

Camas High School Magnet Program
Student Council
Constitution
&
By-Laws

We, as students of Camas High School and the Camas High School Magnet Program, in order to increase student involvement and activity, further association of all classes, provide a forum for student opinion and input, and facilitate interaction and collaboration between faculty and students, do ordain and establish this constitution for the organization and execution of the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council.

Article I – Rules and Goals

Section I –Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council shall be to increase student voice, facilitate administration, and provide students with an opportunity to operate and administrate, so long as this falls within the regulations of all associated bodies. The Magnet Student Council shall exist and conduct all business within the rules and regulations of Camas High School and the Camas High School Associated Student Body or Leadership. It shall operate on a scale that involves affairs exclusive to the students of the Magnet Program, and will have no authority or need to do otherwise.

Section II – Rules and Regulations

The Magnet Student Council shall meet every other week, and all business will require a quorum of Representatives, as well as a full Executive Board, including a Faculty Advisor. Notification and reminder of meetings shall be provided, as well as an outline of business to be conducted. All business, votes, and decisions of the Council are required to be well publicized, most notably including minutes. Any student member of the Camas High School Math, Science, and Technology Magnet Program shall be eligible for involvement.

Section III – Finance

Due to the need for funding for operation and enactment of Magnet Program affairs, including social events, field trips, competitions, etc., the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council shall raise funds on behalf of the Magnet Program, which shall be expended under scrutiny from and with the involvement of faculty and administration, as well as meticulously documented, as is required by Camas High School. Revenue and expenditures shall be made public.

Section IV – Publication

The public nature of the affairs of the Magnet Program Student Council shall require the documentation, publication, and accessibility of all proceedings, finances, and documents, especially the Constitution. The format for doing so should include electronic means, ideally involving a website or forum, as well as availability by request. However, due to the importance of the accuracy of these documents, all official versions shall be watermarked, and all public versions shall be

presented in an unalterable format to prevent tampering. The Secretary shall have the sole ability to post/provide and update all public versions of documents, with the exception of the Constitution, which shall remain unaltered, except by amendment, as outlined in Article IV.

Section V – Clarifications

For the purposes of consistency and clarity within this document, terms shall be clarified. A “simple majority” refers to a vote achieving over fifty percent of all votes, by default referring to within both the Executive Board and General Assembly, unless otherwise specified. Should a simple majority not be attained, such as in the event of a three-way split, a run-off shall occur between the two options which received the highest number of votes in the primary. A “quorum” signifies the attendance of at least half of all members. For the General Assembly, this requires two of the total representatives from each class level affected by the vote. The phrases “Magnet Program Student Council, Student Council, or the Council” all serve as shortened references to the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council. The phrase “participation in votes” or any variation thereof shall denote casting an actual vote, and therefore partaking, in this legislative procedure.

Article II – Organization of Affairs

Section I – Council Format

The format for the meetings and organization of the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council shall be one of general assembly. The Council will be comprised of two bodies, a legislative general assembly of student representatives referred to as the “General Assembly,” as outlined in Article II, Section II, presided over by an executive council of student officers, as outlined in Article II, Section III. Meetings shall be opened by the Executive Board with a reading of the club’s mission statement, an overview of topics to be covered, detailed coverage of each topic, and then an open forum for the General Assembly to raise new and omitted business. All votes occurring must involve a quorum from each grade affected. Order will be had at all times, speakers must be recognized in order to focus attention. All participants are required to remain present until the meeting is adjourned by the Executive Board.

Segment i – Public Participation

Council meetings shall be open to the public, so long as the public respects the regulations and procedure of the meeting format.

Section II – General Assembly

Serving as the primary body of the Camas High School Magnet Program, the General Assembly shall be composed of student representatives, described in Segment ii. The purpose of the General Assembly shall be to make the decisions that best reflect those they represent. The General Assembly will be organized by class, with representatives seated near others of their grade. The

General Assembly shall serve as the legislative body of the Student Council, and participate in all votes that are called.

