

Xavier Charter School Student Government By-Laws

Mission Statement:

We, the elected Senators of the Rhetoric and Logic schools, work in partnership with the faculty and administration on behalf of the student body, by protecting and upholding the Charter and the Classical Vision of the school.

Article 1: Purpose

Section 1: The Student Government will be careful custodians of student funds, provide opportunities which allow students to be leaders in our school and community, and encourage activities through which students may have a full and rich academic experience. The Student Government will foster a partnership between the students, the faculty/administration, and the School Board.

Article 2: General Membership

Section 1: Student Government members will carry out their duties and responsibilities with exemplary citizenship and behavior in and out of school.

Section 2: Student Government members are expected to be present for at least 70% of the regularly scheduled general meetings, committee meetings, and fundraisers sponsored by the Student Government, unless excused in advance by the Advisor or President.

Section 3: Student Government members must maintain a "C" average and may have no more than one "F".

Section 4: Student Government members will bring questions, comments, and concerns from the student body and faculty to the Student Government meetings and will endeavor to represent their classmates and fellow students.

Article 3: Elections

Section 1: The Student Government will be comprised of the following:

- 3 members from the Senior Class, elected by the Seniors.
- 3 members from the Junior Class, elected by the Juniors.
- 3 members from the Sophomore Class, elected by the Sophomores.
- 3 members from the Freshmen Class, elected by the Freshmen.
- 1 member from the Eighth Grade Class, elected by the eighth-graders.
- 1 member from the Seventh Grade Class, elected by the seventh-graders.

Section 2: Those students elected to serve on the Student Government will be called "Senators" unless/until they are further promoted to the position of an officer. The Student Government Senators will hold their position for one school year. The officers—President, Vice President,

Secretary(ies), and Treasurer(s)—will hold their positions through June 30, to help train the incoming Student Government members.

Section 3: General elections will be held the third or fourth week of May. To be on a ballot, students must complete an election application and submit it to the Student Government Advisor. Students must meet the requirements listed in the general membership section. Ballots will be counted by the faculty Advisor and/or other faculty members. In the event of a tie, the affected class will be asked to vote to break the tie.

Section 4: Campaign season for the following school year is the month of May. At least one "meet the candidates" event will be held (preferably as a school assembly) and moderated by the current Seniors in the Student Government.

Section 5: In order to begin training the Grammar and lower-Logic students for leadership, each 5th grade and 6th grade class will be asked to send one representative to the April and May Student Government meeting(s) to make reports on behalf of their classes and to observe.

Section 6: In late May or early June, the current/outgoing members will hold a training session for the new members.

Article 4: Officers

Section 1: Once the general election is finalized, the elected Senators will elect officers from among their members. In the event that an officer leaves the Student Government, the vacated position will be reopened to the Student Government for general nominations and voting.

Officer positions are as follows:

President- Any upperclassmen (11th or 12th) Student Government member is eligible to run for this position. Duties include leading Student Government meetings, speaking at school convocations, providing agendas for Student Government meetings, and providing student leadership.

Vice President- Any Student Government member who is a member of the Rhetoric School is eligible to run for this position. Duties include presiding over Student Government meetings when the President is unavailable, helping in the delegation of tasks, and providing help with the leading of Student Government activities and assignments.

Secretary- Any Student Government member is eligible to run for this position. Duties include taking minutes of all the Student Government meetings, preparing them for approval at a subsequent meeting, and giving the minutes to the appropriate person so they can be posted on the Student Government website. There may be two secretaries; in the event there are two, at least one must be from the Rhetoric school.

Treasurer- This position is open to any Rhetoric School Student Government member. The treasurer is to keep track of all money transactions that the Student Government makes, report about any changes in club accounts, and work closely with the school business manager to monitor ASB funds. There may be two treasurers; in the event there are two, the second may be from the Logic school.

