

Junípero Serra High School Constitution of the Associated Students

PREAMBLE

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we, the students of Junípero Serra High School, in order to promote self-government, to protect individual rights, to foster student responsibility, and to enhance our community through worthwhile activities, do ordain, and establish this constitution.

ARTICLE I. ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

- Sec.1. This organization shall be known as the Associated Students of Junípero Serra High School.
- Sec.2. Only those students who are holders of valid Junípero Serra Student Body Cards shall be members of the Associated Students.
- Sec.3. The official colors of Junípero Serra High School shall be Royal Blue and Gold.
- Sec.4. The official team name of Junípero Serra High School shall be the "Padres."
- Sec.5. The official name of the school newspaper is the Serra Friar.
- Sec.6. The official name of the yearbook shall be El Padre.

ARTICLE II. STUDENT COUNCIL

- Sec.1. The legislative powers of the Associated Students of Junípero Serra High School shall be vested solely, with the exception of the right of petition, in the Student Council which shall be composed of the elected student body officers as stated in Article III, and the officers of each class.
- Sec.2. It shall be the duty of the Student Council to:
 - a. Protect and promote the welfare and rights of the members of the Associated Students, by working with the administration, faculty, parent, and alumni groups.
 - b. Work to establish and maintain a positive environment in which academic and personal growth is promoted.
 - c. Organize and promote extra-curricular activities beneficial to the student body and the school.
 - d. Raise and appropriate money according to the procedure established in Article VII on finance.

Sec.3. Procedure of the Student Council:

- a. The Student Council shall meet at least once a month during the school year. A majority shall constitute a quorum. Visitors are allowed at all times at Student Council meetings.
- b. Members only may introduce motions, and each member shall have one vote with the exception of the Student Body President, who shall vote only in the case of a tie.
- c. All members of the student body shall have the right to address the Student Council.
- d. All members of the Associated Students shall have the rights to recall and petition.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS

Sec.1. The elected student body officers shall be:

- a. President
- b. Vice-President
- c. Secretary
- d. Athletic Commissioner
- e. Campus Ministry Commissioner
- f. CERT Commissioner (appointment position)
- g. Environmental Commissioner
- h. Performing Arts Commissioner
- i. Spirit (Rally) Commissioner

Sec.2. Candidates for student body office shall fulfill the following requirements to qualify for nomination:

- a. Be a member in good standing of the Associates Students, and not on any form of disciplinary status.
- b. Be a junior to qualify for the presidency, vice-presidency, of secretary offices.
- c. Be a sophomore to qualify for nomination to other offices other than those named in paragraph "b" above.
- d. Have been a member of the Associated Students of Junípero Serra High School for at least (2) semesters prior to filing for candidacy.
- e. Have earned a grade point average of 2.50, and no failures, in the final grades of the semester prior to filing for candidacy. (**Class** officers must maintain a 2.0 GPA)
- f. Candidates for Executive Positions must have previous Class Officer, Homeroom Representative, Club Officer, Retreat Leadership, Yell Leading or other leadership experience to be determined by the Director of Student Activities.
- g. THE CERT Officer shall be appointed by the Activities Director; all candidates must apply for this position.

Sec.3. Failure to maintain at least a grade point average of 2.50, or receiving any failure, while in office, or failure to perform the duties of that office, shall be cause for surrendering that office.

Sec.4. Vacancy:

- a. In case of the presidency being vacated for any reason, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President.
- b. In the event of the office of Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, or any Commissioner office being vacated for any reason during the school year, the student council shall select a replacement.
- c. If there is no candidate for a Class Council Office, such vacancies shall be appointed by the Activities Director if deemed necessary. The runner-up in the Executive Office will be offered the vacancy by the Activities Director.

Sec.5. The elected student body officers shall serve for two (2) semesters. No student may fill two positions at once on the Student Council, nor may any office be filled by more than one individual.

ARTICLE IV. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Sec.1. Nominations for student body offices shall be made official when the official Election Packet is completed by the applicant.

Sec.2. All Regular Student Body Elections shall be conducted by the Election Commission, composed of nine (9) senior executive council members, or if less than five (5) are on the executive council, the balance shall be composed of the senior class officers.

