**Sault Area High School and Career Center**

**Student Government Constitution**

**Article I - Name**

The name of this school, Sault Area High School and Career Center, in accordance for the Constitution of the Student Government Council.

# Article II - Purpose

The purpose of the Sault Area High School Student Government is to will be to participate in the governance of such activities as council projects, staff/student appreciation, publicity, council meetings, elections, annual reports, student attitude/involvement, committee recommendations, council fund raising, spirit week, social events, school morale/pride, leadership education and development, etc…)

# Article III - Authority

Since the principal is directly responsible for the welfare of the school, it is expressly understood that powers herein delegated to the Student Government of the Student Body electorate are in whole subject to the advice and consent of the principal or his/her designee. All actions taken forth by Student Government can and shall be approved by authority before any action can be implemented. Authority has the right to veto any student government action.

# Article IV - Membership

All registered students of Sault Area High School are eligible to become members of the student council. See election/selection requirements.

# Article V – Organization of Student Government

**Student Government President**:

1. Represent the Student Body at all school district and civic meetings or events
2. Encourage, teach and guide council members so that the goals of the Council are met.
3. Schedule regular committee and government meetings
4. Preside at all government meetings as well as other student government functions.
5. Keep regular contact with committees to determine whether they are completing tasks in a timely manner.
6. Be the liaison with administration, staff, school board and community
7. Maintain close and regular communication with the Student Government Advisor.
8. In consultation with Student Government Advisor:
   1. Appoint or determine duties of all offices and committees
   2. Appoint or recommend members to various committees
   3. Prepare agendas for all meetings
   4. Set evaluation procedures for all activities and events.
9. All other duties as assigned by the Student Government Advisor
10. Act as chairperson of Community Service Committee, and monitor all other committees.
11. Qualifications
    1. Must be a responsible an organized person who is willing to take on the workload.
    2. Must be elected by the Senior Class (as the top vote getter), and be a Senior at SAHS
    3. Have attended SAHS for a minimum of one full school year before becoming President
    4. Should not hold the presidential office in any other group.

**Student Government Vice President:**

1. Fill in for the president in his/her absence
2. Assist in all of the president’s duties, as requested by the president or SG advisor
3. Act as chairperson for School Spirit Committee
4. Meet with president on a regular basis
5. Provide additional leadership and direction for the student government and student body.
6. Qualifications:
   1. Must be a responsible and organized person who is willing to take on the workload.
   2. Must be a Junior or Senior at SAHS
   3. Have attended SAHS for a minimum of one full school year before becoming Vice President

**Student Government Treasurer:**

1. Record funds collected and distribute current balances to Student Government
2. Assist in the handling of incoming and outgoing expenses with supervision of the SG Advisor.
3. Maintain files and records of all government business
4. Act as chairperson for the Fundraising Committee
5. Represent the Student Body and provide leadership for them
6. Qualifications:
   1. Must be a responsible and organized person who is willing to take on the workload.
   2. Must be able to keep records and hold the highest level of ethics.
   3. Attend SAHS

**Student Government Secretary:**

1. Record and distribute all minutes for Student Government
2. Handel incoming and outgoing correspondence
3. Maintain files and records of all government business
4. Act as chairperson for Recognition Committee
5. Represent the Student Body and provide leadership for them
6. Qualifications:
   1. Must be a responsible and organized person who is willing to take on the workload.
   2. Attend SAHS

**Student Government Historian:**

1. Controls communication with student body through announcements, bulletin boards, website, and social media, as approved by SG President or Advisor
2. Act as chairperson for Portfolio Committee
3. Represent the Student Body and provide leadership for them
4. Qualifications:
   1. Must be a responsible and organized person who is willing to take on the workload.
   2. Attend SAHS

# Article VI – Election/Selection Procedures

Elections will occur in May for the upcoming school year. If a student is in good academic standing they may run for office again.

Students are voted onto student government by their graduating class.

In the event that a current member of student government would like to remain on student government, their seat would not be up for reelection, as they may be reappointed by the Advisor or Principal.

All initial candidates for student government office must complete the application process before the vote takes place. No write in candidates are accepted.

New members are determined by Student Government Advisor and Principal, with student and staff voting to provide feedback. All selections are determined in partnership of the student government advisor and principal.

Each grade will be allowed a maximum of 3 members for a total of 12.

