

# **The Constitution of the Paradigm High School Scholar Body**

We the scholar body of Paradigm High School, in order to protect and uphold the charter and mission statement of Paradigm High School, to allow the scholars the opportunity to take responsibility and to have a voice in the Governance of this School, and to provide the opportunity for Leadership Education, do ordain and establish this constitution for the scholar body of Paradigm High School.

## **Article. I.**

### **Section. 1.**

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a congress which shall consist of Representatives chosen every semester by the several Seminar Classes of Paradigm High School, each having one vote, in order to fully represent the needs of the scholars.

### **Section. 2.**

The election of the Representatives shall be as follows: Each Seminar class will elect a President and a Vice President, the president is to attend congress; if the president is unable to attend Congress the Vice President shall take their place.

### **Section. 3.**

When vacancies shall occur in the representation of any class due to resignation, expulsion, or otherwise, the Seminar Class From which that scholar shall come from shall elect another in their stead. Mentors may make temporary appointments for temporary absences in the representation of their class.

### **Section. 4.**

Representatives shall hold their seats until the expiration of the Semester at which time they must seek re-election in order to maintain their seats. Also, the scholar body officers may remove, for good reason, any representative from the meeting. If the Seminar representative is not following Paradigm's code of conduct and standards or fails to fulfill their responsibilities, a verbal warning will be issued. If the representative continues to violate Paradigm's standards and code of conduct, Seminar mentors will be contacted and the class may elect a new representative.

### **Section. 5.**

Before the Class Representatives enter into the execution of their office they shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear and affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of Class Representative, I will be an example of leadership through my actions, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend, the Constitution of Paradigm High School."

Section. 6.

A majority of representatives shall constitute a quorum to do business.

Section. 7.

When a direct tie is reached in the Congress of Paradigm High School, the President shall have the tie-breaking vote. If, however, the President is acting as Chair of the congress, the responsibility shall fall to the Vice-president.

Section. 8.

Congress shall operate under Robert's Rules of Order, and may amend such rules for the body but not abolish them.

Section. 9.

All members of Congress must maintain a good standing with the policies of Paradigm High School and the laws of the state of Utah. Members of Congress will be removed from office by the Administration if they receive a strike (in accordance with the school's discipline policy), fail in any class, or engage in conduct that misrepresents Paradigm High School. Members who receive a strike or participate in illegal activities forfeit their right to a seat in Congress for the remainder of the year.

Section. 10.

Congress shall keep a journal of all its proceedings, and, at least once a month, publish the same. The Congress may hold closed meetings by a two-thirds vote but no action shall be taken or approved in a closed meeting and all minutes shall be recorded and not be kept from the Director of Paradigm High School.

Section. 11.

Before any bill passed by Congress shall appear before the Director, it shall be presented to the president of the scholar Body to be signed or vetoed. If he shall sign it, it shall go before the Director, if he should veto it, Congress may, by two-thirds vote, override the veto and present it directly to the Director. The president must sign or veto the bill within ten business days of its approval by Congress, otherwise it shall appear directly before the director.

Section. 12.

The speaker of the Congress can -with the consent of the President of Paradigm High School-chair meetings of the Congress

## **Article II**

Section. 1.

The Executive power of the scholar Government of Paradigm shall be vested in a President of Paradigm High School who shall hold his office for the term of one year, and, together with the Vice-President and Secretary, who shall hold office for the same amount of time, be elected as follows:

In order to run for the office of President of Paradigm High School, scholars must fill out an application which will be provided by the office. Application must receive ten scholar signatures supporting the candidate's campaign. After the campaign period a primary election will be held with each scholar voting for their choice. The two candidates that receive the most votes will move to an electoral election.

The names of the two candidates with the most votes shall then be submitted to the Seminar classes which shall each then vote as a whole (each Seminar class receiving one vote, the majority of the class deciding the vote thereof) as to which candidate shall be the Scholar Body President. If the number of votes between candidates equal, the congress shall vote, by roll call, one of the equal candidates to be President and Vice-President, and the names and votes shall be recorded on the public journal.

The Congress may determine the time for the Seminar classes to submit their votes.

#### Section. 2.

No person shall be President who shall not have attended Paradigm High School for two consecutive semesters at the time he shall take office, nor shall any person be eligible for the office of Vice-President who shall not be eligible for the the office of President.

