



Tsehootsooi Middle School

Student Council Constitution

2025 -2026

Tsehootsooi Middle School Student Council Constitution

Article I Name

Section 1 The name of this organization shall be the Student Council of Tsehootsooi Middle School, Window Rock Unified School District #8, Fort Defiance, Arizona.

Article II Purpose

Section 1 The purpose of the Student Council (StuCo) of Tsehootsooi Middle School (TMS) shall be to help regulate the activities of the student body, to develop capable leadership among students, to create a sense of mutual understanding between the students and faculty, and to promote consciousness of, and participation in the democratic process, as well as promote the activities of the student body.

Article III Color, Symbol, Emblem, and Motto

Section 1 The color shall be white, with Columbia blue and Navy Blue.

Section 2 The symbol shall be the Navajo Scout.

Section 3 The emblem shall be a Scout head, consisting of three colors.

Section 4 The Tsehootsooi Student Council motto shall be, "Leadership: Pathway to the Future."

Article IV Membership

Section 1 The Student Council shall consist of Officers, Representatives, and Senators.

Section 2 The grade level representative shall be elected by their respective grade level. The grade level representative shall be responsible to attend regular meetings and provide feedback from the student body.

Section 3 Senators are members of the student body selected by the Sponsor or the Principal. The senators shall be responsible to attend regular meetings and provide feedback from the student body.

Section 4 Each representative and senator has one vote on all questions.

Article V Officers, Representative, and Senators

Section 1 The officers of this club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations, Historian, and Spirit Chair.

Section 2 President and Vice-president Shall be elected by school wide election, President Office shall be reserved for 8th grader while the Vice-President Office shall be reserved for a 7th Grader. Other Officers will be selected by the representatives and senators at the first meeting after the representatives are elected.

Section 3 Election Procedure

1. Interested students shall obtain an election packet from the sponsor. The packet will consist of:
 - a. Parent Consent Forms
 - b. Petition Form.
 - c. Duties and Responsibilities of the positions
 - d. Two recommendation forms completed by teachers, coaches, or community members.
 - e. General information of the procedural process with other important information.
2. Election packets must be signed in the following order:
 - a. A signed Parent Consent Form must be submitted to the Student Council Sponsor
 - b. Fifty (50) student body signatures on the Petition Form.
 - c. Two recommendations from previous teachers, coaches, or community members.
3. Thereafter, each candidate will have one week to campaign. Each candidate will be responsible for putting up and clean up his or her own posters, flyers, etc.
4. All candidates will be given a chance to speak to the student body during both/or applicable lunches.
5. The 5 candidates with the highest votes shall be declared the representatives of that grade level.
6. Voting shall be held by secret ballot during a non-core subject (study skill/intervention/electives).
7. A tally of votes and announcements of winners shall be made by the sponsor within one week.
8. In the event of a tied election, both candidates will be selected as representatives, even if the number of representatives will then exceed 4 per grade.
9. Representatives are elected for 1 full academic year, from August to May.

Section 4 Senator Selection:

1. 2 Senators per grade will be selected by the sponsor and/or the administration team.
2. Senators must be students that have leadership experience.
3. Senators must meet all qualifications for student council membership.

4. Senators may hold a position as an officer, barring that of President and Vice-president.
5. Senators would have priority in leading StuCo Committees if so desired.

Section 5

Qualifications of Student Council Membership:

1. Must maintain an 80% or greater in all classes.
2. Must have no major behavioral/disciplinary problems as determined by the Dean of Students or Principal
3. Must not have more than 3 unexcused tardies or absences from StuCo events or meetings.

