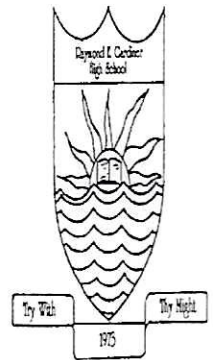
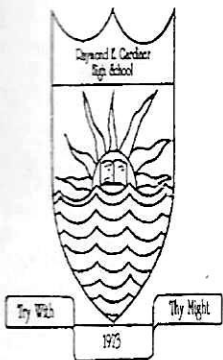


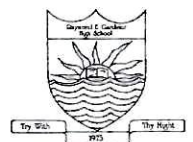
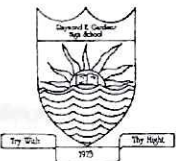
RAYMOND GARDINER HIGH SCHOOL



STUDENT COUNCIL



CONSTITUTION



RAYMOND GARDINER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

The name and signatures of the following persons are witnesses to the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council Constitution being signed into school policy on the 23rd day of October : 2008

NAMES:

Dr. Carlton Mills

Minister of Education

SIGNATURES

Mills

Mrs. Angela Musgrove

National Youth Director

Musgrove

Mrs. Kacy Higgs

P.T.A President

Higgs

Rev. Calvert Hamilton

Justice of the Peace

Hamilton

I certify that this document is the true and genuine Constitution of the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council Body.

Hamilton JP



THE DECLARATION OF RATIFICATION

I Janet Walkin Principal of the Raymond E. Gardiner High School hereby Assent to the Act henceforth shall be called The Raymond Gardiner High Student Council Constitution Act of 2008 brought to me by the Student Council. Moreover, let it be known that I acting in accordance with the powers and authority vested in me as the Principal of this school and in accordance with Article 11, Appendix B; Section 1(subsection 2) of the Student Council Constitution hereby ratify this Constitution; and declare that it shall be signed into the policy of this school and be made an official document of the Raymond Gardiner High School on this 23rd Day of October, 2008.



JANET WALKIN

PRINCIPAL OF THE RAYMOND GARDINER HIGH SCHOOL

Raymond Gardiner High School
Bottle Creek
Turks and Caicos Islands
B.W.I.

**The Student Council Motion/Bill
For
Ratification of the RGHS Student Council Constitution**

WHEREAS the proper functioning of a Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council will bridge the gap between the school administration and the Student Body;

AND WHEREAS no governing body should function without a set of guided principles and rules that govern behaviour and authorizes/restrict powers of its members and leaders;

AND WHEREAS governing bodies such as a Student Council are governed by a Constitution which provides guidelines, provisions and Articles to which the Student Council is to adhere to;

AND WHEREAS a constitution for the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council has been constructed to assist executive members, opposition members, and other elected members with specific responsibilities expected of them;

MOREOVER a constitution will create an opportunity for the Student Council to play a more significant role in the government of the school;

BE IT RESOLVED that an Act (called The RGHS Student Council Constitution Act of 2008) be passed by the Student Council and be signed into school policy Ratifying a Constitution for the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council.

THE CONSTITUTION

Article I -- Name

The name of the organization shall be Raymond E. Gardiner High School Student Council, henceforth to be referred to as Student Council.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the Student Council shall be to serve the student body of the Raymond Gardiner High School, voice student opinions to the administration of the school, to assist school functions and activities, as well as train students in leadership.

Article III – Powers Vested in the Student Council

Student Council shall have the authority to relay the opinions and needs of the students to the school administration and school community. Student Council shall be empowered to meet and to raise funds for its activities. The Student Council shall propose and debate Student Policy for the school and submit such policies to the Principal for consideration and implementation.

Article IV – Membership

The membership of the Student Council shall consist of the Student Body. Membership in the Student Body shall be limited to students currently enrolled in the Raymond Gardiner High School. The Student Council shall not be empowered to deny membership on the basis of sex, race, creed, or year in school.

Article V – Nomination and Election of Officers

Section 1: Conduct of Elections

Election of candidates for the executive offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Public Relations Officer and Treasurer shall take place during the first term of the Academic year. Nominations for candidates seeking an executive office must take place at least three weeks before the date of election. Election Day shall be the First Tuesday in the month of October. The Student Council Representatives will be chosen by their class during September of the New School Year. The Staff Advisors shall act as supervisors of elections.

Section 2: Criteria for Student Council Executive Candidacy

1. Candidates must have a signed list of students names (no less than twenty) in order to be nominated.
2. Candidates must submit to staff advisors two signed reference letter (one from a teacher and one from a community leader) recommending them for candidacy.
3. Candidates must presently have and maintain during their tenure in office at least a 55% average.
4. Candidates for the office of President must participate in one debate prior to the day of elections.
5. Candidates must schedule individual conferences with the advisors prior to the election
6. All campaign activities must be brought to staff advisors and administration before being carried out.
7. All candidates must have a clean record of No Suspensions or filed violations of breaking school rules.
8. All candidates must submit a statement of purpose prior to the elections.
9. All candidates for the office of President must accept the nomination for office in a five minutes speech to the Student Body.

