

***Constitution of the South Plains Association of Student Councils  
District V TASC***

Preamble

We, the members of the Student Councils of the secondary schools of District V of the Texas Association of Student Councils, in order to promote democratic ideals and principles of government of the youth of today, to encourage provisions for the full development of the individual in our democracy, to further the organization of the student councils in this district and to foster more cordial relations among the schools, do organize ourselves under the following constitution and bylaws.

Article I

**Name**

The name of this organization shall be the South Plains Association of Student Councils, District V of TASC.

Article II

**Membership**

Any organized high school or junior high or middle school student council in District V of TASC and a member of TASC may, upon payment of district dues, become a member of the Association.

Article III

**Officers**

**Section 1**

The officers of this organization shall be:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Second Vice-President
- D. Secretary/Treasurer
- E. Parliamentarian
- F. Newsletter/Webmaster

**Section 2**

- A. There shall also be an executive committee consisting of the following members:
  - 1. The seven student officers of the Association and other student council officers from each school, the sponsors of the officer schools, all to have voting privileges.
  - 2. The district advisor
  - 3. The past president school advisor, acting as assistant district advisor.
- B. The chairman of the Executive Committee shall be the sponsor of the president school.

Article IV

**Election of Officers**

**Section 1**

- A. Nominations for district office shall be presented in writing, including written permission of the principal by each school to the secretary school at a time prior to the district meeting designated by the Executive Committee.
- B. Nominees shall be designated by names of schools, not by individuals. Local schools may be free to choose whomever they see fit to hold the office.
- C. The secretary school will forward nominations to the parliamentarian school.

**Section 2**

To run for office, a school must be a member of the TASC and of District V, and shall have attended the district convention the year previous to its nomination.

**Section 3**

No school shall be eligible to hold more than one office at a time, nor may it hold the same office for two consecutive years unless the race is uncontested. In the absence of a candidate(s) for a race, a consecutive term or joint office may be approved by the executive committee.

**Section 4**

No nomination shall be accepted from the floor at the district meeting.

**Section 5**

- A. Election of officers shall be held at the last regular business meeting of the convention, each school voting by oral roll call and having one vote for each delegate present and voting up to four votes.
- B. Individual school nominations shall not exceed three minutes. Individual school nominations shall require a nomination and a second. The candidate school must accept the nomination.
- C. Candidate schools will be required to perform a short skit.
- D. Election to each office shall be by a majority of votes of the schools present, a majority being over 50% of votes cast. If no one receives a majority, the top two will have a run-off with each school receiving four votes as set aside above.

If there is a need for a run-off and there is a tie for second place, there will first be a run-off between those two schools to see who will be in a second run-off with the top vote getter.

In a run-off election, if the two top schools receive the same amount, the convention will recess for five minutes for the delegate discussion, and then each school will be allowed another two-minute campaign speech. Another vote will be taken to determine a definite majority.

**Section 6**

All newly elected officers shall assume their duties June 1 of the next year.

Article V

**Conferences**

**Section 1**

The association shall meet in the fall term of each school year for a one-day convention at the vice president school or at another suitable location approved by the Executive Committee. The vice president school is responsible for planning this fall convention.

**Section 2**

A fall convention for Junior High/Middle School only, will be hosted by the second vice president school. The convention will be held at the second vice president school or at another suitable location approved by the Executive Committee.

**Section 3**

The association shall hold a spring convention. The election of new officers will be held at this convention. A member school may send any number of delegates to the convention having notified the secretary/treasurer by the deadlines set by this office before the convention is held. Only four students from a school shall be counted as official voting delegates.

Article VI

**Amendments**

**Section 1**

Amendments may be proposed by any member school of the association and ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of the official delegates of the member schools of the Association present at the time of voting.

**Section 2**

- A. Amendments must be submitted in writing to the vice president of the Association at least thirty days before the convention convenes.
- B. The vice president shall submit all proposed amendments to the president school and all other member schools at least fifteen days prior to the convention date.

**Section 3**

All proposed amendments must be read at the opening session of the convention, and tabled to be voted upon during the final general meeting.

Article VII

This constitution shall be made available to each school at the morning session of the spring convention. At the afternoon business session, it shall be presented for ratification, each school voting by roll call with one vote per delegate present and voting up to four votes. A simple majority of the votes cast shall be required for ratification. If ratified, this constitution becomes effective immediately.

By Laws

**Section 1**

The annual membership fees for the Association will be \$20.00 per school. These are payable to the State Association with the state dues.