- a. The election shall be held in the second half of the second semester.
- b. The Election Commission shall be present during the casting of votes.

Sec.3. The method of election shall be by secret ballot.

Sec.4. Any junior, sophomore, or freshman holding a valid student body card of Junípero Serra High School and in good standing with the Associated Students may vote. One ballot per student.

Sec.4. A Candidate running un-opposed must win by a 2/3 majority vote.

ARTICLE V. ACTIVITY COUNCIL

Sec.1. The purpose of the Activity Council shall be to afford equal representation in student government to each chartered student activity club. The Activity Council shall consolidate and channel the opinions and decisions of the activity clubs so that the Activity Council chairman can present them to the Student Council.

Sec.2. The Activity Council shall be composed of the Student Body Vice-President, who is the chairman and representative to the Student Council, and the president of each chartered student activity club. The Activity Council shall meet at least once a semester.

Sec.3. All decisions reached by the Activity Council shall be considered as recommendations and suggestions to the Student Council, since the Activity Council has no legislative powers.

- a. Student activity clubs shall file with the student council a copy of their constitution and a copy of any subsequent amendments by April 10th.
- b. Application for renewal of charter shall contain the following:
 - (1) Signature of the faculty moderator.
 - (2) Signature of the Associate Principal.
 - (3) Statement of general purposes, plans, finances and proposed future activities of the club.
- c. Application for renewal of charter shall contain the following:
 - (1) Club roster.
 - (2) Signatures of the club president and faculty moderator.
 - (3) Brief description of activities performed during the current year.
 - (4) Estimated club membership for the next year.
 - (5) Statement of plans for the next year.
 - (6) Statement of finances.
- d. The Student Council shall approve the charter for a period of time not to exceed one year.
- e. The charter of a student activity club may be revoked by a 2/3 majority vote of the Student Council.

ARTICLE VI. FINANCES

Sec.1. Any bills incurred by the Associated Students of Junípero Serra High School shall be paid by the organization responsible, if possible, or by the Executive Council when they reach a simple majority approval to assess money to cover the bill from the General Fund.

ARTICLE VII . BY LAWS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Sec.1. Duties and Responsibilities of Student Body Officers.

a. President

- (1) Call and preside over all regular and special meetings of the student body.
- (2) Call and preside over all regular and special meetings of the Student Council. The Student Body President shall call regular Student Council meetings at least once a month during the school year as outlined in Article II, Sec.3.
- (3) Appoint all other committees as the need arises.
- (4) Keep in contact and coordinate activities with the Student Councils of Mercy and Notre Dame, through the Organization of Catholic Student Councils.
- (5) Keep in close contact with student opinion at all times.
- (6) Be a nominal leader and representative of the student body in all student affairs, including School Board meetings and relationships with the press and the public.
- (7) Orient the President Elect.

b. Vice-President

- (1) Succeed to the presidency should a vacancy occur in that office.
- (2) Carry out the duties and responsibilities of the president in the absence of the president.
- (3) Serve as the President of the Serra Activities Council.
- (4) Serve on the Student Council.
- (5) Serve as assembly chairman.
- (6) Carry out special assignments made by the president.
- (7) Orient the Vice-President Elect.

- c. **Secretary**
 - (1) Record and post in each homeroom within two school days the minutes of Student Council Meetings.
 - (2) Handle all Student Body correspondence and minutes.
 - (3) Serve on the Student Council.
 - (4) Orient Secretary Elect.

- d. **Environmental Commissioner**
 - (1) Serve on the Student Council.
 - (2) Oversee the environmental atmosphere of the campus. (Cleanliness of the bathrooms, hallways, cafeteria, and Mary's Courtyard).
 - (3) Coordinate the recycling program i.e., bottles, cans ink cartridges.
 - (4) Will coordinate the recycling in all classrooms.
 - (5) Orient the Environmental Commissioner.

- e. **Spirit Commissioner**
 - (1) Shall be chairman of the Rally Committee.
 - (2) Shall plan and be present at all rallies.
 - (3) Shall serve as chairman of the Yell Leaders.
 - (4) Shall help interview and choose yell leaders.
 - (5) Shall serve on the Student Council.
 - (6) Orient the Spirit Commissioner Elect.