Public Relations Representative- Any Student Government member is eligible to run for this position. Duties include reporting any Student Government and Student Body events to the appropriate news agencies. The PR Representative will also update the Student Government bulletin board.

Activities Director- Any Student Government member is eligible to run for this position. Duties include communicating with club officers/advisors to process paperwork. This position also includes coordinating fundraising and activity calendars with the school leadership.

Web Master- Anyone in Student Government who is computer proficient is eligible for this position. Duties include regularly updating the website with the pertinent Student Government information. This will require coordination with the school's IT department.

Article 5: Advisor

Section 1: The Head of Schools and/or Lead Teachers will select a member(s) of the faculty to serve as Advisor to the Student Government. The term of the Advisor will be left to the discretion of the Head of Schools and Lead Teachers.

Article 6: Committees

Section 1: Student Government members will be assigned to committees as needed by the Advisor or officers. Non- Student Government students may be invited to serve on committees.

Section 2: Committee Chairs will be voted upon by the committee and approved by the Advisor or Student Government President. Committee Chairs must be members of the Student Government.

Section 3: All committee action is subject to review by the general body of the Student Government. Final action must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Student Government general body.

Article 7: Removal from/Vacancies on Student Government

Section 1: The Head of Schools/Lead Teachers or Advisor may remove from Student Government, or put on probation, any Student Government member for behavior resulting in a school suspension. The length of the probation will be determined by the Advisor with recommendations from the Student Government general body.

Section 2: If academic requirements are not met, the Head of Schools/Lead Teachers or the Advisor will allow one quarter for grade improvement, and then reassess before taking any action to remove a member from the Student Government.

Section 3: If meeting attendance requirements are not met, the Advisor and the Student Government general body may elect to remove the member in question from the Student Government. The member in question will be given an opportunity to discuss the attendance issues and request that an exception be made on his/her behalf.

Section 4: Resignations from Student Government must be submitted in writing to the Advisor or one of the Student Government officers.

Section 5: If there is a vacancy for any reason prior to the start of Spring Break, the vacancy will be filled in the following manner:

- (a) To fill a grade-level vacancy, the regular election results will be reviewed and the student who received the most votes will be offered the position. If he/she declines the student with the next highest number of votes will be offered the position, until the vacancy is filled.
- (b) If it is not possible to fill the vacancy as outlined in Article 7 Section 5a, the Student Government members in the affected grade-level will make a recommendation to the Student Government and the Advisor for an appointment. The Student Government will vote on the recommendation.
- (c) If the vacancy is that of the President, the Vice-President will be promoted to President. If the vacancy is that of another officer, once the grade-level vacancy has been filled, the general body of the Student Government will elect another member to hold the office.

Article 8: Adoption and Amendments

Section 1: The Bylaws and any amendments to it must be ratified by a three-fourths majority vote of the Student Government and be approved by the Advisor and Head of Schools/Lead Teachers.

Section 2: Any member of the Student Government, faculty, or administration may propose amendments to the Bylaws.

Article 9: Procedures for meetings

Section 1: All meetings will be conducted by the President. If the President cannot be present, the Vice President will lead the meeting. If neither the President nor the Vice President can attend the meeting then the Advisor will delegate the responsibility.

Section 2: Meetings must occur at least once a month; the Student Government will propose a more specific and frequent meeting schedule at the beginning of the school year. Additional meetings can be called as needed with 24 hours notice. Meetings shall have a written agenda and set time frame. The President has the responsibility of creating and distributing the agendas to all present members.

Section 3: Meetings will follow Parliamentary Procedure and Robert's Rules of Order. The President has the responsibility of enforcing this policy.

Section 4: All clubs, activities, dances, fundraisers, etc., associated with the use or potential use of ASB funds, must be processed by the Student Government.

Section 5: Voting within a meeting can only occur when $\frac{2}{3}$ of all members are present. Votes on issues/items will pass with a simple majority. In the event of a tie, the Advisor will have the deciding vote. Members must be present to vote.