

REGULATION

PATERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Student Government

5820 Student Government

Preamble:

It is the responsibility of the school district to educationally prepare students to perform successfully on the global stage. We also have an obligation to develop students who are leaders and civically responsible as well. Consequently the district needs to develop student government organizations in at least every secondary level school, organizations that are generally elected by the student body and mentored by members of the faculty.

More specifically, these organizations would facilitate:

- a. Promoting an understanding of civics
 - b. Teaching leadership
 - c. Teaching responsibility
 - d. Enhanced student-administration relations
 - e. The roll of student liaisons
 - f. The promotion of school spirit
 - g. Enhanced school climate
 - h. Involvement of students in school functions
 - i. Enhanced student-administration relations
 - j. The administration's awareness of what is going on in the student body
 - k. School fundraising
 - l. Creation of student models of behavior and performance
- I. Types of student government organizations to be considered, chosen by the student body:
- A. Student Council
 - B. Class representatives
 - C. A combination of the two



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- II. The responsibilities of the student government association member should include, but not be limited to the following:
- A. Represent the concerns and opinions of their classmates in a mature and appropriate manner.
 - 1. Representatives should bring these concerns before the entire Student government organization for further deliberation and possible action.
 - B. Student-Administration Liaisons
 - C. Canvas fellow students to elicit their concerns
 - D. Hold and attend regular student government meetings
 - E. Student Mobilization
 - F. Fundraising
 - G. Work with the administration to address issues occurring in the schools, but not be limited to the following:
 - 1. School climate
 - 2. Violence
 - 3. Bullying
 - 4. Academic performance
 - a. Review and discuss school's academic performance reports
 - 5. Discipline
 - 6. Student Academic recognition
 - 7. School functions
 - a. Homecoming event
 - b. Proms
 - c. Graduation
 - 8. School activities
 - a. Work to increase and/or change the types as per the needs of the student body, such as:
 - 1). Youth in Government programs
 - 2). Model UN programs
 - 3). Clubs
 - a). Computer/Technology
 - b). Chess



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- c). Debate
- d). Drama
- e). Engineering
- f). Language
 - (1). French
 - (2). Spanish
 - (3). Etc
- g). Science
- h). Ski
- 4). Service Organizations
 - a). Key club
 - b). Young Rotarians
- 5). Sport programs
 - a). Crew
 - b). Gymnastics
 - c). Ice Hockey
 - d). Lacrosse
 - e). Swimming
- 6). Moot court
- 9. Community Service Projects
- 10. School Enhancements
- 11. Debate controversial issues affecting students such as:
 - a. How electronics should be handled in the building
 - b. Dress code
 - c. Food selection offered in the cafeteria
- 12. School Ceremony participation
 - a. Pep rallies
 - b. Distinguished guests
 - c. Award ceremonies
 - d. Special events
- 13. Concession stand management

III. Requirements for participation should include at least:



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- A. A willingness to actively participate in the student government organization by attending meetings and functions regularly.
 - B. Be willing to represent his/her constituents in a positive manner.
 - C. Be willing to give the extra effort and time to see that the council sponsored events run smoothly
 - D. A student must maintain a 2.10 or above cumulative g.p.a. Eligibility is determined at the close of each quarterly marking period. Must academically remain within .8 g.p.a. points of the level possessed when elected, without receiving a new D or F.
 - 1. If the student government member fails to improve his or her grades, he or she will be asked to resign his or her position and a new member will be appointed.
 - 2. The new member will be the person receiving the next highest number of voted during the student government election. Otherwise, the advisor/principal will pick a member.
- IV. The election process should be developed (by students and administration) and institutionalized at the schools but include at least the following:
- A. A g.p.a. requirement for student candidates
 - B. Teacher recommendations obtained by candidates
 - C. Guidance counselor recommendations
 - D. Petitions obtained by candidates
 - E. School-wide campaigns with declared political platforms (Goals):
 - 1. Student centered
 - 2. School centered

Issued: November 23, 2010

