

We, the students of **Countryside Montessori Charter School**, do hereby establish this **Constitution of The Student Council** in order to:

- Help solve school problems to make the school a better place to learn,
- Work on school-wide projects that help the community (e.g., Food Drive, Toy Drive, charitable contributions),
- Work on fun activities that promote school spirit for the whole school.

In addition, The Student Council will help to:

- Provide students with leadership opportunities,
- Develop a sense of unity and responsibility for all students,
- Encourage all students to become aware of how the school is run and to constructively communicate their needs and wishes.

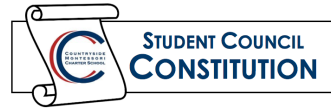
Article I

The name of the organization shall be **The Student Council of Countryside Montessori Charter School**, which we will refer to as The Student Council.

Article II

Responsibilities of The Student Council:

1. Suggest, design and implement charitable projects to be undertaken throughout the school year.
2. Research and recommend recipients of the charitable donations raised.
3. Communicate and promote annual activities such as the CMCS Thanksgiving Food Drive and the CMCS Toy Drive.
4. Communicate with and report to the Administration proposals and decisions made by The Student Council.



5. Represent the voice of the students in areas where student opinion is requested.
6. Offer constructive ideas on the future of CMCS for the betterment of the CMCS family and community at large.

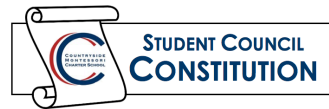
Article III

Membership and Elections of The Student Council

1. Membership of The Student Council shall consist of one Third Grader representing each of the five (5) Lower Elementary classrooms; one Fourth Grader and one Fifth Grader from each of the three (3) Fourth-Fifth Grade classrooms; two Sixth Graders, two Seventh Graders and two Eighth Graders representing the Middle School classrooms.

Classrooms	Representatives
Rooms 1-5	(1) Third Grader <i>each</i>
Rooms 7-9	(1) (1) Fifth Grader <i>each</i> (2) (1) Fourth Grader <i>each</i>
Middle School	(2) Sixth Graders (2) Seventh Graders (2) Eighth Graders
Total Representatives:	21

2. All Student Council Representatives shall be elected within 90 days of the start of the school year in which they will serve.
3. All Student Council Representatives shall be elected by a vote of their classmates within their respective classrooms.
4. Middle School Representatives shall be elected by a vote of students in their grade only.
5. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer (the Officers) shall be chosen by a vote of the student body as a whole.



Article IV

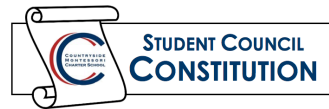
Frequency of Meetings and Special Sessions

1. The Student Council Meetings will be held on a **Monday** of each month that school is in session. **A calendar of the meetings is available on the CMCS Website.**
2. Changes in meeting times due to holidays or other conflicts shall be decided and communicated by the Faculty Adviser.

Article V

Conduct of Officers and Representatives

1. All members of the Student Council are expected to model Montessori study habits and be current with their work.
2. Student Council representatives and officers who are not meeting academic expectations will be given an opportunity to “catch up” within a specific timeframe, or risk removal from Student Council.
3. If at any time a Student Council representative or officer finds that his or her duties are negatively affecting their academic work, they may request dismissal from Student Council and a special election will be held under the guidance of the Faculty Adviser.
4. All Student Council representatives and officers are expected to attend all Student Council meetings, unless an excused absence is communicated to the Faculty Adviser beforehand.
5. Repeated, unexcused absences from scheduled Student Council meetings may result in dismissal at the discretion of the Faculty Adviser.
6. All members of the Student Council are expected to model the Classroom Code of Conduct at all times.



Article VI

Duties of the Officers of The Student Council

1. President of The Student Council

- a. The president shall be a member of the Eighth Grade class.
- b. The president shall be responsible for carrying out the functions of The Student Council in accordance with this Constitution.
- c. The president shall preside at all meetings of The Student Council, except in cases of excused absences.

2. Vice President of The Student Council

- a. The vice president shall be a member of the Seventh **or** Eighth Grade.
- b. The vice president shall assume the duties of the president in the absence of the president.
- c. The vice president shall preside over the annual revision of this Constitution.