Segment ii – Representatives

The General Assembly shall be comprised of representatives of the students which the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council serves. Each grade level of the Magnet Program will be represented by at least three elected students, the process of which is outlined in Article III, Section I. The classes of ninth and tenth grade standing shall each elect four, due to the limitations on their holding certain other offices. Elected Representatives shall be held to high standards. They shall be expected to keep those they serve informed and stand for them, keeping up to date on the agenda and desire of their constituents. Each Representative shall wield the power of one vote, which they shall cast in the interest of their constituents. In addition to this, all Representatives shall have the power to call a vote. Barring impeachment resulting from transgressions or misdemeanors, see Article III, Section II, Representatives shall serve for a term of one semester, and shall not be limited in the number of terms they may be elected to.

Section III – Executive Board

The duties of the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council Executive Board shall be primarily administrative. These duties shall include, but not be limited to, calling votes, leading meetings, and compiling, addressing, and covering orders of business. Officers composing the Executive Board shall include but not be limited to the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and Faculty Advisor. With the exception of the Faculty Advisor, all members of the Executive Board shall be chosen through election, as detailed in Article III, Section III. Executives shall answer to students, faculty, and Representatives alike. They shall be held to high standards of service; any transgression or negligence in their duties shall result in their auditing, as outlined in Article III, Section IV.

Segment iii – The President

The President shall hold the highest executive office in the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council. The President shall lead and preside over meetings, ensuring all business is attended and order is held at all times. By default, the President shall have the floor of the discussion, until he or she formally recognizes another, transferring possession. This shall ensure that due order and attention is at all times preserved and facilitate the thorough documentation of all meetings. The President shall be expected to compile a business agenda for each Council meeting, provide an outline of this agenda for the Secretary to forward on to all other members, as well as oversee thorough discussion of these topics. The President shall also have the authority to call and participate in votes, as well as delegate necessary tasks and duties to other members.

Segment iv – The Vice-President

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the event of the President being rendered incapable. The Vice-President shall be expected to work closely with the President in order

to ensure that they are able to do so with any amount of notice, given or otherwise. The Vice-President shall have the ability to participate in votes.

Segment v – The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall act as the Chief Financial Officer of the Council. The Treasurer shall be required to present the Council with up-to-date financial figures at each meeting and complete documentation of a financial nature, such as budget, fundraiser, and event forms. Should the need for financial committees arise, the Treasurer shall act as chair of that committee.

Segment vi – The Secretary

The Secretary shall act as the Chief Informational Officer of, with the intent of the propagation of information regarding, affecting, and involving the Council. Duties of the Secretary shall include recording meeting minutes, making minutes public, taking attendance, and managing all club correspondence. Correspondence, electronic or otherwise, shall most notably announcing meetings, sending reminders, and forwarding a business agenda outline for each meeting so as to allow all members adequate preparation.

Segment vii – Faculty Advisor

The Faculty Advisor shall be present at all meetings, and act as a representative of Magnet faculty and administrators.

Segment viii – Addition of Executives

Should the need arise for the delegation or creation of further duties not accounted for here, the President shall have the ability to create an additional office to oversee, manage, and fulfill these duties, without the need to amend the Constitution. However, while the President shall create the position, it shall be filled by general election, as with other executives. Likewise, any and all executive offices shall be governed by the overarching laws of the Executive Board.

Segment ix – Committee Creation

Should the Magnet Student Council require collaboration and action to be taken, it shall be within the power of the President or a Representative to call for the creation of a committee. In order to do so, reason, goals, parameters, and a timeline for the committee must be provided and ratified by a simple majority vote. Likewise, a committee chair may be suggested by the President or Representatives, requiring a simple majority vote to be approved and appointed.

Article III – Electoral Parameters and Procedure

Section I – Election of Representatives

All Representatives serving on the Magnet Student Council shall be elected by the class they pertain to. Each grade level of the Magnet Program shall elect three Representatives, with the classes of ninth and tenth grade standing each electing four, due to the limitations on their holding certain other offices. Election formats themselves shall be at the discretion of the class, but proof of

election must be provided in order for a Representative to serve. Representatives shall serve for a term of one semester, with elections falling at the beginning of each semester. Should the need arise for summer sessions, those serving as 2nd Semester Representatives may be called upon.

Section II – Removal of Representatives

Representatives shall have the right to remove themselves from duty at any point. In the event of a Representative becoming incapable of continuing of fulfilling their duties, a special election shall be held to select a replacement. In the event of underrepresentation or poor fulfillment of duties, the student body which elected a Representative may petition the Executive Board for a review, requiring only a simple majority to attain. An Executive Review shall consist of a special meeting, resembling a trial, in which both the plaintiff and defendant cases shall be heard. This will be followed by a special removal vote by the plaintiff class. The power of Executive Review should and shall be used sparingly.

