

# **The Constitution Of the Associated Students Of**

## **Pleasant Grove High School**

### **PREAMBLE**

We, the students of Pleasant Grove High School, in order to provide for our cultural, moral, and civic betterment; to create a feeling of unity and promote leadership within the Student Body, do ordain and establish this constitution for the Associated Students of Pleasant Grove High School.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the student government is to develop in the Student Body the power of self-government by teaching them through active participation their responsibilities and duties to their fellow students and to their school, thus to serve the training necessary to become good citizens.

## **ARTICLE I**

Section 1. The name of this organization is the Associated Students of Pleasant Grove High School

Section 2. The members of this organization are the students of Pleasant Grove High School.

Section 3. This organization has been delegated its powers from the administrative head of the school.

Section 4. This organization is bound under Federal and State Constitutions, as well as this constitution.

Section 5. General Provisions of Pleasant Grove High School.

- The official emblem is a block "G."
- Any student in any club or organization can wear the block "G."
- Clubs issuing "G" awards must be chartered by the Student Council and have designated rules for earning a letter approved by Student Council.
- A club symbol must be visible within the "G" to specify your talent.
- The official mascot is the Viking.
- The official colors are royal blue, white, and gray.
- The school song is "Sons of Old P.G. High."
- The name of the school paper is the "Viking Crier" and the name of the yearbook is "Valkyre."

Section 6. The "Viking Crier" is established to vocalize student opinions and activities. Staff members of the "Viking Crier" are free to express ideas and opinions guaranteed by the first amendment of the United States Constitution, yet they shall not participate in libelous

accusations, but shall conform to positive criticism, which shall aid in the progression of the school.

Section 7. Period A3 shall be designated as homeroom.

Section 8. The official oath of office shall be as follows:

“I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of \_\_\_\_\_ of Pleasant Grove High School for the \_\_\_\_\_ school year, and will do the best of my ability, fulfill the duties and obligations of my office, and work for the betterment of my school, my community, and my country.

Section 9. Grounds for impeachment shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Failure to dutifully comply with the responsibilities of his/her office.
2. Committing a willful or flagrant violation of the school or public law.
3. Failure to comply with grade requirements or the moral requirements outlined in Article I, section 10 of this constitution.
4. All impeachments shall be under the jurisdiction of the administration and Student Council Advisor.

Section 10. All student government members shall demonstrate good character, ethical standards and conduct, and shall not participate in any of the following: cheating, promiscuous activities, smoking or illegal consumption of drugs, including alcoholic beverages.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Executive Branch**

The Executive power of the Associated Students of Pleasant Grove High School shall be vested in the Student Council.

Section 1. The Student Council shall be composed of Student Body President, Executive Vice-President, Executive Secretary, Assemblies Chairman, Public Relations Chairman, Special Events Chairman, Spirit Chairman, Historian, Mascot, Technical Representative, School Artist, PTSA Representative, and Special Olympic Representative by appointment.

Section 2. Student Council members shall be elected in accordance with Article VII of this constitution.

Section 3. Each newly elected Student Council member is required to take the oath of office in Article I, section 8 of this constitution. The oath will be administered by the currently serving Chief Justice of the Supreme Court following the election.

Section 4. Requirements of Student Council Members:

- Must possess a high school GPA of at least 3.0, and maintain that average each term while in office.
- Maintain high moral and ethical standards as outlined in Article I, Section 10 of this constitution.
- Attend  $\frac{3}{4}$  of classes at Pleasant Grove High School unless approved through the presently serving Supreme Court before the election.

Section 5. If a member of the Student Council does not meet the requirements stated above, he/she shall face impeachment proceedings, and other members of the Student Council shall assume his/her duties. The Student Council may also appoint a replacement if they so desire as long as the replacement meets the requirements stated above.

Section 6. The Student Council shall serve and represent the Student Body in activity planning and in making those suggestions, regulations, and by-laws necessary for the student of the school.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **JUDICIAL BRANCH**

The Judicial power of the Associated Students of Pleasant Grove High School shall be vested in the Supreme Court.

Section 1. The Supreme Court shall consist of seven Justices. The Supreme Court shall be selected by the Student Body President and Approved by the Senate according to the following guideline:

Students shall be appointed who serve in no other branch of the student government.

Section 2. Each newly appointed Supreme Court Justice is required to take the oath of office in Article I, Section 8 of this constitution. The oath shall be administered by the Student Body President.

