



# CONSTITUTION

## OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL

### ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

- Section 1) This organization shall be known as the Student Council of Seton Catholic Central High School.
- Section 2) The purpose of the Student Council shall be:
- A) To furnish strong Catholic Leadership;
  - B) To investigate and refer to the Administration policies and practices which it believes will lead to the advancement of the school's welfare;
  - C) To provide for a regular mode of procedure for the organization and establishment of all student-oriented clubs, associations, and societies connect with the school; to define their conduct and practices;
  - D) To encourage participation in all school activities;
  - E) To act as collector, custodian, and disburser of Student Council funds; and
  - F) To transact other business of general interests to the student body of the school not otherwise provided for.

### ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1) The Student Council shall consist of an Executive Board and six Class Boards, there will be one board for each class.
- A) The Executive Board shall consist of seven members.
  - B) Each Class Board shall consist of five members from within that grade-level and a Class President. Each house shall elect one peer to serve on his/her class board, the Class President shall be elected at-large by his/her classmates.
- Section 2) A dispensation for any requirements or qualifications found in this Constitution may be granted, at the recommendation of the Commissioner of Elections, by the Executive Board.



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## ARTICLE III. THE HOUSE SYSTEM

- Section 1) There shall be five houses at Seton Catholic Central. Each incoming student shall be randomly assigned to one house upon entry to the school. Each student shall remain in that house for the duration of their education.
- A) The five houses shall be named for the following Saints:
- i) St. Catherine of Alexandria;
  - ii) St. Gregory the Great;
  - iii) St. Ignatius of Loyola;
  - iv) St. John Neumann; and
  - v) St. Philomena.
- Section 2) Each house shall have a Faculty Dean appointed by the Principal.
- A) The Faculty Dean shall:
- i) Oversee and dispense discipline among the house peers working with the Senior Prefect in investigations;
  - ii) Record and report service hours for his/her house;
  - iii) Be an ex-officio member of the Prefectural Committee, the Catholic Service Opportunities Board, and the Board of his/her house; and
  - iv) Perform any other duties as determined by the Principal.
- Section 3) Each house shall have a Senior Prefect elected by the peers of his/her house in the spring.
- A) The Senior Prefect shall:
- i) Serve as chief executive of his/her house;
  - ii) Co-ordinate and oversee all house events and activities;
  - iii) Preside over all house meetings;
  - iv) Be an ex-officio senior class officer;
  - v) Liaise with the Faculty Dean and Faculty Adviser; and
  - vi) Be an ex-officio member of the Prefectural Committee and the Board of his/her house.
- Section 4) Each house shall have a set of by-laws for their peers, annually reviewed and published by the House Board. Any changes in by-laws must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the House Board, the Executive Board, and the Principal.
- Section 5) Each house shall have a House Board to oversee and plan House activities, events, and business, consisting of:
- A) The Faculty Dean;
  - B) The Faculty Advisor;
  - C) The Senior Prefect;
  - D) Any members of the Executive Board from that House; and
  - E) Each class officer from that House
- Section 6) Each house shall meet as a whole on a biweekly basis. The members of a common house are referred to as peers.



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## ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Section 1) The Executive Board shall be the primary governing body of the Student Council.
- A) The Executive Board shall:
- i) Approve by a majority vote:
    - (1) annual revisions to house by-laws
    - (2) club charters
    - (3) withdrawals of over \$100.00 from the Student Council account
    - (4) the Plan for School-wide Elections proposed by the Commissioner of Elections
  - ii) Meet biweekly;
  - iii) May revoke club charters;
  - iv) Appoint a School Historian annually;
  - v) Fundraise annually a minimum sum of \$750.00 to donate a scholarship for a child of Haiti;
  - vi) Remove a class officer, pursuant to Article IV, §3;
  - vii) Approve amendments to this Constitution by a two-thirds majority; and
  - viii) Be ex-officio non-voting members of the Prefectural Committee and ex-officio members of the Catholic Service Opportunities Board.
- Section 2) If, after October 15th, it becomes apparent that there is such a need, the Executive Board shall designate by a majority vote one board member to serve co-equally as the coordinator and facilitator of the business of the Student Council.
- A) This student shall:
- i) Schedule all meetings of the Board;
  - ii) Take notes and records of all board meetings;
  - iii) Communicate directives of the Administration or Faculty Adviser to the rest of the Board;
  - iv) Act as co-authority with the Faculty Adviser in interpreting the Constitution; and
  - v) Perform any other duties assigned to him/her by the Board.
- B) At any point in the year, the Executive Board may replace this student if he/she does not fulfill his/her duties stated in this Constitution, he/she may not be removed until he/she has been given advance warning and an opportunity to clarify the situation before his/her fellow members on the Executive Board. After giving him/her a fair hearing, the Executive Board may replace him/her by a majority of the members present.
- Section 3) At any point in the year, a class officer may be removed from office if he/she does not fulfill his/her duties stated in this Constitution, he/she may not be removed until he/she has been given advance warning by the class Faculty Adviser and an opportunity to clarify the situation before his/her fellow class officers and the Executive Board. After giving him/her a fair hearing and opportunity to correct his/her behavior, he/she may be removed by a majority vote of his/her class board, the Executive Board and the approval of the Principal.
- Section 4) After the Spring Elections, the Executive Board shall appoint a School Historian. This student need not be a member of the Executive Board nor any class board, although he/she may serve concurrently in such a capacity.
- A) The Historian shall:
- i) Record the results of all elections with the Commissioner of Elections;
  - ii) Record the names and graduating classes of all officers of the Student Council on the annual roster;
  - iii) Keep a log of any noteworthy student, club, or athletic achievements of that year;
  - iv) Organize and store all records of the Student Council;
  - v) Ensure proper precedent is followed and preserved for future student councils; and
  - vi) Have posterity in mind regarding all records.