Section III – Election of Executives

Like Representatives, Executives will be selected through general election. However, Executive election will be governed by additional parameters and requirements, depending on the office. However, all Executive members must complete at least one year in the Magnet Program to be eligible for office, to ensure familiarity with procedures as well as ability to serve. All executives shall serve for a term of two consecutive semesters, with no limit on the number of terms they may be elected to. In order to ensure efficiency of officers in their service to the Council, students, and Magnet Program, each officer shall be subjected to two performance reviews by the Legislative body and fellow officers, each occurring at the halfway mark of the first and second semesters, by any means of anonymous survey, as shall be decided at the outset of each new term by the Council. This is intended to provide fair and constructive assessment of each executive's fulfillment of duty and dedication, and shall act as suggestions and guidance, rather than mandates.

Segment i – The President

Due to the important role of the office of the Presidency in facilitating and presiding over the legislative process, the office shall open only to students who have completed at least one year in the Magnet Program and are of twelfth grade standing, including at least one year of involvement with the Magnet Student Council, in order to ensure familiarity with process and duty. Therefore, only the class of twelfth grade standing shall elect the President.

Segment ii – The Vice-President

The office of the Vice-Presidency shall only be open to students who have completed at least two years in the Magnet Program and are of eleventh grade standing, with at least one year of Student Council involvement recommended but not required. Therefore, only the class of eleventh grade standing shall elect the Vice-President.

Segment iii – The Secretary and The Treasurer

In order to foster equality and promote participation of all classes, the positions of Secretary and Treasurer shall be open to anyone between and including tenth and twelfth grade class standing. In addition to this, only these classes may vote to elect these officers, and care should be taken to ensure that all classes participate in the vote.

Segment iv – The Faculty Advisor

Because the Faculty Advisor represents the administration and faculty staff of the Magnet Program, the position shall be filled by staff appointment, rather than student election.

Section IV – Executive Auditing and Removal

Due to the importance of the efficiency and commitment of the Executive Officers and Board in the ability of the Magnet Student council to fulfill its goals, Executives members will be held to the highest of standards. Any Executive who finds themselves unable to fulfill their duties shall have the ability to relinquish their position. Furthermore, should their ability to perform be called into serious question, either through negligence of duty or any misdemeanor, they can and shall be audited. Executive Auditing can be requested either through a unanimous Executive vote, with the exception of the defendant, or a simple majority of the General Assembly. Like Executive Review, Executive Auditing shall consist of a presentation of grievances by a plaintiff committee, followed by a presentation by the defendant. In order to be actualized, a vote for the executive's removal must achieve either a simple majority in the General Assembly in addition to a unanimous vote by non-defendant executives, or an absolute two-thirds majority vote by the General Assembly. Executives dismissed in such a manner receive an honorable discharge from duty, and are not barred from

Article IV – Amendment to the Constitution

Section I – Amendment Suggestion Format

Any student of the Camas High School Magnet Program may propose an amendment to the Student Council Constitution. They may make this proposal before the Student Council before the conclusion of the meeting, and should be prepared to present their case and answer questions. All amendments shall be put to a vote at the meeting following the one at which it presented. There is no limit to the number of amendments that may be proposed, nor is there a limit to the number of times an amendment may be proposed.

Section II – Amendment Ratification

Votes of ratification of amendments to the Magnet Student Council Constitution shall require either a quorum or complete attendance, governed by parameters dependent on the turnout. For complete attendance, a simple majority in both the Executive Board and General Assembly shall be required. In the event of a quorum, an absolute two-thirds majority in both the Executive Board and General Assembly shall be required for ratification. Should the amendment achieve the necessary votes for

ratification within the Camas High School Magnet Program Student Council, it shall then be submitted to the Camas High School Associated Student Body for review, in accordance with all regulations of Camas High School.

Section III – Amendment Adoption

Should an amendment achieve the votes and approval necessary for ratification, a change to the official Constitution shall be made, and can only be made, by the President. The President shall update all public copies of the Constitution, as well as create a revised physical copy for review by both the Magnet Student Council and Magnet Student Body.