

- Constitution -

Preamble

We, the officers of the InterAmerican Academy Student Council (StuCo), do hereby establish this Constitution in order to ensure suitable conditions for the betterment of the intellectual, social, and physical life of our school through the cooperation of faculty and students.

Article I: Name

This organization shall be known as the Student Council of InterAmerican Academy (StuCo).

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of the StuCo shall be:

- A. To establish closer cooperation between the faculty and the students of IAA and within organizations inside and outside of the school.
- B. To establish school spirit and honor based on school pride in Pre-K through grade 12.
- C. To provide democratic school government through representation and participation of the student body.
- D. To promote the general welfare of the school community.

Article III: Organization

Section 1: Membership of the StuCo shall be as follows:

- A. Elected officers
- B. Each class should elect two representatives
- C. One faculty advisor
- D. Executive Representative
- E. Shark mascot
- F. House Captains

Section 2: StuCo meetings:

- A. StuCo should meet weekly after school while school is in session, or during a weekly lunch period if this is approved by majority vote of the StuCo.
- B. Executive meetings shall be held at the Executive Council's discretion.
- C. Special meetings shall be held and called for by the President, the Advisor, or by written request signed by at least five members of StuCo.
- D. Regular meetings shall be opened to the public.
- E. There is a 50-minute time limit of StuCo meetings unless a majority votes to continue.

Section 3: Planning of the student body activities:

- A. At the beginning of the school year, StuCo will go on a retreat, with the purpose of planning activities for the upcoming school year.

- B. StuCo shall be informed in advance of plans for any activities that involve the student body including elementary when these programs involve high school participation.
- C. StuCo shall inform the principal at least ten (10) days in advance of planned events.

Section 4: Powers and duties of the StuCo

- A. StuCo represents the entire student body (Pre-K through 12); therefore StuCo is responsible to the students for its actions.
- B. StuCo shall investigate, discuss, and solve any problems or questions that are presented to it by members of the IAA community.
- C. StuCo shall make and enforce any rules that are necessary for the betterment of the school as long as, said rules do not conflict with the school administrative regulations.
- D. StuCo has the power to suggest or advise the Director on policy matters that pertain to the student body.

Section 5: Powers of the Principal

- A. Shall be the official spokesperson of the school board and administration at all StuCo meetings.
- B. All proposed school activities must be presented to the principal for his/her approval after the Council has accepted the idea.
- C. In policies involving the Student Body, the principal should see the approval before enacting said policy.

Section 6: Powers and Duties of the Advisor

- A. He/she shall advise the StuCo, and be present at all meetings and activities.
- B. He/she shall be the official spokesperson of the high school faculty.
- C. He/she shall not have the right to vote.
- D. He/she may be impeached by 2/3 of the entire StuCo, which can request that he/she be removed or replaced.
- E. Assures all Stuco members maintain academic eligibility.

Article IV: Officers

Section 1: Requirements for the Major Office and Representatives

- A. Any student whose grade reaches 69%, in any class, must attend remedials in that subject(s) until the grade has been raised or the teacher is satisfied with the progress being made by that student.
- B. Any student who receives an Academic Notice must attend remedial in that subject(s) until the teacher is satisfied with the progress being made by that student.
- C. Failure of more than two subjects will result in a five-week suspension from StuCo. The above rules apply as well.
- D. The StuCo advisor and failing student will be in charge of monitoring the student's progress and attendance of remedial.
- E. If a StuCo member misses three meetings (unexcused) in a semester, they will be dismissed from StuCo. Their class may immediately replace the representative. The StuCo will appoint a replacement for any officer removed.

- F. The StuCo secretary will be in charge of monitoring attendance.
- G. Failure to participate or assist in StuCo functions can result in suspension or dismissal from StuCo.
- H. The StuCo President and Advisor will determine who should be disciplined and the extent of the consequences.
- I. Any officer of representative suspended from school shall be immediately removed from office for the rest of the school year, depending upon the school administration. If the suspension is the result of detentions, the student may continue holding office.

Section 2: Officers of the StuCo

- A. President
Eligibility Requirements: Must be a Junior or Senior with at least one year of experience in StuCo
- B. Vice-President
Eligibility Requirements: Must at least be a Sophomore.
- C. Treasurer
Eligibility Requirements: Must at least be a Freshman.
- D. Secretary
Eligibility Requirements: Must at least be a Freshman.
- E. Executive Representative
Eligibility Requirements: Must at least be a Freshman.
- F. House Captains
Eligibility Requirements: Must at least be a Junior or Senior.

