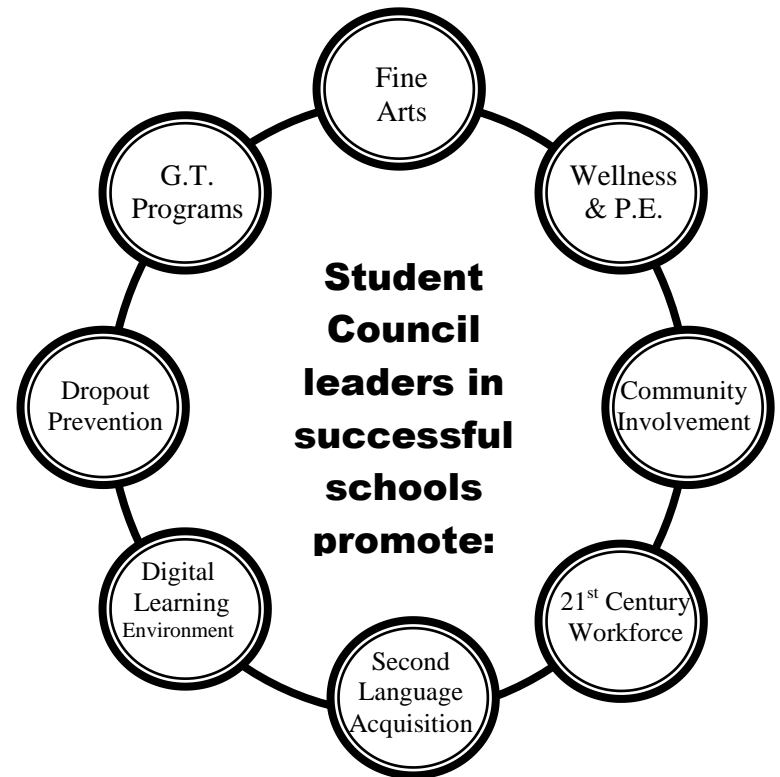


WHAT STUDENT COUNCIL CAN DO FOR PRINCIPALS

Student Council Leaders and Successful Schools:

Student Councils are a part of a school's leadership team. Effective Student Councils create opportunities for connection and belonging, opportunities that positively affect school culture and climate which, in turn, foster high achievement. Though the approaches might be different, the goals are the same: all students achieve academic and social success. For a school to flourish, all the leaders, both student and adult, need to be working toward the same goals. This symbiotic relationship will benefit not just your students, but you as well. Your CaSE (community and student engagement) rating, as stated in [House Bill 5 section 46](#), can be exemplary this year and for years to come with the utilization of servant leaders like those in Student Council.



Criteria from **House Bill Five Section 46** compared to what Student Council can be doing.

Areas	What principals are asked to do:	How Student Councils can help principals do it:
Fine Arts	Establish and sustain a school culture conducive to the education of fine arts such as band, orchestra, art, dance, and theatre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support fine arts by student participation in special assemblies, clubs, performances, community based fine arts programs. • Fundraise for field trips to museums, community theater, opera, etc. • Promote the development of fine arts clubs. • Sponsor a showcase for fine arts at a pep rally • usher and provide refreshments at fine arts events • provide day care at fine arts events • work with the art department to create posters and other publicity items • showcase art work • advertise and "did you know" flyers for fine arts events • sponsor a fine art gallery night • sponsor "student of the week" for band, theater, etc. • host a talent show • wear fine arts t-shirts on particular days to promote those events

