused absences from school.
  - 4. Refusal to participate in STUCO and class activities.
  - 5. Failure to perform duties and evident loss of interest.
  - 6. Fighting at any time.
  - 7. Conduct or behavior in violation of school and extracurricular policies.
- B. Any removed officer reserves the right to appeal his removal to the BHS Administration within 5 school days of the notice of removal.
- C. If a STUCO or class officer is found to be delinquent in his or her duties, the student will be notified of the delinquency and placed on a thirty-day probationary period. At the end of the thirty days, the STUCO sponsors will review their performance.
- D. Any student who is removed from office will be replaced in a timely fashion by a person nominated by Student Council members, and approved by a majority vote.

#### **VI. Responsibilities of Student Council Association Members**

- A. All members will execute the general purposes and specific responsibilities of the Belton High School Student Council Association as defined in Articles II and III. Members will be awarded merit points for attending meetings and events. Members can also lose points for any conduct that violates the Belton High School Student Code of Conduct and other actions as determined by the Student Council, Class Sponsors, and BHS Administration Team. A student may become a voting member by paying their STUCO dues at the beginning of each school year.
- B. The Student Council President shall:
  - 1. Serve as the presiding officer at all STUCO meetings.

2. Oversee all STUCO sponsored school activities under the responsibility of the Student Council Association.
  3. Create and post an agenda for all regularly scheduled meetings no later than two days prior to the meeting.
  4. Will vote only to break ties in Student Council Association General Assembly Meetings.
  5. Order STUCO committee meetings as needs dictate.
  6. Be empowered to define any issue of "vital importance." An issue of "vital importance" would take priority over any other issues on the STUCO agenda. Decisions regarding an issue of "vital importance" will require a majority approval by the STUCO General Assembly.
  7. Convene Executive Council meetings with the school administration upon approval from STUCO sponsor(s).
  8. Participate in the Summer Leadership Summit.
- C. The Student Council Vice-President shall:
1. Assist the student council president in the organization and execution of all meetings and activities.
  2. Act as the presiding officer at all STUCO meetings when the president is unable to attend.
  3. Assume the office of student council president if the elected student council president is unable to fulfill his office.
  4. Serve as the sergeant-at-arms charged with maintaining order during STUCO General Assembly meetings.
  5. Act as the parliamentarian at all STUCO meetings.
  6. Participate in the Summer Leadership Summit.
- D. The Student Council Secretary shall:
1. Take the official attendance and minutes of all STUCO General Assembly meetings and post them in a timely fashion.
  2. Report the minutes of the previous meetings and keep them on file.
  3. Participate in the Summer Leadership Summit.
- E. The Student Council Treasurer shall:
1. Keep all records pertaining to the collection and accounting of all Student Council Association funds.
  2. Participate in the Summer Leadership Summit.
- F. The Class Officers shall:
1. Work closely with their class committees and class sponsor to organize and oversee class-specific activities and meetings.
  2. Inform the Student Council Association of all class activities.
  3. Present the opinions and ideas of their class to the STUCO.
  4. Inform their class of the decisions of the STUCO.
  5. Serve as chairmen of class committee meetings.
  6. Convene and preside over class committee meetings, to be held as needed.
  7. Each class is expected to complete a minimum of one community service project and one class fundraiser during each academic year.
  8. Participate in the Summer Leadership Summit.

## **VII. Meetings**

- A. The Student Council Association General Assembly:
  - 1. STUCO Assembly meetings will be held at least twice a month.
  - 2. Other STUCO meetings may be called, as need dictates.
  - 3. The student council president will preside over these meetings.
  - 4. Meetings shall be governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure, and enforced by the student council vice-president.
  - 5. A majority decides the outcome of all Student Council Association elections and votes.
  - 6. All members of the Belton High School community are invited to participate as non-voting members in the STUCO General Assembly Meetings.
  - 7. Any member of the Belton High School community who chooses to be present at an STUCO General Assembly meeting will be subject to the STUCO vice-president acting in his capacity as Sergeant-at-Arms.
- B. Class Committee Meetings:
  - 1. Class committee meetings will be held on an as-needed basis.
  - 2. The class sponsor may convene the class committee.
- C. Executive Council Meetings:
  - 1. Executive council meetings will be held by the order of the student council president, or by the Student Council Sponsors
  - 2. These meetings will serve to clarify STUCO organizational issues, relations to the faculty, administration, and staff, and to assist in the establishment of the priorities and direction for STUCO General Assembly meetings.

## **VIII. Amendment of the Constitution**

- A. Upon the approval of the Student Council Constitution, these bylaws may be opened for amendment at any meeting of the Student Council Association General Assembly upon a majority vote, after the Student Council Treasurer has certified the presence of a quorum, AND provided that the amendment is submitted in written form prior to the posting of the agenda to the Executive Council.

## **IX. School Regulations**

- A. As a representative student organization of Belton High School, all decisions and actions must be in conformance with Belton High School policies, regulations and spirit.

## **X. Ratification**

- A. This Constitution shall go into effect immediately after ratification by the current STUCO members of the 2014-2015 academic school year. The provisions of this Constitution will guide STUCO elections for the 2015-2016 school year.
- B. Upon ratification, this Constitution will be the official operational document of the Belton High School Student Council Association. It will remain so until it is amended or replaced in accordance with its bylaws.
- C. This Constitution shall serve as both the empowerment instrument and as the guideline for the Student Council Association of Belton High School.

**XI. Review**

- A. The STUCO sponsor(s) will initiate a review of the Constitution of the Student Council Association as needed and report his or her findings and recommendations to the Executive Council.
- B. If, upon completion of the review, it is found necessary to amend this document, it will be done so according to the provisions set forth in article VIII A.

**Constitution**  
Belton High School  
Student Council Association

We, the undersigned, do hereby enact and ratify this Constitution for the Student Council Association of Belton High School. It shall serve as the operational document and as the tool of empowerment for both this organization and the students of Belton High School. It shall also function as a contract between the students and the administration giving fair and equitable representation to the student body. This Constitution shall serve these purposes until such time as it is reviewed and amended in accordance with the provisions set herein.

Skullcrane  
Herschgo

Jayn Cook

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Andrey Linder

Cole McDowell

Hunter Mitchell

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