Section 3. Requirements of Justices.

- Possess of a GPA of at least 3.5, and maintain that average throughout the term(s) in office.
- Maintain high moral and ethical standards as outlined in Article 1, Section 10 of this constitution.

Section 4. If a Supreme Court Justice does not meet the requirements stated above he/she shall be removed from office immediately. If it is necessary that a Supreme Court Justice be removed from office another shall be appointed by the Student Body President and approved by the Senate.

Section 5. The Judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this constitution, the ordinances of Pleasant Grove High School agreeing with the U.S. Constitution as interpreted by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Section 6. The Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction in all cases affecting the student government, including impeachment and amendments. The principal must approve any action taken against the above members. A decision by the Supreme Court must be made as a result of a majority vote of the Supreme Court.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

The Legislative power of the Associated Students of Pleasant Grove High School shall be vested in the Legislative Council.

Section 1. The Legislative council shall be composed of two houses—the Senate and House of Representatives.

The schools Senate shall be composed of class Officers and the club and organization presidents.

The House of Representatives shall be composed of one representative from each homeroom.

Election for Representatives shall be conducted by Student Council no later than the first week of each semester. Each homeroom shall elect one alternate representative to assume the official Representative's duties in his/her absence.

Each Representative shall serve a term or one semester. Representatives may be re-elected if their homeroom chooses to do so.

The Student Body President and Executive Vice-President shall be official, non-voting members of the Legislative Council. No other Student Body Officer may be a member of the Legislative Council.

No Student shall serve in both the Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. Each Senator and Representative is required to take the oath of office in Article I, Section 8 of this constitution. The Student Body President in the first meeting of each house shall administer the oath of office.

Section 3. Requirements of Legislative Council members.

- Have 2.5 GPA the term before and while in office.
- Maintain high moral and ethical standards as outlined in Article I, Section 10 of this constitution or may be replaced immediately.

#### Section 4. Replacement of Legislative Council members.

If it is necessary to replace a Senator he/she shall be replaced by an officer of the club or organization which he/she represents.

If it is necessary to replace of member of the House of Representatives, the alternate Representative shall replace him or the homeroom may elect a new Representative.

#### Section 5. Meeting Guidelines

Both the Senate and House of Representatives shall meet once a month.

A majority of the Senators or Representatives must be present to convene.

At all meetings the Senate and House of Representatives shall meet and vote as separate bodies. Each member shall have one vote.

#### Section 6. Required officers of the Legislative council.

The Senate.

The Student body President shall serves as President.

The Senate shall select a senator by majority voted to become the Senate Recorder.

The House of Representatives.

The Executive Vice-President shall serve as Speaker.

The House of Representatives shall elect one of their members to be the recorder.

Section 7. The Legislative Council may initiate and pass by-laws governing the Student body. By-laws shall take effect when both the Senate and House of Representatives pass the bill by a majority vote and the Student Body President and the principal sign it.

Section 8. Accusations against Supreme Court Justices shall be brought before the Legislative Council. Action may be taken against a Justice when the two houses approve such action by a 2/3 vote. The principal must approve any action taken.

Section 9. Any teacher who wishes to participate during a meeting of either house may do so with a majority vote of that house. The principal, vice-principals, and Student Council Advisor may participate without the majority vote.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **CLASS OFFICERS**

Section 1. Each class shall be represented by a council of Class Officers.

Section 2. Class Officers shall be elected in accordance with Article VII of this constitution.

Section 3. Each newly elected Class Officer is required to take the oath of office in Article I, Section 8 of this constitution. The oath will be administered by the Student Body President.

Section 4. Class Officers shall assume official duties immediately following the closing of the school year in which they were elected.

Section 5. Class Officers Eligibility

- Maintain at least a 3.0 GPA prior to election and each term while in office.
- Maintain high moral and ethical standards as outlined in Article I, Section 10 of this constitution.
- Attend Pleasant Grove High School for a minimum of three fourth of all classes.

Section 6. If a Class Officer does not meet the requirements stated above he/she shall face impeachment proceedings, and his/her duties will be assumed by the other class officers.

Section 7. Duties of Class Officers.

- Be responsible for the cooperation of their class in Student Body projects and activities.
- Promote and be in charge of special activities of their class.
- Complete other assignments delegate by the Student Council.
- Class Officers shall plan and organize Prom.
- Plan and organize the new student orientation with the counselors.
- The Student Body President has the power to delegate work to the Class Officers.