## Section 2

The Host school may charge a registration fee, which shall be used to defray the expenses of the convention. This fee shall be collected from delegates, sponsors, and others attending the convention by the date set by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee with relation to the total expenses of the convention shall determine the amount of the fee. Registration and fees not received by the Secretary school by the deadline will not be allowed to attend the convention unless prior arrangements have been made with the secretary/treasurer school.

## Section 3

Duties of the **President** of the Association are

1. To preside at all meetings of the organization.
2. To appoint committees.
3. To administer the TASC District 5 Facebook page.
4. To call and preside at the meeting of the Executive Committee.
5. To make arrangements for platform speakers for the convention.
6. To make arrangements for the location of the Spring Convention.
7. To be responsible for displaying the district flag at the State Convention.

B. Duties of the **Vice President** are

1. To execute the duties of the President in case of his absence.
2. To attend the meetings of the Executive Committee.
3. To submit all proposed constitutional amendments and revisions to the president school and all other member schools.
4. To arrange for all discussion group chairmen and topics at the fall convention.
5. To be responsible for the spring convention entertainment.
6. To be responsible for making arrangements for the meals at the convention.
7. To lead the fall and spring conventions in an invocation.
8. To be responsible for the preparation of a spring convention program.

C. Duties of the **Second Vice President** are

1. To attend meetings of the Executive Committee.
2. To preside at and host the Jr. High/Middle School convention.
3. To give a report at the spring convention regarding the Jr. High/Middle School fall convention.

D. Duties of the **Secretary/Treasurer** are

1. To attend meetings of the Executive Committee.
2. To serve as host and registrar for the spring convention.
3. To be responsible for sending out all convention announcements to member schools.
4. To make announcements at the conventions and to call roll at the spring convention.
5. To keep accurate records of all District V activities, executive committee and sponsor's meetings.
6. To administer the funds of the Association with the consent of the Executive Committee.
7. To submit minutes of the executive committee to the newsletter school and to provide copies of all minutes to the school sponsors at the spring convention.
8. To submit a list of candidate schools to the Parliamentarian school.

E. Duties of the **Parliamentarian** are

1. To attend meetings of the Executive Committee.
2. To act as final authority on questions of parliamentary procedure.
3. To serve as facilitator for the political rally which includes presiding at the political rally and organizing the seating for all nominations and seconds.
4. To obtain from the secretary school a list of schools eligible to vote.
5. To determine the eligibility of candidates running for office.

6. To lead the convention in the pledge of allegiance and the pledge to the Texas flag at both the fall and spring conventions.
7. To select the date and location of the scrapbook judging.
8. To provide recognition certificates for outstanding scrapbooks.

F. Duties of the **Webmaster/Newsletter** school are

1. To attend meetings of the Executive Committee.
2. To create and/or maintain the District V website.
3. To publish three District V newsletters a year. Recommended publication dates are September, November, and April.
4. To recognize outstanding accomplishments of member schools.
5. To maintain a link with the state website.
6. To maintain a consistent update of TASC District V activities.

G. Duties of the **Executive Committee** are

1. To appoint a member school to fill a vacancy should an officer school for whatever reason is unable to serve out its term.
2. To secure a candidate by telephone if no school should file for an office by the deadline.
3. To determine the date and site of the annual convention.
4. To take final authority on all district matters subject to the appeals procedure.
5. To select the district theme.
6. To select two district projects.
7. To select the District Advisor of the Year.

H. Duties of the **Chairmen of the Executive Committee** (President School sponsor) are

1. To call meetings of the Executive Committee.
2. To furnish district information to the State Association.
3. To furnish the successor with all previous records.

#### **Section 4**

Registered delegates who are present at the business meeting of the convention shall constitute a quorum to conduct business of the Association.

#### **Section 5**

The by-laws may be changed by a majority of the votes of the official delegates of the members schools present at any meeting of the Association.

#### **Section 6**

A meeting of all sponsors present at all district meetings shall be held during the time the members are in discussion groups. At this meeting problems of the district may be considered. The sponsors of the officer schools are to assume the same duties in this meeting.

#### **Section 7**

An appeal procedure for rulings of the Executive Committee shall be the presentation of the appeal in writing of the sponsor's meeting at the convention for discussion and consideration. If deemed necessary, a vote on the appeal can be taken at the next Executive Committee meeting.

#### **Section 8**

"Robert's Rules of Order, Revised" shall be the standard parliamentary text of the organization, and shall govern all cases not otherwise covered in the constitution and by-laws.