

# Rules of Order and Procedure

To promote ethical behavior and civil discourse, each council member shall:

- Attend council meetings on time and prepared
- Make decisions with the needs of students as the primary objective
- Listen to and value diverse opinions
- Be sure the opinions of those you represent are included in discussions
- Expect accountability and be prepared to be accountable
- Act with integrity

## Rules of Procedure:

All meetings are open to the public, and the public is welcome to attend.

The agenda of each meeting with draft minutes of the prior meeting will be made available to all council members at least one week in advance, posted on the school website, and made available in the main office. The agenda will include the meeting's date, time, and location.

Minutes will be kept of all meetings, prepared in draft format for approval at the next meeting.

The council will prepare a timeline for the school year that includes due dates for all required reporting and other activities/tasks that the council agrees to assume or participate in. The timeline will assist in preparing agendas to be sure the council accomplishes its work promptly.

The council comprises of the principal, one school employees who will be elected in even years, and four parent members. Two parent members will be elected in even years, and two parents will be elected in odd years. If there is a tie vote in an election, the principal shall flip a coin to determine the outcome.

The chair conducts the meetings, makes assignments, and requests reports on assignments. In the absence of the chair, the vice-chair shall conduct meetings.

The council must have a quorum to vote. A quorum is equal to a majority of council members.

Suppose a parent member is absent from two consecutive meetings. In that case, the chair will notify the member that if the member does not attend the next meeting, the council will consider the seat vacant, and the remaining parent members will appoint a parent to fill the unexpired term.

Meetings shall be conducted and action taken according to very simplified rules of parliamentary procedure as required in 53G-7-1203(10). Council actions will be taken by motions and voting, with votes and motions recorded in the minutes.

# Simple Motions of Parliamentary Procedure

Used by some organizations to assist those new to the process

A motion (or an action to be taken by the council) is stated as a motion. Someone else on the council “seconds” the motion, indicating that at least one other person on the council feels the motion is worthy of discussion. Then, the council members may provide input and discussion as called upon by the chair. When the discussion seems complete, the chair may call for a vote on the motion. Or when a council member “calls the previous question” (a

MOTION	DOES IT REQUIRE A 2ND?	IS IT DEBATABLE?	CAN IT BE AMENDED?	IS A VOTE REQUIRED
Adjourn	yes	no	no	majority
Amend a motion	yes	yes	yes	majority
Close nominations	yes	no	yes	2/3
Main motion	yes	yes	yes	majority
Point of Order	no	no	no	ruled on by the chair
Previous Question	yes	no	no	2/3
Reconsider	yes	yes	no	majority
Withdrawal of Motion	no	no	no	majority

motion to end discussion of the first motion), a second is required. Without discussion, the chair calls for a vote that must pass by 2/3. If the vote on the previous question fails, the council returns to discussing the first motion. If the motion to call the previous question passes, the chair directly calls for a vote on the first motion. A vote to answer the previous question is usually used to move business.

- A tie vote is a lost vote.
- Most motions are main motions. A main motion may be amended.
- A point of order is offered when there is a question of whether the procedure has been followed correctly.

- To stop a discussion on a motion and force the vote, a member would say, "I move the previous question." This requires a second and a 2/3 vote.
- Hasty action may be corrected by use of the motion to reconsider. This motion may be made only by one who voted on the prevailing side.
- A person who made the motion may withdraw the same motion.

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