Section 8. Special Duties of Senior Class Officers.

- Plan and oversee commencement exercises.
- Be responsible for the painting and upkeep of the G.
- Be responsible for all class reunions.
- Pass on Viking traditions to new students.
- Oversee the Senior Class Project.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **CLUBS**

Section 1. A club shall be formed only after a written petition, with at least 15 signatures, has been presented to, and approved by, the Student Council and principal. The purposes and constitution of the club shall be presented to the Student Council and principal along with the petition.

Section 2. At the beginning of each year it shall be the duty of each club to present the Student Council with any changes made in their constitution.

Section 3. A Club Week shall be designated by the Student Council during which time clubs can recruit new members. Clubs should support and be active in Club Week, but recruiting is not limited to it.

Section 4. The Student Council shall approve any activities sponsored by a club that directly concerns the Student Body.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of each club to manage their organization in keeping with this constitution and school policies.

Section 6. All clubs shall:

- Exist for the benefit of all students of the school.
- Extend membership opportunities to all registered students.
- Be organized in such a way that membership cannot be determined, even in part, by the popular vote of the club membership.
- Be under the sponsorship of one or more faculty members.

Section 7. Clubs failing to meet the provisions above are unauthorized and may not be represented in the Senate or conduct any activities at school.

Section 8. An organization is defined as a school group that participates in extracurricular competitions or performances as representatives of Pleasant Grove High School.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **ELECTIONS**

Section 1. New Student Council members of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades shall be elected by secret ballot in the fourth quarter of the school year preceding their term of office as designated by the Student Council. 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade Class Officers will be elected concurrently with Student Body Officers. Sophomore Class Officers will be appointed by teacher evaluation and interview at the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

Section 2. Elections shall be presided over by the Election Committee. The Election Committee shall consist of representatives from the current Student Government and advisors. Any Student Council member who is a candidate, or who is openly endorsing a candidate may not be involved.

Election Committee shall create and distribute rules and guidelines prior to nominations for the nominations, primary, and final elections.

The Election Committee reserves the right and responsibility to disqualify any candidate who violates the rules of the election and/or shows disrespectful conduct during the campaign.

### Section 3. Eligibility Requirements.

- All candidates must possess at least a 3.0 GPA for the most current term, and maintain this GPA each term while in office.
- All candidates must demonstrate good moral standards as outlined in Article I, Section 10 of this constitution.
- The Student Body President shall be a senior. All other Student Council Offices are open to both seniors and juniors.

Section 4. Primary Elections. (Primary elections will only be held if four (4) or more people run for any one office)

A. A primary election week shall be held to select two final candidates in each office.

Primary elections shall be determined by a combination of popular vote, teacher recommendations, interviews, and portfolios based on the decision of the election committee published before nominations.

Upon completion of the primary balloting, the two finalists for each office shall be randomly designated to a campaign party: Blue or White.

### Section 6. Final Elections.

An election assembly shall be held prior to voting. Each candidate and party will be given equal time at the assembly.

In the event that no candidate runs for an office, the Student Council advisor and administration shall appoint the office.

Outstanding candidates may be appointed to “cabinet positions” at the discretion of the advisor.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### HOMECOMING ROYALTY

Section 1. All Homecoming Queen Candidates must be seniors.

Section 2. The Homecoming Queen cannot run for any other dance royalty.

Section 3. The process for selecting the Homecoming Queen shall be determined by the Student Council based on the following guidelines:



Candidates will be sponsored for the Homecoming Pageant by an existing club or organization.

The sponsoring club or organization has to have sponsored a service activity in the previous school year separate from any fund-raising efforts, and the candidate needs to have participated in the annual club week for the current school year.

Candidates will not be judged on the value of their service activity, but they may be judged on how well they present it.

Section 4. Members of the student Council, the sponsoring party, may not enter a candidate.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **AMENDING THIS CONSTITUTION**

Section 1. This constitution may be added to, deleted from or modified through the amending process as approved by the administration.

Section 2. Any student may present an amendment to this constitution in writing, signed by fifty active members of the Student Body, to the Student Body President who will present it to the Supreme Court for validation.

Section 3. A ruling of the Supreme Court can amend the Constitution as approved by administration.