# Article VII – Duties and Responsibilities

**Section 1 – The Powers and Duties of Student Government**

* 1. To give advice and consent to legislation for the regulation of the students within the body.
  2. To approve the yearly budget for Student Government
  3. To assign jurisdiction among the bodies of the student government, in case of dispute over any responsivities not expressly delegated to one certain body.
  4. To interpret meaning of the Constitution of the Student Government in case of dispute.
  5. To maintain communication between students and administration on matters concerning the general Student Body (i.e. curriculum, athletics, attendance, events, etc.)
  6. All members shall have one vote on student government issues. The President shall not vote except in the case of a tie.
  7. To hold regular meetings.

# Article VIII – Attendance, Initiative, Removal, etc…

Section 1: Initiative

On a written petition of 10 voting members of the Student Council or 100 members of the Student Body, the Student Council shall take immediate action on any matter of school interest referred by such a petition.

Section 2: Impeachment

1. Any member of student government, upon a petition of 50% of their constituents, shall be subject to recall vote, which will be open to the constituents.
2. Before the recall vote, the officer in question shall be given the opportunity to speak before an assembly of the constituents.
3. A majority of those votes cast are required to remove an officer.

Section 3: Removal From Office

1. Student Government, upon petition of 2/3 of student government, shall be subject to a vote to remove them from office.
2. Before the final vote, the member shall be given the opportunity to speak before the Student Council.
3. A vote of the Student Council is required to remove the officer from office.
4. Not more than 10 days after an officer has been removed, a committee appointed by the Student Government must select, by interview, a person to fill the vacant office. If the Student Body President is impeached, the Vice-President becomes President, and a committee fills the Vice- President’s office.
5. An impeached officer my not run for any other office which is part of the Student Council.
6. The Student Government Advisor may remove any student from the government without student government permission upon approval from Principal.

# Article IX – By-Laws

The Student Council is empowered to write all appropriate procedures and regulations necessary to carry out the letter and spirit of the Constitution.

# Article X – Amending the Constitution

1. An amendment to the Constitution may be proposed and discussed at a regular meeting of the Student Council. A majority is required to accept the amendment.
2. The proposed amendment will be presented to the faculty and administration for discussion.
3. The proposed amendment shall be adequately publicized two (2) weeks before the election is held.
4. A majority of the votes cast by the Student Body shall be required to carry the amendment. Upon passage, it will be added to the existing Constitution.

# Article XI – Ratification of the Constitution

The ratification by a majority of the Student Body in a general vote shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution as the governing instrument for Sault Area High School Student Body Association.

The Student Government represents the students of their class. The council consists of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, historian and three total representatives from each grade comprise the remainder of the council. Any student is eligible to run as an officer or representative, but must follow guidelines set by the Student Senate advisor. The Student Council positions are a one-year term.

Student Government By-Laws

**Conduct Code for Student Government Members:**

Each member of Student Governed must abide by the following rules of conduct.

1. The student must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 and fail no classes.
2. The student must keep a good attendance and tardy record for all classes.
3. The student should be a good citizen and representative at all times.
4. The student should not receive a referral or be suspended for any reason.
5. The student should not be caught breaking any laws

Failure to uphold these rules of conduct will result in a review of Student Government status.

**Attendance Policy for Student Government Members:**

1. Based on the schedule of two meetings minimum per month, members must attend at a minimum one of the meetings per month to maintain membership status. Excused of each absence is left up to the discretion of the Student Government Advisor.
2. Meeting times will be determined by the Student Government Advisor and Student Government President, with consideration from members.

**Voting Procedures of Student Government:**

1. In order to call a vote on an issue, seven members of Student Council must be present, excluding the President.
2. A vote will be passed if a simple majority is achieved.
3. The President may only vote in the event of a tie.

**Committee Formation:**

1. When an activity needs the formation of committees, it shall be the responsibility of the President to establish these committees and to evaluate the process.
2. All executive committee members should chair one standing committee.
   1. Recognition – Secretary
   2. Community Service – President
   3. Fundraising – Treasurer
   4. School Spirit – Vice President
   5. Portfolio – Historian

**Procedures for Amending By-Laws:**

1. If the need arises to amend the By-Laws, changes should be discussed among the Student Government. A special committee may be formed to draft a proposal and present it to the Student Government.
2. All changes must pass a student government vote before adoption.

**Definition of the Rules of Order for Conducting Meetings:**

Student Council meetings will be conducted using “Roberts’s Rules of Parliamentary Procedure”