<p>Wellness and PE</p>	<p>Establish programs and initiatives which promote student health and safe choices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host open gym events • Provide information about immunization requirements • Organize health fairs and wellness clinics • Participate in voluntary health/wellness programs fairs (night at gym) • Establish fun runs, walk-a-thons, and community runs • Fundraise for a cause • Participate/coordinate in district causes (Pink Out, Special Olympics, etc.) • Host a field day or sport tournament (kickball) • Promote an anti-bullying environment and suicide prevention • Hold blood drives • Establish DARE/Red Ribbon activities • Create texting while driving awareness/drunken driving awareness day • Provide bike safety information. • Help with Safety Fair • Promote Dating Violence Awareness Water Walk • Dodge ball tournament • work with feeder elementary schools promoting safety • C.A.R.E week (cancer awareness) • make videos showing students making healthy lunch choice • provide only water at concessions • sponsor self-defense course to address dating violence • driver safety seatbelt check • "Toilet Talks" with health facts and safety tips • "Dum-Dum's" for safety/traffic violations/"Smarties" for proper safety • promote lab safety • promote teacher healthy living/wellness activities
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<p>Community/ Parent Involvement</p>	<p>Communicate and partner with school and community members to promote student learning and growth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host back to school orientations • Promote extracurricular events • Partner with charities • Host Veterans Day and 9/11 assemblies • Create school climate surveys of parents and community • Hold cultural fairs • Hold food drives • Meet the teacher events • Host awards nights with community participation • Community wide pep rallies • Tutor feeder schools • Partner with College and Career partnerships • Organize freshmen orientations • Create beautification projects and clothing drives • Establish initiatives aimed to increase parent involvement (donuts with dad) • Work with animal shelters and senior centers, etc. • Work with feeder schools to present safety, environmental, character education (etc.) programs • Speak to civic groups about positive events and achievements of the school • Provide child care at events • Welcome guests to the building and to events
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<p>21st Century Workforce Development</p>	<p>Demonstrate a commitment to educating students in ways which prepare them for job opportunities and education post-secondary school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Junior Achievement programs • Promote peer tutoring programs • Host college day events • Partner with Workforce Centers • Host student leadership trainings to include goal setting, problem solving, decision making, communication and team building • Host an Apply Texas Day • Mentorship programs • Create critical thinking program • Pay for career speakers to present at schools • Promote College/Career Days • Host Leadership training • Host Career Night/Science Night/Curriculum Night • Promote a career/college building program (Naviance/careercruising.com) • Offer Student Leadership Class/adapt sections of Student Leadership Class to incorporate C.A.T.E. objectives
<p>Second Language Acquisition</p>	<p>Promote the development, implementation and evaluation of students learning English as a second language and students learning a foreign language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host open house opportunities for ELL parents • Aid in the creation of foreign language clubs • Adopt mentorship programs to assist students in 2nd language acquisition • Promote multicultural clubs • Host cultural performances • Target dropout prevention. • Tutoring programs • Citizenship classes • Invite foreign exchange students to join student council • International Week or iFEST • Host a cultural performance program • Find partners for ESL students using dual language students • Promote cultural awareness • Host a cultural food night out • Provide refreshments for tutorial sessions in the community

<p>Digital Learning Environment</p>	<p>Promote a learning environment conducive to hands on education with the use of technology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote a B.Y.O.D (bring your own device) campaign • Aid in student newscasts • Provide digital safety training for students, teachers, and parents • Provide training on cyberbullying • Use social media to communicate to parents and students. • sponsor a parent technology night • use google docs & google drive to promote collaboration • Post QR codes for upcoming school events • sponsor a family fun night with activities using technology • hold a literacy night using digital books • Promote the use of applications such as Remind, socratic.com, and Twitter • fundraise for updated technology
<p>Dropout Prevention Strategies</p>	<p>Work to prevent student dropout rates and educate on real world issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a student athlete mentor program • Help to target truancy prevention • Aid in the implementation of positive behavior systems • Create homeless education initiatives • Pay for guest speakers • Aid in campus-wide discipline programs such as CHAMPS. • Provide opportunities for all students to be engaged • Promote student voice and school ownership • Mentorship program for homeless/low economic students • Homeless for a Night • "You're Looking a Future Graduate" above every mirror in the school • Leadership luncheons with students who usually do not have a voice • Coca Cola Valued Youth Program • Have a "buddy reading" at feeder elementary schools, using school leaders from various activities • Commit to Graduate • Clothes Donations • Backpack Buddy Program • Mentorship Program for incoming freshmen • Freshman Orientation • Club RUSH at the beginning of the school year to promote students joining organizations

GT Programs	Enrich students involved in the GT program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise to increase Academic UIL participation • Help organize/pay for GT enrichment opportunities • Provide student leadership opportunities for GT students • Sponsor a chess tournament • Promote the expansion of clubs/organizations to address needs of GT students • Develop a mentorship program to help students cope with stresses of upper level courses • Sponsor a Book Club • Promote different clubs like a "I Hate Clubs" Club, Fishing Club, Guitar Club • Create a "Club Friday" and use a pep Rally Schedule to promote clubs. This would be a pep rally for clubs • Provide snacks for testing • Peer Tutoring opportunities • Goodie bags/breakfast for UIL kids • Encourage GT students to apply for TAGT summer scholarships • Recognize UIL participants • Promote clubs during "Mega Lunch" • Scholarships for AP test fees • Create a UIL video
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Sit down with your Student Council leaders to discuss the many ways they can help you and your staff meet the demands of other mandates (often unfunded) as well as community needs and expectations. Here a few ideas to start your planning:

- **Voter registration**
- **Dating violence prevention**
- **Driver safety**
- **Cyber safety**
- **Suicide prevention**
- **Transition programs (fish camp, welcoming 5th or 6th graders)**
- **New student welcomes**
- **Education regarding healthy life styles**
- **Staff appreciation**