Article VI – Duties and Responsibilities

Section 1: Student Council

The Student Council shall have the responsibility of fulfilling the purpose defined in Article II.

Section 2: Executive Board:

The Executive Board of the Student Council shall consist of the President, Vice President, Public Relations Officer, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Staff Advisors shall serve as Ex-officio members appointed by the Principal. Executive Board members shall keep records of all the business of the Student Council, represent the students as the highest body of student government, and uphold the standards of the Student Council at school functions; and community events. (Please note that the Student Council will have an opposition and its duties will be articulated further down in this constitution.)

Section 2 (subsection 1): The President

The President of the Student Council is the Chief Executive of the Student Council. He/she must act as the leader and chief voice of the council and student body.

The President duties are (and not limited to/ and with the permission of the Principal):

1. The President must meet with staff advisors and Principal on regular basis.
2. The President must familiarize him/herself with constitution of the Student Council.
3. The President shall represent students' interest, fault, or complaints to administration when warranted.
4. The President shall form committees to assist the School Administration and Student Council with planning of student activities and school functions.
5. The President shall consult with the leader of the Opposition on projects, initiatives and proposed Student Council Legislations.

Section 2 (subsection 2): The Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President in all of the above duties, in addition to:

1. Supervising committees (formed by the President) in the execution of all their duties.
2. Supervising the student legislations brought to the Council Chambers for debate and passage.
3. Refer to Article VII for further duties.

Section 3: The Opposition

An Opposition of no less than four students shall be appointed by the Principal on the advice of staff advisors to the Student Council. The Opposition shall represent the portion of the Student Body that did not vote for the Executive Board. The Opposition Members can be selected from candidates who were unsuccessful in their bid for Executive Board positions or students who can make significant contributions to the Student Council. The opposition's role is to challenge and oppose the Executive Board, reinforce the philosophy of democracy, as well as to provide an alternative view in the Student Council.

Section 3 (subsection 1): The Leader of the Opposition

The Candidate which obtained the second largest count of votes from the Student Body shall be appointed as leader of the Opposition. The Leader of the Opposition duties are (and not limited to):

1. The Leader of the Opposition must be the chief voice of the minority of the Student Body that did not vote for the President and his/her Executive Board.
2. He/She must consult with other members of the Opposition on a regular basis.
3. He/She must bring bills and proposals for consideration to the Council.

4. The Leader of the Opposition must familiarize himself/herself with the rules of order and standing orders of the Student Council by which the council meetings will be conducted.

Section 4: The Speaker of the Council

The Speaker of the Council shall be elected by the Council. The Speaker shall take office by appointment by the principal. The duties of the Speaker are:

1. The Speaker (with the assistance and advice of staff advisors) must conduct and moderate all Student Council Meetings
2. The Speaker keeps order during debate in the Council and rules on disputes concerning procedures.
3. It is the Speaker's role to ensure that debate in the Council progresses in an orderly fashion. The Speaker has the power to evict a member of the Council for disorderly behaviour.
4. When several members want to speak, the Speaker decides who gets the floor.

Section 5: Student Council Class Representatives

Each class at the Raymond Gardiner High School shall elect a student to serve as a representative in the Student Council. Such representatives henceforth shall be called Hon. Senators in the Student Council. On issues that require a vote by the General Assembly, the Senators are responsible for taking a vote in their respective forms prior to the convened Student Council meeting. Senators are responsible for bringing legislative proposals, ideas and views to the council on a regular basis.

Article VII – Impeachment

Any officer may be removed from office if he/she has not fulfilled his/her duties or has damaged the effectiveness and reputation of the Student Council. Impeachment of an officer may occur if:

1. A petition is signed by a two-third majority of the members of the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council and the petition is submitted to the staff advisors.
2. The Principal believes that a member of the Student Council has broken a code of conduct or fails to uphold the provisions of this constitution and actions warrant impeachment.
3. Member fails to work with advisors or Student Council and hinders its progress repetitively.
4. A member is disrespectful to a staff member or administrator.

A committee will be formed by the Student Council President, Leader of the Opposition, and staff advisors to execute the impeachment proceedings.

Article VIII – Filling of Vacated Offices

The Vice President shall assume the responsibilities of the President in the event that the President should vacate his/her office. The Leader of the Opposition may assume the office of President if he/she can command a two-thirds majority vote from the Student Council.

A motion calling for a "vote of no confidence" shall be made and voted on. If successful, the Leader of the Opposition will be sworn in as the new President of the Student Council. In the event that an officer other than the President shall vacate his/her office, a new officer shall be chosen by a majority of the Student Body. Candidates for vacated offices shall be required to fulfil the same requirements as those candidates running in the regular elections.