3. Secretary of The Student Council

- a. The secretary shall be a member of the Seventh **or** Eighth Grade.
- b. The secretary shall record and report all of the minutes of Student Council meetings.
- c. The secretary shall be responsible for all Student Council correspondence.
- d. The secretary shall take attendance as part of the minutes of all Student Council meetings.

4. Treasurer of The Student Council

- a. The treasurer shall be a member of the Seventh **or** Eighth Grade.
- b. The treasurer shall keep a record of all Student Council money (funds raised and expenses) and transactions.
- c. The treasurer shall provide a monthly written report to the officers, representatives and Faculty Adviser of The Student Council for inclusion in the monthly minutes.

Article VII

Duties of the Classroom Representatives

1. Classroom representatives shall attend all Student Council meetings.
2. Classroom representatives shall bring the ideas, interests, and concerns of his/her classmates to the meetings.

3. Classroom representatives shall report back to their class what was decided at Student Council meetings.
4. Classroom representatives shall serve on committees if/when they are created.
5. Classroom representatives shall encourage other students to get involved in Student Council activities.
6. Classroom representatives shall volunteer during select school events.

Article VIII

Election of Classroom Representatives

1. Announcement of election dates will be made by the Faculty Adviser at least one week in advance as follows:
 - a. By school-wide announcement
 - b. By radio broadcast on the school radio station
 - c. By teachers in each classroom
2. Copies of this Constitution will be made available in each classroom for potential candidates to review responsibilities.
3. Interested students put themselves forward for election by giving their name to their room teacher.
4. Room teachers will submit candidate names to the Faculty Adviser.
5. Candidates will have time to campaign for one week (5 school days) prior to the election.
 - a. Candidates are limited to two **(2) posters** no larger than **12 inches by 18 inches**.
 - b. No giveaways of any kind are permitted (stickers, candy, etc.) Candidates may not promise gifts, parties, food, etc. as a part of their campaign platform.
 - c. Campaign speeches are limited to **3 minutes**.
 - d. Campaign speeches should focus on the positive aspects of the candidate's contribution to CMCS through Student Council.
 - e. Candidates are expected to conduct their candidacy in the true spirit of CMCS or risk disqualification.
6. Voting will be by secret ballot on the date and time specified for each classroom.
7. Classroom teachers will count the votes and report the results to the Faculty Adviser.

Article IX

Election of Student Council Officers

1. Announcement of election dates will be made by the Faculty Adviser at least one week in advance as follows:
 - a. By school-wide announcement
 - b. By radio broadcast on the school radio station
 - c. By teachers in each classroom
2. Copies of this Constitution will be made available in each classroom for potential candidates to review responsibilities.
3. Interested students put themselves forward for election by giving their name to the Faculty Adviser.
4. Any student who puts themselves forward for election agrees to the requirements and provisions outlined in this Constitution.
5. Candidates will have time to campaign for **one week (5 school days)** prior to the election.
 - a. Candidates for officer positions are limited to **(4) posters no larger than 12 inches by 18 inches.**
 - b. No giveaways of any kind are permitted (stickers, candy, etc.) Candidates may not promise gifts, parties, food, etc. as a part of their campaign platform.
 - c. Campaign speeches for officers are limited to **5 minutes.**
 - d. Campaign speeches should focus on the positive aspects of the candidate's contribution to CMCS through Student Council.
 - e. Candidates are expected to conduct their candidacy in the true spirit of CMCS or risk disqualification.
6. Candidates will have an opportunity to deliver campaign speeches to the whole school at a date and time to be announced prior to the election.
7. Voting will be by school-wide secret ballot on the date and time specified.
8. Faculty Adviser(s) will count the votes under the supervision of a member of Administration and, in subsequent years, an outgoing Student Council officer.
9. Election results will be announced within 24 hours of the election.

Article X

Provisions for Amending the Constitution of The Student Council

1. An amendment can be proposed by any member of The Student Council, Faculty Adviser, or Administration of CMCS.
2. All proposals for amendments must be presented in written format.
3. All amendments must be approved by the Principal, the Assistant Principal, or a Faculty Adviser.
4. All amendments must be ratified by a simple majority of The Student Council
5. All amendments shall be dated within the year of ratification.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Grossman
Faculty Adviser
August 22, 2019