- f. **Athletic Commissioner**
 - (1) Serve on Student Council
 - (2) Serve the Athletic Director when deemed necessary
 - a). Meet monthly to discuss upcoming events, school participation at events and sportsmanship
 - (3) Orient the Athletic Commissioner Elect

- g. **Campus Ministry Commissioner**
 - (1) Serve on Student Council
 - (2) Serve as liaison to the Campus Ministry Office
 - (3) Assist with the development of new programs (social justice, retreats, liturgies and service)
 - (8) Orient the Campus Ministry Commissioner

- h. **Performing Arts Commissioner**
 - (1) Serve on Student Council
 - (2) Serve as liaison to Performing Arts Department
 - a). Meet with directors, actors, musicians, etc., during productions times to discuss promotion of events.
 - b). Work with Tri-M to plan & promote activities.
 - c). Provide Student Body with schedule of performing arts events.
 - (3) Orient the Performing Arts Commissioner

- i. **CERT Commissioner**
 - (1) Serve on Student Council
 - (2) Serve as a liaison, and assist the Junipero Serra High School CERT Faculty/Staff Moderators to ensure the safety and health of all in our School Community in the case of an emergency or natural disaster.
 - (3) Orient the CERT Commissioner

Sec.2. Duties and responsibilities of the Head Yell Leader.

- a. Be present at and lead all yells at rallies and major athletic events.
- b. Help interview and choose Assistant Yell Leaders, with the approval of the Student Activities Director and the Dean of Men.
- c. Attend all Rally Committee meetings.

Sec.3. Each class shall have eight (8) elected officers and one appointed CERT Officer: President, Vice-President, and Secretary, Athletic, Campus Ministry, Environmental, Performing Arts, and Spirit Officers. These offices shall be elected by a simple majority vote, during the Spring Semester during Executive elections. The CERT Commissioner and CERT Class Officer Positions shall be appointed by the Activities Director. All CERT candidates must submit an Application.

The freshman class elections shall be held at the end of the first quarter of the school year. Class officers shall maintain a 2.0 grade point average.

- a. The nine (9) class officers shall represent their class at all Student Council meetings, and carry out assignments given to them by the Executive Council.

- b. Class officers shall meet with their class homeroom representatives and their moderators at least once a month, and convey all information from the Student Council.
- c. The Athletic, Campus Ministry, Environmental, Performing Arts, SERT and Spirit Officers will report directly to their Executive Commissioners.

Sec.4. Homeroom Representative

Each homeroom shall have a representative. The representative shall be elected by a simple majority vote within three (3) weeks of the beginning of the school year, and serve for the year.

- a. The representative listed above shall carry out any special assignments given to him by his homeroom teacher, or class officer.

ARTICLE VIII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Sec.1. The order of business and method of procedure for the Student Council, Activity Council and Class Meetings shall be:

- a. Roll Call.
- b. Prayer.
- c. Reports of officers, committees, etc.
- d. Old business.
- e. New business.
- f. Adjournment.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

Sec.1. Amendments to this constitution shall originate either:

- a. In the Student Council, or
- b. In the Student Body.

(1) If a petition demanding the introduction of one specific constitutional amendment bearing the signatures of at least 2/5 of the members of the Associated Students is presented to the Executive Council, the Student Council shall, after verifying the petition's authenticity, call for an election, which the Executive Council shall supervise according to the procedure outlined in Article IV, Sections 3, 4, and 8.

Sec.2. All Amendments shall be presented to the Executive Council in writing before being put to a vote by the Associated Students of Junípero Serra High School.

Sec.3. If the Student Council disapproves of a proposed amendment originating within the Student Council, a petition bearing the

signature of the Presidents of 3/5 of the homerooms shall be necessary to bring it to a vote of the Associated Students.

Sec.4.A 2/3 majority vote of the Associated Students shall be required to pass an amendment to this constitution.

Sec.5.The attendant by-laws may be changed by a 2/3 majority vote of the Student Council.

ARTICLE XI. POWERS AND LIMITATIONS

Sec.1. All powers granted or implied in this constitution are delegated to the student body by the Principal and may be revoked by him, if he presents a legitimate reason to the Student Council and the student body.

Sec.2.This constitution shall be given precedence over any other constitution of any other organization of the Associated Students of Junípero Serra High School.