Section 6

Duties and Responsibilities of Officer:

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the council, call special meetings, when necessary, appoint all committees, represent the council at all public functions, and assume such other duties as are generally associated with the office. He or she shall always work closely with the sponsor.
2. The Vice-President shall assist the president in his or her functions, as well as take their place in the event of their absence. The Vice-President is also charged with supervising clubs outside of the student council; helping them establish themselves and meeting the expectations of a TMS Chartered Club.
3. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all the Student Council meetings, handle all official correspondence, maintain an attendance record, and keep a record of all official Student Council correspondence.
4. The Treasurers shall perform the duties of maintaining the financial accounts of the Student Council. He or she will account for all the money after fundraising activities. He or she shall report to the council the status of the financial activities.
5. The Public Relations officer shall oversee maintaining the TMS StuCo Band app page along with any other band app pages or social media associated with TMS. He or she is also in charge of designing and distributing advertising; including but not limited to flyers, posters, and brochures. They must also keep the bulletin board up to date.
6. The Historian oversees collecting evidence from events that take place at our school; this includes but is not limited to taking pictures at events, collecting advertisements, and creating lists of events. The roles of the Historian are not limited to only StuCo events.
7. The TMS Spirit Chair is charged with maintaining school spirit at our school. They will help work to encourage school spirit at our school site and at TMS games; they will accomplish this by creating signs/posters, organizing pep rallies, and decorating the school. The TMS Spirit chair may be asked to work closely with TMS Cheer.
8. Senators and Representatives are responsible for ensuring that the student body is represented. They must ensure that the Student Body's needs and wants are met, they can accomplish this by

conducting surveys, talking to their peers, and getting feedback and ideas from their peers.

Article VI Removal from Office

Section 1

Conditions of Removal:

1. Officer, Representative, or Senator may be removed if:
 - a. They have a total of three or more unexcused absences from StuCo events and meetings.
 - b. Fail to represent the student body in a proper and fair way.
 - c. Fail to fulfill duties of the office
 - d. Behave in a way that is detrimental to the Student Council or the student body.
 - e. Grades staying below 80% for more than 3 weeks.

Section 2

Officer, Representative, Senator Probation:

1. If an officer, representative, or senator has met the conditions for removal they may be placed on probation at the discretion of the sponsor.
2. When placed on probation, the officer will have a one-on-one meeting with the sponsor to explain the offense and warn that if the student continues, they will be removed.
3. The term of the probation will last no more than one quarter.
4. Students who have committed an action that is excessively severe or required disciplinary action are not eligible for probation and will immediately be removed.

Section 3

Method of Removal:

1. If an officer is found to meet any condition of removal, and they are not offered probation, the removal processes must begin.
2. The removal process can be initiated by the Principal, Vice-Principal, Sponsor, or President.
3. Once the removal process has begun there must be a vote of the Student Council to decide on removal. A simple majority will be necessary. The council may remove, place probation, or take no action.
4. Before the vote is conducted the offending officer may make an appeal to the council before any vote is cast.

Section 4

Replacing Removed officers:

1. If an officer is removed within one month of an election the position will be offered to the second-place candidate of that office.
2. If an office is removed outside of one month or if the runner-up does not accept the position a special election within the StuCo may be held to fill the position, or a school wide election. The administration

team will decide the appropriate election method. If a school wide election is decided by the Admin team, the special election must follow all normal election procedures.

Article VII Committees

Section 1 Standing and special committees may be organized as needed. Students can be selected to be the chairperson of any committee. They shall be dedicated to upholding the constitution of the Student Council. Examples would be, but not limited to, Homecoming, Navajo Fair Parade, Dances, and others.

Article VIII Meetings

Section 1 General meetings will take place after school on Thursdays from 4-6pm.

Section 2 Officer meetings will take place after school on Tuesdays from 4-6pm, when necessary but no less than 2 times per month.

Section 3 When we have upcoming events, we may also spend time after school or on weekends planning and setting up for those events.

Section 4 Meeting times and dates may be changed at the discretion of the Sponsor, Principal, Vice-Principal, and President.

Section 5 General meetings should be coordinated by the President or Vice-President.

Article IX TMS Chartered Clubs and Other Organizations

Section 1 Any school group desiring to organize a club shall apply to the Student Council for a charter.

