

*Freedom Elementary School*  
*Student Council Handbook*  
**2024-2025**



## FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

### **What is Student Council?**

Student Council is an important part of our school. Student Council is a student-based civic organization dedicated to school and community service.

Students participating in all levels of Student Council will maintain a high standard of personal conduct and demonstrate leadership qualities by serving as good examples to everyone on our campus through their words and actions.

All Council members will be expected to participate in approved activities, which will serve to enhance the quality of the physical, social, and academic environment of the school.

### **The Purpose of Student Council is:**

1. To develop positive attitudes and to practice good citizenship.
2. To promote positive and meaningful relationships throughout the entire school.
3. To develop and promote positive student-staff-family relationships.
4. To promote school spirit.
5. To provide a forum for student expression.
6. To plan special events or projects.

Benefits of being involved in student council include: opportunity to improve leadership skills, gain experience in public speaking, learn more about the democratic process, and learn how to make a positive impact on school and community environment. In addition, student council serves as a chance to meet new friends and work with a wide variety of people!

### **Objectives of the Student Council:**

1. Provide a democratic form in which students can address those school related issues, which affect their lives.
2. Maintain open communication between students, school staff, and families.
3. Train students in the duties and responsibilities of good citizenship.

### **Student Council Criteria for Eligibility**

Students **must** adhere to the following criteria **without** exception.

- I. **Grades**
  - a. Must maintain at least an C average each quarter in all subjects.
  - b. Must maintain “E” or “S” in conduct in all areas each quarter.
  - c. No office referrals.
- II. **Attendance**
  - a. Maintain good school attendance (few absences and/or tardies).

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- b. All students must attend scheduled student council meeting unless you have a prior obligation (1 meeting per month). Discuss with the teacher representative.
- c. After a total of **3** missed meetings, the student will be dismissed as a member of the student council with no possibility of reinstatement or reelection for the current school year.
- d. Attend scheduled student council activities (school or student council sponsored events and/or meetings).

### **III. Student Council Responsibilities**

- a. The student must have a positive attitude and a willingness to work as a team.
- b. The student must represent their classmates and the school to the best of your ability.
- c. The student must exhibit leadership qualities and follow all the guidelines and expectations of the student code of conduct.

### **Student Council Positions and the Election Process**

#### **I. Application and Election Process**

- a. Each 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade student interested in being on the student council must fill out an application form.
- b. A parent signature is required on every student's application form.
- c. Application forms should be given to the homeroom teacher for approval, according to guidelines provided.
- d. Class representatives will be chosen based on the number of applications.

#### **II. Student Council Officers**

- a. President
  - i. 5<sup>th</sup> grade student
  - ii. Preside over all student council meetings (create agenda and facilitate the democratic process during meetings)
  - iii. Represent the student council at functions, events, and meetings with students, staff, and families as needed
- b. Vice President
  - i. 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade student
  - ii. Assumes responsibilities of the president should the president be absent
  - iii. Ensures that meetings stay on agenda and will act as timekeeper for the meeting
- c. Secretary
  - i. Takes minutes at all meetings
  - ii. Takes attendance at all meetings
  - iii. Works with student council advisors to write letters, e-mails, or other forms of communication as needed
- d. Treasurer
  - i. Works with student council advisors to maintain accurate financial records for all student council activities

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**Freedom Elementary Student Council Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

***I have read the Freedom Elementary School Student Council handbook. I understand the expectations of a student council representative described in the handbook. I will serve and represent my classmates to the best of my ability.***

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain why you would be a good Student Council member.


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**STUDENT COUNCIL PERMISSION SLIP**

**ORGANIZATION:** Freedom Elementary School Student Council

**SPONSORS:** Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Engelberger, Mrs. Noll



My Child has my permission to participate on Student Council and I understand and agree that all activities, meetings, and duties will take place on the campus of Freedom Elementary under the supervision of the Student Council sponsors.

I also understand that my child will abide by the expectations and guidelines provided in the Freedom Elementary School Student Council Handbook and the School District of Manatee County Student Code of Conduct. Any failure to adhere to these policies will result in dismissal from the Student Council.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_