

**CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL
NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL**

Adopted September, 1981

Amended March, 2016

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as the **Grand Island Northwest High School Student Council**.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The Northwest High School Student Council is formed for the following objectives and purposes:

- Section 1** To provide a representative body in which school policies, restrictions, and any problems involving the student body may be discussed.
- Section 2** To strive for better relations between the administration and the student body.
- Section 3** To aid the student body in any way possible when situations involving the district and school administration develop.

ARTICLE III – RESPONSIBILITIES

- Section 1** The freshman, sophomore and junior classes will be represented by four representatives, while the senior class has six representatives; contingent upon application numbers.
- Section 2** The officers and representatives of the Student Council shall serve until the end of the school year unless notified by the principal or a majority of the members of the council, because of disciplinary reasons, scholastic standing or failure to attend meetings/functions (see section 3).
- Section 3** Representatives will be **expected** to attend **all meetings/functions**. In the event of event/meeting conflicts with other activities, the **representative will be expected to notify one of the sponsors**. After two unexcused absences, the representative will be removed from the council.

ARTICLE IV – SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

- Section 1** During the spring, interested students will complete an election packet to be selected as a Student Council representative.
- Section 2** The election packet, called the “Student Council Membership Application Form,” consisting of a completed application and essay questions (50%).
- Section 3** The GINW student body will have a ballot vote for the student council applications (25%). Applicants may campaign for the representative position one week before the ballot vote.
- Section 4** The applicants will ask four adults (two must be teachers; and two outside adults) to complete the recommendation forms (25%).
- Section 5** All members are required to complete this process each year; no member is exempt. The incoming freshmen are exempt from the student body election due to the logistics of our district.

ARTICLE V – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Section 1** The Student Council currently has three officers with the council. These are: President, Vice President, and Secretary.
- Section 2** After selection of the representatives, the officers will be elected within the council.
- Section 3** The President and Vice President must be members of the junior or senior classes. The Secretary can be a member of the sophomore, junior or senior class. A freshman representative will not be eligible for any office within the council.
- Section 4** In order to be President, a student must have served on Student Council for at least one year.
- Section 5** Members interested in an office will complete a “Student Council Officer Application Form.” A 1-3 minute speech will be given by each officer candidate before the ballot vote is taken.
- Section 6** The ballots will be counted by the sponsor and a current senior member of the council.
- Section 7** If no student runs for office, the position of President, Vice President, and Secretary may be appointed by the sponsor, following a consultation with current senior members.

ARTICLE VI – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- Section 1** The President shall preside at all meetings and be generally in charge of the Student Council. If the need arises, the President will act as the representative for the entire council. He/she shall work closely with the sponsor in order to run a smooth organization and should recognize when the committee work is necessary.
- Section 2** The Vice President duties shall be the same as the President’s in his/her absence or as delegated to him/her by the President. The Vice President will also be responsible for Public Relations.
- Section 3** The Secretary shall keep minutes of the meetings and assist in the completion of proposals. He/she shall handle all written correspondence.
- Section 4** The sponsor shall supervise all proceedings of the council and voice approval/disapproval, but not totally disregard the request.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

Regular meetings shall be held when deemed necessary by the President or sponsor. A calendar shall be prepared at the beginning of each school year.

ARTICLE VIII – PROHIBITIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Student Council has no authority to overrule any decisions or restrictions made by the school board, superintendent, or principal. Any council member shall abide by the rules and regulations of the Northwest Activities Handbook. Any consumption of alcohol or use of tobacco or other drugs shall be subject to one or more of the following consequences deemed appropriate by the Student Council:

1. Meeting/warning from Student Council Sponsor(s).
2. Explanation and apology to the Student Council.
3. Possible removal brought forth by a Faculty Council.

ARTICLE IX – PROVISION FOR AMENDMENT

This constitution may be amended in the following manner:

Section 1 The Student Council representatives shall be consulted concerning provision for the constitution. The final decision will stand with the sponsor of the council.

I, the undersigned, will carry out my Student Council duties to the best of my ability, adhere to the policies of Student Council, adhere to the policies of Northwest High School, and serve as a positive role model for the student body.

Date

Signature

Adopted, September, 1981
Amended, April, 2004
Amended, March, 2008
Amended, August, 2014
Amended, March, 2016