Section 2 At the time of application; each group must submit a constitution and a letter of intent from their sponsor, along with a list of interested students.

Section 3 Once approved, clubs will have 1 month to submit a list of officers, meeting details (dates, times, location), and goals for the year.

Section 4 All TMS Chartered Clubs must have a president, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 5 Approved TMS Chartered Clubs may conduct fundraising events at TMS with the approval of the StuCo or Principal.

Section 6 All funds raised must be submitted to the StuCo within 3 business days. Funds must be counted and processed by both the StuCo Treasurer and the Chartered Club Treasurer.

Section 7 In order for a TMS Chartered Club to be able to spend funds, their spending must be approved by their club members. Once their club approves their spending, they must send a representative with their notes to the StuCo.

Section 8 At the end of the year, the club must present an accounting of its activities, and, on the basis of this report, the council shall determine if the club charter is to be extended for another year, or revoked. All clubs must benefit the students at Tsehootsooi Middle School. Every club will be held accountable for their activities. The Student Council shall approve all fundraising activities of clubs at Tsehootsooi Middle School.

Section 9 All other schools and community organizations shall get approval from the Student Council before proceeding with their selling or fundraising activities on Tsehootsooi Middle School Campus. This includes posting flyers for community events.

Article X Sponsor

Section 1 The principal shall appoint a member of the faculty to serve as an advisor/sponsor. Duties and responsibilities of the sponsor shall be:

1. He or she does not vote on issues of the Student Council.
2. The sponsor shall uphold and enforce the Student Council Constitution and By Laws.
3. The Sponsor shall be at all meetings of the Student Council
4. The Sponsor shall be at ALL Student Council sponsored activities.
5. The sponsor has the power to veto any decision made by the Student Council if the council fails to represent the school properly, fairly, and will do so in writing.

Section 2 Only the principal has the authority to replace or remove a sponsor. The basis of removing a sponsor shall be:

1. Failure to adhere to the functions of the Student Council
2. Failure to represent the council properly and fairly
3. Failure to demonstrate a leadership model to the council, or for any other actions, which may be detrimental to the welfare and best interest of the council and the school.
4. The sponsor shall also abide by the Student Council Constitution, policies, and by-laws, as well as enforce them.

Section 3 The term of the sponsor's position is left to the discretion of the principal and the sponsor.

Article XI Power

Section 1 The Student Council has the following powers:

1. Accept and reject any student body club or organization fundraising activities.

2. Coordinate and investigate all student activities unless otherwise appointed.
3. Coordinate community group activities involved with or for student projects.
4. Advocate for issues that affect the student body
5. Act as an intermediary between the student body and the administration.

Section 2

Veto Powers:

All power of the Student Council is delegated to it by the school administration. Therefore, the assistant principal and the principal have the right to veto any act of the Student Council. The assistant principal and/or the principal shall modify any part of the constitution when deemed to be in the best interest of the school, with the Student Council members and the sponsor's approval. The principal shall work closely with the Student Council on issues that may affect the student body.

Article XII Amendments

Section 1

The constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the student council and support of the TMS administrative team and TMS StuCo Sponsor.

Section 2

The by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Student Council members at any regular meeting.

By-Laws

Section 1

The constitution shall become effective immediately after having been approved by a majority vote of the Student Council members of Tsehootsooi Middle School of Fort Defiance, Arizona.

Section 2

If a Student Council officer or grade level representative does not attend a council meeting voluntarily, his absence will be considered an unexcused absence. After three unexcused absences, the member will be replaced with a justification letter of removal.

Section 3

All yearly renewals of the rules and policies by the Student Council shall be reinforced for the safety and enjoyment of the Tsehootsooi Middle School student body.

Section 4

All Student Council members shall uphold the yearly revised Student Handbook of Tsehootsooi Middle School. They shall implement social activities and propose such improvements deemed appropriate and safe for the student body. Any activities and proposals are subject to the approval of the assistant principal and the principal of the Tsehootsooi Middle School.