

THE MCSGA BY-LAWS

I. ELECTORATES

- A. The number of Electorates will be determined by the total number of students attending Midland College.
- B. There shall be a scheduled reapportionment of Electorates in the fall of each year. The reapportionment shall be completed and submitted to the Student Government Association (SGA) no later than the fifteenth (15th) class day of the Fall semester.
- C. Reapportionment shall be determined by the total number of students attending Midland College.
- D. Representation in the Electorates shall be based upon one (1) representative to the Student Government for every one hundred (100) members in an Electorate.

II. CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION

- A. A candidate for Student Government shall be considered eligible to become a member when the Election Committee has certified that he/she was qualified as a candidate for the office and elected when they receive a plurality of votes cast.
- B. Candidates for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Parliamentarian shall be certified in the same manner except that they must receive a majority of the votes cast.

III. OATH OF OFFICE

- A. A candidate for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Parliamentarian, whose election has been certified, shall assume office after elections are held in the Spring and after having taken the Oath of Office prescribed in Article IV, Sec. 12, Paragraph B of the MCSGA Constitution.
- B. A candidate for Student Government whose election has been certified, shall assume office after having taken the Oath of Office prescribed in Article V, Sec. 10, Paragraph B, of the MCSGA Constitution.
 - 1. This meeting shall be held in September.
 - 2. The first order of business after the call to order shall be the administering of the Oath of Office by the Student Government.
 - 3. Those members who may be appointed to fill an unexpired term left vacant, shall take the same Oath of Office, to be administered prior to the next meeting of the Student Government, after their appointment.

IV. MEETINGS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

- A. The date, time and place of the Student Government is determined by Article V, Section 7, Student Government Meetings. The date time and place of the next scheduled SGA meeting must appear in the agenda of each meeting.

- B. The presence of a simple majority of members will constitute a quorum.
 - 1. In the event that there is no quorum, no business shall be transacted except for the call to order, roll call, and adjournment or recession.
 - 2. In the event of a loss of a quorum, the only valid motions shall be for roll call and adjournment or recession.

- C. The regular order of business shall be:
 - 1. Call to order by the presiding officer
 - 2. Roll Call
 - 3. Reading and considering the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
 - 4. Report by the presiding officer
 - 5. Announcements
 - 6. Committee Reports
 - a. Standing Committee
 - b. Select Committee
 - 7. Old Business
 - 8. New Business
 - 9. Adjournment

- D. Copies of the agenda of each Student Government meeting shall be made available to the members of the MCSGA at least one (1) full school day prior to each regular meeting.
 - 1. Proposed items for each agenda shall be submitted to the MCSGA Secretary at least one (1) full school day prior to the publication of the agenda to be printed in the agenda.
 - 2. Special Sessions for emergency meetings do not require a printed agenda one (1) full school day prior to the meeting.
 - a. A copy of the agenda must be made available to members prior to the roll call for that special meeting.
 - b. There shall be no business discussed other than those issues specified on the agenda.

- E. Special Sessions and emergency meetings may be called and convened by presentation of a petition signed by twenty-five (25) percent of the Student Government members to the Secretary of the MCSGA.

- F. All meetings of the Student Government are open to any member of the Midland College Student Association (MCSA). Any person attending a Student Government meeting must abide by the rules and procedures of the organization.

V. PARLIAMENTARIAN FOR THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

- A. The Parliamentarian shall advise the presiding officer and members of the Student Government on matters relating to Parliamentary procedure.

- B. The term of the Parliamentarian shall coincide with that of the President and Vice-President respectively, unless relieved of his/her duties by the President with the advice and consent of the Student Government.

VI. RULES OF CONDUCT

- A. Rules of conduct for Student Government meetings shall be determined according to the MCSGA By-Laws, and the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.
- B. All members must act with proper respect for the rules of the Student Government during all meetings..
- C. All Student Government meetings are considered formal except when the body enters as a Committee-of-the-Whole.
- D. Attendance at Student Government meetings is mandatory.
 - 1. Three (3) unexcused absences, or five (5) absences in a long semester by a member shall result in his or her impeachment and removal from office.
 - 2. Any member who comes in after the roll has been called shall be declared tardy. Three (3) unexcused tardies shall equal one (1) unexcused absence.
 - 3. Absence or tardiness at committee meetings shall be counted on the attendance record at the request of the Committee Chairperson and the President of the Student Government.

VII. RIGHTS OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT MEMBERS

- A. Each member shall be entitled to the following rights:
 - 1. The right to vote on all issues requiring a voting decision before the Student Government
 - 2. The right to introduce and sponsor legislation
 - 3. The right to serve on Standing or Select Committees
 - 4. The right to make or second a motion on any issue before the Student Government
 - 5. The right to address any Student Government meeting
 - 6. The right to raise points of parliamentary procedure
 - 7. The right to have all other general rights, privileges, and responsibilities granted members of the Student Government by the MCSGA Constitution and these By-Laws

VIII. LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

- A. Origin of Legislation
 - 1. Legislation may be proposed or suggested by any member of the MCSA in the form of one person, a committee, or group.
 - 2. Legislation shall be introduced and sponsored only by members of the Student Government.
 - 3. The legislation must be submitted in written form.
 - a. Copies of that legislation shall be distributed to each member of the Student Government and any other interested party.
- B. The following procedure shall be taken in consideration of all proposed legislation.
 - 1. The sponsor of the proposed legislation is recognized by the presiding officer at a Student Government meeting.
 - 2. It is assigned to a Standing or Select Committee.