Section 3: Duties of the Officers

- A. The President shall:
 - 1. Be present at all meetings.
 - 2. Call special meetings.
 - 3. Have the right to vote and debate.
 - 4. Enforce the Constitution.
 - 5. Be in charge of meetings and keep order.
 - 6. Attend all StuCo activities.
 - 7. Make appointments for vacancies in the Executive Council, ideally from those currently active in StuCo, and the StuCo must approve these appointments.
 - 8. Address the Student Body concerning issues discussed in StuCo. If the President cannot speak, he shall appoint someone else from the StuCo to speak on his/her behalf.
 - 9. Be the liaison between the StuCo and administration.
 - 10. Determine if a StuCo member needs to be disciplined and the extent of the consequences.
 - 11. Appoint duties when necessary to all StuCo members.
- B. The Vice-President shall:
 - 1. Attend all meetings.
 - 2. Act as president in the absence of or at the request of the president and assume all of the President's responsibilities.

3. In case of expulsion, suspension, or resignation, the Vice-President will take the President's place.
4. Have the right to vote and debate.
5. Attend all StuCo activities.
6. Coordinate liaisons between outside organizations or institutions.

C. The Treasurer shall:

1. Be in charge of keeping the StuCo financial records up to date. These records are open to anyone at their request.
2. Automatically become a member of any committee in any way concerned with financial transactions.
3. Be in charge of bookkeeping of the StuCo.
4. Attend all meetings and activities.
5. Have the right to vote and debate.
6. Appoint a business manager at his/her discretion.
7. Give regular financial reports.
8. Give a financial report to the financial officer of the school at the beginning and end of each school year.

D. The Secretary shall:

1. Keep an accurate report of all StuCo meetings and committees, reports and all proposed amendments.
2. Take care of all correspondence and keep an accurate report of the attendance of all StuCo activities.
3. Have the right to vote and debate.
4. Attend all StuCo activities.
5. Average all grades of the StuCo members and officers at the end of each grading period.

E. The Executive Representative shall:

1. Attend all meetings.
2. Have the right to vote and debate.
3. Assist in the organization of social, cultural, athletic, artistic, and community services of the school.
4. Develop activities to help stimulate the growth of values, promote confidence, and school spirit.
5. Bring to every StuCo meeting an agenda of planned events and school happenings.
6. Deliver announcements and maintain order of students in school assemblies.

Section 4: Duties of the Class Representatives:

- A. Shall approve by simple majority vote all business conducted by the StuCo.
- B. Shall be present and active in all StuCo meetings, activities, and Advisory classes.
- C. Shall lead his/her class in homeroom discussions of StuCo or class issues.
- D. Shall be removed in case of ineligibility.
- E. Shall represent their class's interests and share all StuCo information with classmates.

Section 5: Duties of the House Captains:

- A. Shall participate with a voice, but no vote in all business conducted by the StuCo.

- B. Shall be present and active in all StuCo meetings, activities, and Advisory classes.
- C. Shall lead his/her Spirit House discussions of StuCo issues.
- D. Shall be removed in case of ineligibility.
- E. Captains may participate in Spirit activities, but must first ensure that their responsibilities are fulfilled in providing support for said event.

Article V: Elections

Section 1: Elections of candidates for Office:

A. The candidate for President must be a sophomore or junior. The candidate for Vice-President must be a freshman, sophomore, or junior. The candidates for Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Representative must be in grade 8, a freshman, a sophomore, or a junior.

B. Nomination of candidacy

1. The candidates for office of the StuCo must inform the Advisor about the candidacy.
2. Candidates must show that they meet the academic and disciplinary requirements in the StuCo Eligibility Policy.
3. The candidate for the major offices must give a speech to the entire student body.
4. A candidate may only run for one office at a time.
5. An officer or representative may be reelected.
6. The deadline for signing must be set by the StuCo.

C. Campaigning

1. Campaigning must have a positive tone and not criticize individuals or groups.

Section 2: Election Procedure

A. The election of the StuCo Officers shall be as follows:

1. All incoming middle and high school students shall vote by secret ballot.
2. The elections for the following year's officers shall be held once a year during school in May.

B. Voting will take place during Homeroom with the procedure of the Director, Principal, or appointed teacher visiting the classroom, distributing the ballot to each individual student, and a secret vote taking place.

C. The election of class representatives will be as follows:

1. They should be held once a school year during the first week of school.
2. Two representatives from each class should be elected.

Article VI: Amendments

Section 1. Amendment Procedure

- A. an amendment must be submitted and discussed before a vote can be taken.
- B. A proposed amendment because official when it is approved by 2/3 vote of the secondary school StuCo.

Article VII: Laws

Section 1: Rules of Order

- A. Robert's rule of order shall apply in all cases not stated in the Constitution.

B. Unfinished business shall be held until the next meeting, unless a special meeting is called upon.

C. any suggestions or questions concerning StuCo shall be presented to it through the class representatives. Representatives shall contact the secretary to be put in the agenda for the following meeting.

Section 2: Ratification

A. Amendments of the Constitution shall be allowed with a 2/3 vote of the StuCo.

Section 3: Quorum

A. One half plus 1 of the StuCo members must be present to make a quorum.

B. A quorum must be present anytime a vote is taken.

C. If there is no quorum, there shall be no meeting.

Section 4: The decisions of the StuCo shall be considered to be the undisputed position of the student body in all relations between the disputed positions of the student body and administration.