

## Student Council

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The Student Council is an organization at Pacific Lutheran that exists to encourage and develop leadership skills in the participants and to sponsor Christ-centered activities, social events, and service projects while building school pride.

The PLHS student council is a representative body of students chosen by class elections. Motions of consequence need the approval of the advisor, and on occasion, the faculty.

The composition of the student council is determined as follows: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recorder, and class representatives (two per class).

### **Student Elections**

Officers are to be elected by ballot by the entire student body, although freshmen are not eligible to run for officer positions (president, v.p., etc.). A majority vote is decisive. Class representatives are voted on by individual classes.

Because officers are elected representatives of the school, care should be exercised that only capable candidates are nominated. Being elected to a position is an honor and responsibility not to be taken lightly.

### **Member Eligibility**

To be elected and remain a member of the student council, individuals must

1. have and maintain a 2.25 GPA and not receive any Fs,
2. exemplify excellent student conduct, serving at the most one Saturday detention over the course of the year (with continuation after an in-school suspension to be determined by the administrator, advisor, and/or student council), and
3. regularly attend meetings (see Duties).

### **Duties of the Student Council**

Upon assuming the title of Student Council Officer or Representative, each member shall:

1. attend regular Student Council meetings (ordinarily held on a bi-monthly basis) unless excused by the Student Body President or Recorder; a representative may have no more than 3 unexcused absences during an academic year,
2. represent the interests of the student body in school affairs,
3. keep the student body informed of relevant issues,
4. oversee student activities with the direction of an advisor or other faculty member, and
5. maintain a positive relationship between the student body, campus administration and faculty, and the local community.

### **Removal and Replacement of Student Council Members**

Any student council member who does not fulfill the duties described shall be subject to a vote of expulsion. In order to expel a member, two-thirds of all voting Student Council Representatives must vote in favor of the expulsion. The vote must be taken at a regular meeting.

In the event that the Student Body President vacates his or her elected office, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the Student Body President for the remainder of the term. In the event that any other officer vacates his/her office, the Student Body President shall appoint a student to temporarily assume the duties of that office. At the next general Student Council meeting, nominations and elections shall be held for the vacant office.

### **Officer Duties**

A. The Student Body President shall be responsible for the actions of the Student Council and shall:

1. Act as chair at meetings of the Student Council,
2. Report to the Student Council on campus issues,
3. Work in conjunction with the Treasurer and members of the executive committee to oversee the Student Council's budget,
4. See that the duties of the Student Council are followed,
5. See that the other officers fulfill their responsibilities,
6. Call special meetings of Student Council, and
7. Appoint committees to oversee specific projects.

B. The Vice President shall:

1. Act as chair in the absence of or at the request of the Student Body President,
2. Be prepared to assume the duties of the Student Body President at any time,
3. With the president, set the calendar of general Student Council meetings for the academic year and make that calendar available to all officers, advisors, and representatives,
4. See that the student body is represented and informed in campus decisions and affairs,
5. Report to the Student Council on campus issues,
6. Be responsible for publicity of issues and events pertaining to the student body, and
7. Maintain channels for students to express opinions.

C. The Treasurer shall be responsible for overseeing all funding related to Student Council and shall:

1. See that all financial transactions of Student Council are executed in a timely fashion,
2. Report regularly to the Student Body President and to the Student Council transactions involving Student Council funds which have taken place since the previous report, and
3. Recommend for Student Council approval any changes in the Council's budget.

D. The Recorder shall be responsible for maintaining all Student Council records and shall:

1. Record the minutes of all meetings of Student Council,
2. See that all minutes, agendas, and related materials are available to all Student Council members early enough to allow members to review them before the meeting to which the materials pertain,
3. Maintain a file of actions and resolutions approved by the Student Council,
4. Maintain attendance records of council members at meetings,
5. Inform the advisor and student body president when a representative has failed to fulfill his or her duties, and
6. Submit an article to the student paper (once a quarter) for the purpose of keeping the student body informed of Student Council issues.

### **Meetings**

Members are expected to arrive on time to meetings, be prepared, and behave in a manner that is respectful, accountable, and honest according to PLHS's values and commitment as a Christian school.

1. The Student Council shall hold regular meetings twice a month as prescribed by the calendar of meetings, providing an officer is present to serve as chair.
2. Special meetings may be called by the Student Body President at any time. Student Council members must be notified of the topic, place, and time of a special meeting at least three days before the meeting. Only those items contained on the agenda shall be discussed or acted upon at the meeting.
3. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be used to govern the proceeding of Student Council meetings.

Student council activity ideas:

collecting food and raising money for a local food pantry, sponsoring an Angel Tree in our building, hosting See You at the Pole, organizing blood drives and serving as hosts/guides during school events, Homecoming Week, hosting a dance. Random Acts of Kindness Week, an ESLR focus each quarter