#### Section. 3.

In the case of removal of the President from office, of his death, resignation, absence or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the dain office, the same shall devolve on the Vice-President; and Congress may by the law provide for, in the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability of both the president and the Vice-President, who, shall then act as President and Vice-President, and such officers shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed for a new election shall take place.

#### Section. 4.

Before the President enters into the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of Paradigm High School, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of Paradigm High school." The Vice-President shall take the oath as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of Vice-President of Paradigm High School, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of Paradigm High school." and the Secretary shall take the oath as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of Secretary of Paradigm High School, and

will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of Paradigm High school.”

#### Section. 5.

The President, with the advice and consent of Congress, may appoint Persons to help perform the duties of his office. All officers of Paradigm High School’s scholar government, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law, but the Congress may by legislation appoint such subordinate officers as they think proper.

#### Section. 6.

The President shall, at least once a semester, give Congress information of the state of the union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Congress for an emergency meeting.

#### Section. 7.

The President, Vice-President, or any civil officer of Paradigm High School shall be removed from office for the breach of Paradigm High School Policy or if they shall ever be suspended from school at the time of which they shall hold office.

#### Section. 8.

The Scholar Body President shall be President of Congress and shall be subject to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (latest edition) and any changes made to the same by Congress.

#### Section. 9.

The President of the scholar Body of Paradigm High School shall appoint members of the scholar body as Chairpersons of the several committees. The President shall appoint scholars to become members of the president's “cabinet.” These appointed members shall be the chairs of any and all committees pertaining to the business of the Paradigm High School scholar Congress, These seats shall expire at the end of the school year.

These Cabinet Members have no voting power; However, the Cabinet Members may speak on the floor when issues are being debated, and make motions in order to represent the entire school and it’s missions and values.

#### Section. 10.

The heads of the committees (Service, Activities/Dance, Simulations, Assemblies) shall appoint the officers of the committee from the body of the committee.

### **Article III**

#### Section. 1.

Paradigm High School guarantee to every Seminar Class a Representative in congress and all Paradigm High School scholars shall enjoy all the privileges afforded them by this Constitution.

Section 2 Each Seminar Class shall organize themselves and elect their own officers by taking nominations and voting in order to determine class officers.

#### **Article IV**

##### **Section 1**

Congress, whenever two thirds shall deem it necessary may amend this constitution. All amendments must pass two readings in two separate meetings. The amendments do not need to be ratified by the Seminar Classes.

When two thirds of the Seminar Classes shall deem it necessary, they may call a convention to propose amendments to this constitution, and any amendments proposed by the convention will require two thirds of the Seminar Classes' approval to ratify them, but will not require the approval of Congress to ratify the amendments.

#### **Article V**

##### **Section. 1.**

The mission statement of Paradigm High School, the Charter, this Constitution, and the Laws of Paradigm High School which shall be made in pursuance thereof, under the authority of Paradigm High School, shall be the Supreme Law of Paradigm High School.

Congress and the President shall inform the Director of actions which shall affect the school as a whole. The minutes of every meeting shall be delivered to the Director within five business days after any meeting shall have taken place. No action taken shall have effect until two days after the minutes shall be delivered to the Director unless the Director shall deem it an emergency, in which case the action shall have effect at such time as the Director shall appoint. The Director shall have the power to veto or repeal any decision, law or action proposed or executed under the authority of this Government. The Director shall inform Congress whenever a veto is done, within one week of the passing of the law, and shall provide a letter including why the law was vetoed.

##### **Section. 2.**

The terms of every office provided for in this Constitution, excepting the office of Representative, or in the laws of Paradigm High School shall expire at the end of each school year and any persons holding an office whose appointment has been provided for in this constitution shall not hold any other office under this Constitution, save the office of Congressional Secretaries which may be drawn from members of the Congress. Any person

holding an office created by law or appointment may hold no more than one such office.

## **Article VI**

### Section. 1.

The ratification of this constitution by two thirds of the Seminar A classes of the school and the approval of the Administration, which may, at later times, propose amendments to this Constitution for the consideration of Congress, shall be sufficient for the adoption of this Constitution for Paradigm High School.