Article IX – Meetings

Section 1: Student Council

Regular meetings of the Student Council shall be conducted no less than three times per month. The Student Council shall be dissolved two to three weeks prior to election. The Student Council shall be convened one to two weeks after an election.

Section 2: Special Convened Sessions

Special Convened Sessions of the Student Council shall (and are not limited to) occur if:

1. The President or Leader of the Opposition expresses to the staff advisors concerns that warrant an emergency session.
2. A two-thirds majority of the Student Body expresses to their various representatives, the need for a meeting.
3. The Principal requests a special meeting to address the Student Council.
4. The Staff Advisors call a special session to address an emergency or give an update.
5. The President invites the Principal to make a presentation or address the Student Council.
6. The Administration requests a special meeting in honour of a special quest or official.

Section 3: Student Body

With the advice of the Staff Advisors and the permission of the Principal, the Student Council shall meet with the Student Body at least twice per term. During any meeting of the Student Body the staff advisors plus no less than two senior teachers must be present.

Article X – Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees

Standing Committees shall be defined as committees that operate throughout the year. The standing committees shall be established by the Executive Board during the first or second convened session of the Student Council after the installation and swearing in ceremony. Examples of such committees are: Staff Appreciation, Fund Raising, Disciplinary committee etc....

Section 2: Special Committees

Special Committees shall be defined as committees that operate once every year at a time prescribed by the Executive Board on the advice of the Student Council Senators. Examples of such committees are: Graduation, Education Week, Christmas celebrations, Valentines Day etc....

Article XI – Appendices

The appendices of this Constitution shall be (and not limited to) various guidelines for the conduct of Student Council meetings, Oaths of Office, Rules of Order and Standing Orders of the Council.

Appendix A

Oaths of Office

All Oaths of Office will be administered by the Principal of the Raymond E. Gardiner High School.

The President

I (Name of President Elect) do solemnly swear (or affirm) to execute the office of President of the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council with all the duties and power vested in the office of President. I promise to protect and defend the constitution of the Student Council and uphold its standards and creeds. I promise to aid and assist the Principal, staff, and Student Body in representing the integrity of this school; SO HELP ME GOD!

The Vice President

I (Name of Vice President Elect) do solemnly swear (or affirm) to execute the office of Vice President of the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Council with all the duties and power vested in the office of Vice President. I promise to protect and defend the constitution of the Student Council and uphold its standards and creeds. I promise to aid and assist the Principal, staff, and Student Body in representing the integrity of this school; SO HELP ME GOD!

The Leader of the Opposition

I (Name of the Leader of the Opposition) do solemnly affirm to execute the office of Leader of the Opposition of the RGHS Student Council with all the duties and power vested in the office. I promise to protect and defend the constitution of the Student Council and uphold its standards and creeds. I promise to provide fair opposition to the President when necessary and to assist him/her when needed. So Help God!

The Speaker of the Student Council

I (Speaker of the Council) do solemnly affirm to execute the office of Speaker of the RGHS Student Council with all the duties and power vested in the office of Speaker. I promise to protect and defend the constitution of the RGHS Student Council and uphold its standards and creeds. I promise to enforce all rules of orders and standing orders of the Council So Help Me God!

All other Student Council Members

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) to truthfully serve as a member of the Student Council and to execute the duties and powers vested in the office. I promise to protect and defend the Constitution of the Student Council and uphold its standards and creeds. SO HELP ME GOD!

Appendix B

Powers and Procedures of the Student Council

Section 1: Power to Recommend/Amend School Policies

Subject to this constitution, the Principal with the advice of the Student Council may choose to implement policies for the peace, order, and good governance of the Raymond Gardiner High School Student Body/General Assembly.

Section 1 (subsection 1): Introduction of Bills

Subject to this constitution and Standing Orders, any member may introduce any bill, propose any motion for debate in the Student Council, or may present any petition to the Student Council, and the same shall be debated and disposed of according to Standing Orders.

Section 1(subsection 2): Assent to Bills & Return of Bills

A bill shall not become school policy until:

The Principal has assented to it in the Student Council's name and on its behalf, and has signed it in token of the Student Body and Student Council.

The Principal has given his/her assent through the Secretary of the Student Council and the President of the Student Council has signified her assent by proclamation published in Student Council Meeting.

Return of Bills

The Principal may return to the Student Council any bill presented to him/her for his/her assent, transmitting with it any amendments which he/she may recommend, and the Student Council shall deal with such recommendation.

Section 2: Standing Orders of the Student Council Meetings

Subject to this constitution, the Student Council shall make, amend, and revoke Standing Orders for the regulation and orderly conduct of its own proceedings and for the passing, and numbering of bills and their presentation to the principal for assent.

Standing Orders made under this section may provide for the establishment of committees of the Student Council (in addition to the Standing Committees to be established under article 10, section 1 for committees.