

2022-2023 Student Council Information

Dear Student / Parent,

It is an honor to begin our search for our 2022-2023 Gonzales Junior High Student Council members!

Please note the dates below:

October 4-7, 2022 - Hand out constitution, by-laws and petitions.

October 12, 2022 (Wednesday) - **Petitions and permission forms due to Mrs. Pish** by the end of the day. NO EXCEPTIONS! You may turn them into the office and they can put them in her box.

October 13 and 14, 2022 (Thursday & Friday) - **Campaign posters may be hung in the hallways.** Mrs. Pish will be by the front office to approve your posters starting at 7:30AM. You may hang your posters before school. You will need to bring your own tape if you want to hang in the hallways or cafeteria. Staplers can also be used by asking the closest teacher to where you want to hang posters. **You may NOT miss class to hang posters.**

October 14, 2022 (Friday) - **Video speeches due to Mrs. Pish by 8:00PM.** NO EXCEPTIONS! Please do not wait until the last minute to submit. Mrs. Pish will verify once she receives the video. After recording the video from your phone, share it to her email provided below.

October 18, 2022 (Tuesday) - Voting will take place during lunch periods in the cafeteria. Only the candidates who have completed every step of the election process will be on the ballot.

Advisor - Brandi Pish
brandi.pish@gonzalesisd.net

Gonzales Junior High School

Student Council Constitution and By-laws

The purpose of the student council is to promote school spirit, develop teamwork and leadership skills, and to develop pride and commitment to the local community.

Article I: Mission Statement and Purpose

- A. The purpose of the student council shall be:
 - i. To support special projects to enhance and improve the school and local community.
 - ii. To permit students to exercise responsible decision-making.
 - iii. To promote school spirit and effective student / faculty / administration relationships.
 - iv. To promote citizenship training by providing direct experiences for students in the process of democracy.
- B. The purpose of this organization shall be to provide students of Gonzales Junior High School with an opportunity to become involved in school and community activities. The student council's main purpose is to promote initiative, enthusiasm, pride and cooperation among the students through their participation and involvement in student government and policies affecting the student body.
- C. The school staff and/or adult sponsor shall assist students in maintaining a constitution and bylaws and following regulations for a general student council with approval of the school principal.

Article II: Membership

- A. Membership will consist of 5 students from the 6th grade, 5 students from the 7th grade, and 5 students from the 8th grade. 8th graders will hold officer positions.

Article III: Meetings

- A. Mandatory Meetings:
 - i. The student council will meet each 6 weeks after members are selected. These meetings may take place before school, after school, or during GGA.
 - ii. All members are required to attend these mandatory meetings. If the student is absent from school due to illness or other excused absences, that student will be excused from the meeting.
 - iii. Additional meetings will be determined as necessary.
 - iv. Conference - members may go to student council conferences depending on COVID regulations.
- B. Meeting Format
 - i. Meetings are conducted like a business meeting.
 - ii. There will be a roll call, minutes, treasurer's report, and new and old business will be discussed.

- iii. Voting will occur at the conclusion of any discussion after a motion, second and call to vote have occurred. Majority rules.

Articles IV: Student Council Organization

- A. The student council shall have elected officers from the 8th grade members. These officers include the following: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and reporter. Officers will be chosen amongst the council after they are elected to the council by the general population.
- B. There shall be at least one adult advisor that will assist, monitor, and/or supervise every activity of the student council.
- C. The student council will be responsible for possible fundraising to fund any projects and/or events that they may plan.

Articles V: Election Process

- A. **Minimum Qualifications**
 - i. Must maintain regular attendance at school. No more than 2 unexcused absences from school each 6 weeks.
 - ii. Must provide time and show willingness to cooperate and participate in activities and meetings of the student council.
- B. **Running for Office**
 - i. Petition
 - a. Name and Grade
 - b. Teacher signatures and grades from the first 6 weeks
 - c. Written statement: goals, ideas and reasons for running for student council
 - ii. Parental Permission
 - a. Consent form signed by parents and submitted to advisor

C. Election Process

Students who are interested in running for student council MUST participate in the following election process:

1. Students must read and accept the constitution and by-laws and turn in the consent form by the given date.
2. **POSTERS** - Students are allowed to hang no more than 4 posters in the hallway for their campaign. Each poster may be no longer than a regular 22" x 28" poster board. Posters may **NOT** have candy or anything edible attached to them. (Students have torn candy off in the past and ruined posters). All posters need to be approved and signed off on by the advisor BEFORE hanging in the hallway. Any poster not approved before hanging will be taken off the wall.
3. Students are **NOT** allowed to hand out anything to their classmates. Their posters are the only allowable form of campaigning.
4. **SPEECH** - Students must submit a video recorded speech to Mrs. Pish. This video may be no longer than 1 minute. It may be recorded anywhere, and students must be in dress code. This video needs to include the students name and grade level, why the student would be a good choice for a student council

representative, and why their peers should vote for them. Creativity is allowed. **Parents:** please record the video and email it to brandi.pish@gonzalesisd.net. When you email the video, include your child's name and grade level. If you do not have the capabilities to do this, please call Mrs. Pish at (830)672-8641, and you can set up a time after school to have your child's speech recorded.

5. Classmates will vote for 5 persons to represent their grade based upon their positive character traits and leadership skills. This will take place on a designated date, at a designated place.
6. The results from the voting will be announced over the intercom when they become available.

Article VI: Conduct

- A. Responsibilities of all elected student council members.
 - i. Attend ALL mandatory meetings
 - ii. Work at least one service project during the school year.
 - iii. Participate in all fundraisers.
 - iv. Maintain a cumulative average of 80 in each class.
 - v. Demonstrate appropriate behavior. No office referrals will be allowed and no more than 2 assignments of lunch detention each 6 weeks are allowed.

****Failure to maintain these responsibilities will lead to the student's removal from the council, at the discretion of the advisor and/or the principal.**

Gonzales Junior High School

Student Council Petition

I, _____, understand all responsibilities required to run for and maintain a position on the Student Council. I promise I will fulfill those responsibilities to the best of my ability.

Signature: _____

Date: _____, 2022

Grade: 6 or 7 or 8

Teachers, please initial only if you give your approval for _____ to run for Student Council. By initialing, you are stating that you believe this student is capable of maintaining a cumulative average of 80 or higher for the entire school year.

	Teacher	1st 6wk average	Signature of Approval
Reading Language Arts			
Math			
Science			
Social Studies			
Elective			
Elective			
Elective			

Don't forget written statement on the back

Gonzales Junior High - Student Council Consent Form

We, the undersigned, have read the attached Student Council Constitution and By-laws and are aware of the duties, rules, conduct responsibilities, and consequences placed on Student Council members.

We, the undersigned, understand that as a member of the Student Council, each member will serve as a role model to both Gonzales Junior High and the community of Gonzales.

We, the undersigned, understand that meetings will take place before school, after school, or at lunch, and as the parent / guardian of the child, I will provide or arrange for transportation to drop off or pick up my child for each meeting if need be. Furthermore, it is understood that there will be service projects and conferences (possibly) that the student council will participate in, and transportation must be provided to and from these events.

We, the undersigned, understand that if, for any reason, the council member fails to maintain their responsibilities and/or rules of conduct, it may result in their removal from office, and it is solely at the discretion of the advisor and/or principal.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____