

Southwest Middle School

Student Government Bylaws 2020-21

1. Two students from each 4th, 5th, and 6th grade team will be elected by a majority vote by their peers.
2. Representatives must maintain a “B” in each academic class and an “A” in conduct for each grading period. Grades falling below these will result in academic probation or possible dismissal from Student Government.
3. To be elected, students must campaign, have a teacher recommendation, and must have this form completed, signed and turned in no later than **Friday, September 18, 2020**. SEE THE BACK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THESE ITEMS.
4. Representatives must attend all called meetings and functions (functions may include but are not limited to events such as the SWMS Parent Night, SWMS music performances, PTO meetings, and the SWMS Talent Show). **Meetings are held twice a month at 7:30 am in the 4th grade library**. If a conflict arises, the sponsor should be contacted before the meeting/function. **Failure to attend two meetings/functions/duties with unexcused absences (such as forgetting) will result in dismissal from Student Government**. It is both an honor and a responsibility to serve as a Student Government representative.
5. Students are expected to put forth 100% when working on projects and activities (such as Red Ribbon Week, leading the Pledge of Allegiance, the SWMS Talent Show, Earth Day service, and food drives) and in getting along with the SWMS student body, staff, and/or other representatives.
6. In the event that an elected representative transfers to another school or is dismissed from Student Government before the end of the 1st semester, their position will be filled with the student who had the next highest number of votes in the election. If it happens in the 2nd semester, their position will not be filled.

Student Government Election Process

Step 1: Any student interested in running for Student Government must have this form completed and signed. Completed forms for 4th graders may be turned in to Mrs. Holly Haile. Completed forms for 5th graders may be turned in to Mrs. Blakely Howell. Completed forms for 6th graders may be turned in to Mrs. Lisa Smith. Completed forms must be turned in to the respective teacher **NO LATER than Friday, September 18, 2020**.

Step 2: Mrs. Haile, Mrs. Howell, and Mrs. Smith will contact your previous teachers for character and grade references. You **must wait** to be notified by the appropriate sponsor as to whether or not you meet the requirements to be able to run for Student Government. You will be notified by the end of the day on **Thursday, September 24, 2020**.

Step 3: Once you are notified that you qualify to run, you will be required to make **ONE** campaign poster to hang in the hallway where your team is located. Posters must be hung **NO LATER than Monday, September 28**. **DO NOT CREATE OR HANG A POSTER UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION FROM A SPONSOR.**

Step 4: Students are responsible for sharing with their classmates why they would like to be a Student Government representative by giving a 1-2 minute speech that will be scheduled by your team. No bribes, gifts, or extravagant promises will be allowed. Your strong character and work ethic will be enough to win you votes!

Step 5: Each class will vote for their Student Government representatives on **Friday, October 2**.

Student Government Application

Student Name (first and last): _____

Grade: _____ Homeroom Teacher: _____

Why do you want to be a Student Government leader? _____

Please list three skills or character traits that you have that would make you a successful Student Government leader.

Who was your teacher last year? _____

What school did you attend last year? _____

Have you been a Student Government Representative in the past (circle one): Yes No

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Parent Email Address _____

Student Email Address _____@searcyschools.org

Parent CELL Phone Number _____

Student t-shirt size **IF** elected* (circle one) **Youth S** **Youth M** **Youth L** **Youth XL**

Adult S **Adult M** **Adult L** **Adult XL**

Students will be responsible for purchasing their student government t-shirt. Information regarding the purchase will be sent home once the representatives are elected. Price is typically under \$15. **These shirts normally run a little small, so you may want to size up.*