3. It is investigated by the Standing or Select Committee.
4. The committee may report as follows:
 - a. Report on proposed legislation favorably
 - b. Report on proposed legislation in amended form
 - c. Report on proposed legislation unfavorably, recommending that the Student Government disapprove it
 - d. A Minority Report may be filed simultaneously with the Majority Report
5. The committee as a majority opinion may refuse to take action on any proposed legislation.
 - a. Should the Student Government demand action upon such proposed legislation, it may vote by majority on such proposed legislation; it may vote by majority to consider the proposed legislation at the next regular Student Government meeting.
 - b. No proposed legislation may be acted on at the same meeting at which it was proposed.
6. Once placed on the agenda, the Student Government shall consider the legislation according to the following procedure:
 - a. Call for a reading of the proposed legislation and the Committee report in its original amended form
 - b. Discussion and/or debate of the proposed legislation by the Student Government.
 - c. Vote by the Student Government upon the proposed legislation

IX. COMMITTEES

- A. Committees shall be divided into two (2) categories in accordance with Article VIII, Sec. 2 and 3 of the MCSGA Constitution.
- B. Standing Committees shall be as prescribed in Article VIII, Section I of the MCSGA Constitution:
 1. Education Committee
 2. Program and Entertainment Committee
 3. Publicity Committee
 4. Judicial Committee
 - a. Shall be composed of three (3) members, one of which shall be the Chairperson
 - b. Duties shall be:
 1. Consider and draft amendments to the MCSGA Constitution, By-Laws, and Election Code
 2. Rule by request upon Constitutionality of proposed legislation
 3. Hear and decide upon impeachment appeals
 4. Hear and decide upon traffic violation appeals
 5. Community Affairs
 6. State Contests

X. INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM, AND RECALL

- A. Initiative: Specific legislation may be requested by members of the MCSGA by a petition submitted to the Student Government.
 - 1. The petition must be signed by twenty-five (25) MCSGA members.
 - 2. The proposed legislation is to be submitted to the Student Government at the next regular meeting, to be enacted or rejected within ten (10) school days.
 - 3. If proposed legislation is rejected it may be resolved by a special election within five (5) school days after the Student Government rejection in a special election.
 - 4. In order for the proposed initiative to be considered valid, there must be votes cast equal to or greater than the number of names on the petition calling for the initiative.
 - 5. A majority of all votes cast shall be required for passage.

- B. Referendum: Specific legislation passed by the Student Government may be submitted to the MCSGA for review upon receipt of a petition requesting a special referendum election or by request of the Student Government.
 - 1. The petition must be signed by ten (10) percent of the MCSA membership.
 - 2. The Student Government may by a two thirds (2/3) vote of its membership, submit legislation to the MCSA for a referendum election.
 - 3. A referendum election must be held within fifteen (15) days after a referendum vote of submission of a referendum petition.
 - 4. A majority of all votes cast against any legislation shall render such legislation null and void.
 - 5. No new legislation incorporating the invalidated provisions shall be introduced in the Student Government for the remaining semester in which the referendum took place.

- C. Recall: Any appointed or elected officer of the MCSGA is subject to recall by submission of a recall petition signed by ten (10) percent of the MCSA membership. When a recall petition is received, an election will be held.

XI. VACANCIES

- A. In the event that the office of President should be vacated, the Vice-President shall assume the office of President as prescribed in Article IV, Sec. 7, Paragraph F, of the MCSGA Constitution.
- B. In the event that the office of the Vice-President should be vacated, a new Vice-President shall be elected from the ranks of the Student Government members by a simple majority vote.
- C. The Student Government shall fill any vacancies as they occur. Attendance at three consecutive meetings by interested, involved students qualifies them for approval from the Student Government membership.

XII. IMPEACHMENT AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

- A. All appointed or elected officers of the MCSGA are subject to impeachment and removal from office. Other members, who miss three meetings with no communication to other members or the advisor, may be removed from membership by a majority vote of the membership.

- B. Grounds for impeachment and removal from office are:
 - 1. Misconduct in office

2. Misuse of funds
 3. Failure to meet Constitutional and/or statutory duties
 4. Failure to meet obligations to the MCSGA.
- C. Impeachment charges must be initiated and introduced by a member of the Student Government.
- D. A two thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Student Government is necessary to impeach a person.
- E. The decision of the Student Government may be appealed to the Judicial Committee whose decision is final.

XIII. AMENDMENT AND SUSPENSION OF BY-LAWS

- A. The Student Government may amend the MCSGA By-Laws at any time by a majority vote.
- B. The Student Government may suspend the rules at any meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting. On a motion to suspend the rules, the reason for the suspension must be specified, and no other business may take place under the suspension.

IV. SUMMER STUDENT GOVERNMENT

- A. From the end of the Spring semester to the Student Government elections in the Fall, the business of the MCSGA shall be conducted by a special interim "Summer Student Government". The composition of this Summer Student Government shall be one (1) of the executive officers plus at least four (4) members who will be able to attend the meetings during the summer. The Summer Student Government shall not have the authority to obligate the MCSGA for expenditures other than the normal operating costs of the MCSGA office.