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**ARTICLE V. CLASS BOARDS AND FACULTY ADVISERS**

- Section 1) Each class shall have Board consisting of five officers and one Class President. Each house shall elect one peer to serve on his/her class board. The President shall be elected at-large by his/her classmates.
- A) A Class Board shall:
- i) Fundraise for the Class;
  - ii) Plan and host class-sponsored events;
  - iii) Attend all Student Council meetings; and
  - iv) Represent its class and its concerns to the Executive Board and Administration.
- B) A Class President shall:
- i) Appoint chairmen of any ad hoc class committees;
  - ii) Call special meetings of his/her class board;
  - iii) Preside of all meetings of his/her class board; and
  - iv) Serve primus inter pares as the coordinator and facilitator of the business of his/her class.
- Section 2) The Faculty Advisors shall be appointed by the Principal.
- A) There shall be one faculty advisor each for the Executive Board, each House, and each class board.
- B) The Faculty Advisors shall:
- i) Act whenever needed in a general advisory capacity; and
  - ii) Either attend, or be represented by a faculty member, at all meetings.



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## ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

Section 1) The Standing Committees:

A) The Prefectural Committee

- i) The Executive Board shall appoint a Prefect as the chairman of the committee by a majority vote.
- ii) The committee shall be composed of the senior prefects of each house, the faculty deans of each house, the Vice-Principal, and the Executive Board.
- iii) The committee will meet on a regular basis to exchange ideas and policies regarding discipline and the promotion of the house system and the Honor Code.

B) The Chartering Committee

- i) The Executive Board shall appoint a chairman of the committee by a majority vote.
- ii) All club Presidents are ex-officio members of the committee.
- iii) The committee will receive petitions from organizations applying for a charter.
- iv) The committees will award and issue charters to student organizations upon the approval of the Executive Board.
- v) The committee will require each club to submit an annual club information sheet, including the name of the faculty adviser, officers, members, and the purpose of the organization. This form must be submitted to the committee before the Fall Club Fair. Failure to do so will result in the loss of the club's charter. New clubs applying for a charter after the Club Fair must submit this information sheet as well.
- vi) The committee will investigate complaints against chartered organizations and report to the Executive Board which will decide what action, if any, to take.
- vii) The committee will organize, plan, and host the Fall Club Fair at a date no later than the first Friday after the first Thursday in October.
- viii) The committee will compile and publish the SCC Club Membership Master List by the last school day in October, sending copies to each club adviser.

C) The Catholic Service Opportunities Board

- i) The Executive Board shall appoint a member of the Executive Board as the chairman of this board by a majority vote.
- ii) The board shall be composed of the faculty deans of each house, one nominated peer of each house, the Key Club President, and the Executive Board.
- iii) The board shall:
  - (1) approve all service projects for and annually publish the Service Directory; and
  - (2) encourage and facilitate students to fulfill their service requirement to graduate.
- iv) No project or opportunity will be approved if it is deemed detrimental to the school by the board, or its purpose is not worthwhile.

Section 2) Ad hoc committees shall be formed by the Executive Board when necessary.

Section 3) The Executive Board shall appoint the chairman of a committee by a majority vote. The chairman shall appoint the other members of his/her committee and call all meetings of his/her committee. All class officers and Executive Board members are eligible to be members or chairmen of committees.

## ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1) Quarterly meetings of the Student Council shall be held.

A) Special meetings of the Student Council may be called by the Executive Board.

Section 2) Regular meetings of the Executive Board and the Administration shall be held cyclically.

A) Special meetings of the Board may be called by any two members of the Board.

Section 3) Regular meetings of the Houses shall be held biweekly.

Section 4) Special meetings of a house board may be called by the Prefect.

Section 5) Special meetings of a class board may be called by any two officers of that class.

Section 6) Governing Procedure

A) "Robert's Rules of Order" shall be the governing rules of all meetings.

B) A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the members of the Executive Board with voting power.



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**ARTICLE VIII. CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS**

- Section 1) No student organization or club shall be formed except under charter by the Student Council.
- A) The Executive Board may grant a charter to an organization by a majority vote of the members present, upon receipt of a petition for a charter.
  - B) The petition for a charter shall contain:
    - i) Name of the organization to be chartered;
    - ii) Purpose of the organization;
    - iii) Description to the ways the group would contribute to Catholic life;
    - iv) Name of the faculty advisor; and
    - v) Names of at least six charter members.
  - C) No organization will be chartered if it is deemed detrimental to the school by the Executive Board, or its purpose is not worthwhile.
  - D) The Executive Board may revoke the charter of any organization which does not fulfill its stated purpose or violates any provision of this Constitution, No charter will be revoked until the organization has been given advance warning and an opportunity to clarify the situation before the Executive Board or its Chartering Committee. After giving the organization a fair hearing, the Executive Board may revoke the charter by a majority of the members present.
- Section 2) The rules governing the operation of chartered organizations:
- A) No organization shall violate the rules of the school. Each organization shall determine its own membership, establish its own constitution, by-laws, and regulations, subject to the rules of the school and the provisions within this Constitution;
  - B) No chartered organization shall discriminate among its members, except those organizations that require discrimination by their very nature as determined by the Chartering Committee;
  - C) All clubs may petition for financial support from the Student Council through its Chartering Committee;
  - D) All organization that wish to become affiliated with national organizations must gain the approval of the Chartering Committee beforehand; and
  - E) Only members of the student body of this school may be members of chartered organizations.

**ARTICLE IX. FINANCES**

- Section 1) All funds raises by the Student Council will be deposited in the Student Council account.
- Section 2) Withdrawals of over \$100.00 from the account will be subject to the approval of the Executive Board by a majority vote of members present. Withdrawals of over \$75.00 from a class account will be subject to the approval of that class board by a majority vote of members present.
- Section 3) The Administration and Faculty Adviser shall supervise the disbursement of all funds from the account.



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## ARTICLE X. ELECTIONS

- Section 1) Commissioner of Elections
- A) The Executive Board shall appoint a Commissioner of Elections.
  - B) The Commissioner shall serve as chairman of any and all committees dealing with the election process.
  - C) The Commissioner shall be present when any votes are counted.
- Section 2) Voting in all Student Council elections shall be open to the student body. Registration is not a requirement.
- Section 3) Elections
- A) The School-wide election shall be held annually in April or May.
  - B) Four members of the Executive Board shall be elected by the student body, the remaining three seats will be filled by the selection of the Special Appointments Committee, consisting of the outgoing Executive Board and the newly elected four members, with the remaining candidates from the earlier election.
  - C) Each grade-level, 7 through Junior, shall have a class board consisting of five officers, each house shall have one officer on each board. The five Senior Prefects shall serve ex-officio as senior class officers.
  - D) The Commissioner shall review the 2017 Edition of the Election Method and Procedure and compose and submit a Plan for School-wide Elections by the first Tuesday in April for approval of the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE XI. AUTHORITY AND VETO POWER

- Section 1) Authority of the Student Council to act according to the provisions within this Constitution is granted by the Principal.
- A) Any changes to this Constitution or the provisions within made by the Principal must be approved by the Administrative Team and House Deans, and notification given to the Executive Board.
- Section 2) Veto Power
- A) The Principal of this school shall have the authority to veto any action taken by the Student Council when he/she determines such action necessary for the good of the school.
  - B) When the Principal vetoes such action as he/she is empowered to do, he/she shall notify the Student Council of the reasons for the veto insofar as he/she is able.
  - C) If notification of the veto does not come within two weeks, the proposal taken to him/her shall be enacted unless the Executive Board rules otherwise.
  - D) The Executive Board may veto any action of a class or house board. This veto may be overridden by the Principal.
  - E) The Faculty Dean may veto any action by his/her House Board. This veto may be overridden by the Principal.

## ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

- Section 1) This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board and a majority of the Class Boards.
- Section 2) An amendment shall become effective when the Principal sign it. The same veto powers govern amendments as they do other proposals.



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**ARTICLE XIII. RATIFICATION**

Section 1) This Constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the current Student Council.

Section 2) This Constitution shall become effective immediately following its ratification and shall govern all elections immediately following its ratification.

DONE IN CONVENTION BY THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF THE OFFICERS PRESENT,  
THE TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF MARCH IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF WE HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED OUR NAMES,

PRINCIPAL-

*Mr. Matthew Martinkovic '96*

VICE-PRINCIPAL-

*Mr. Patrick Monachino '03*

EXECUTIVE BOARD-

*Brendan Burtis '17*

*Thomas Davis '18*

*Alina Galyon '18*

*Finbarr Huff '18*

*Jaclyn Tableman '17*

*Joseph Ryan '17*

SENIOR OFFICERS-

*Remy Farrell '17*

*Murphy Fauci '17*

*Emily Purtell '17*

*Ann-Marie Wilhelm '17*

JUNIOR OFFICERS-

*Thornton Fauci '18*

*Matthew Goodheart '18*

*Michael Martin '18*

*Meghan Wenzinger '18*

SOPHOMORE OFFICERS-

*Sophia Czabala '19*

*Julianna Farrell '19*

*Kristen Fisher '19*

*Kiyara Lewis '19*

FRESHMAN OFFICERS-

*Dylan Fahs '20*

*Fritz Huff '20*

*Tina Nguyen '20*

*Luke Redmore '20*