

Dear Student Council Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the **KDO Student Council**! We are excited that you are considering getting involved and helping make KDO an even better place for our students and families.

## What Is Student Council?

KDO Student Council is a group of students who work together to serve our KDO community. Student Council gives students an opportunity to share ideas, help plan activities and events, encourage fellowship, and look for ways that we can improve KDO.

According to our Student Council Constitution, the purpose of Student Council is to:

- Improve KDO wherever and whenever possible
- Create and encourage opportunities for fellowship
- Serve KDO and, at times, the broader community
- Help create a positive learning environment
- Most importantly, glorify God through what we do

Student Council is not simply about planning fun activities. It is also about **service, leadership, responsibility, teamwork, and representing the students of KDO well.**

## How Is the Student Council Structured?

The Council works together to discuss ideas and make decisions. Some projects may involve the entire Student Council, while others may be handled by smaller committees or groups of students. ***\*\*To serve as president, vice president, secretary, treasurer or a committee chair (leader), you must have been a student council general body member for at least one school year.\*\****

This means that all first-time applicants will be expected to serve in the “Student Council General Body” their first year, and pick a committee or role to serve in as an assistant . Being on Student Council means that you will be expected to **participate**, not simply attend meetings. Members should be willing to contribute ideas, listen to others, help with projects, complete assigned responsibilities, and work cooperatively with other council members.

The committees and roles that exist within Student Council are the following:

- President: The president exists to complete and is responsible for the following duties: conducts meetings (and creates an agenda for those meetings), is regularly checking with committee chairs to gain solid understanding of operations and activities in Student Council, is a fill in for any chairs/co-chairs, works every other case with committee on

creating a verbal and written form of communication to SC, SC advisors, and most importantly KDO board (VP is the other turn), and is proactive in keeping operations moving within Student Council.

- Vice President: The Vice President conducts meetings when the president is absent. He or she meets with the president and committees to understand what is going on. When a reasonable schedule is agreed upon with the president, they will take turns completing a written proposal and also voice the proposal to the KDO board to receive approval on the event/ decisions planned to be implemented. The Vice President will also relay the communications' information to the board for inclusion in the weekly newsletter.
- Secretaries: The secretaries serve by taking meeting minutes, and keeping a record of attendance. They record notes during each meeting, and then format them into a Meeting Minutes report that is kept as part of the student council's permanent record. These minutes should be detailed, and include all discussions and decisions.
- Treasurers: Keep a ledger with all account activities including withdrawals and deposits. Work with chair members during the planning phase of activities on possible expenses which may be incurred.
- Service Committee: The service committee exists to formulate, facilitate, and carry out the service projects that Student Council is associated with. The members of the Service Committee are responsible for the devising of any service projects/opportunities. They would, in conjunction with the communication team, work with the necessary organizations and people to enable the service project to occur. The project would then be approved and budgeted (if necessary) by Student Council, the Advisors, and the Board. The members of the Service committee, along with general body members, would staff the service project.
- Fundraising Committee: The fundraising committee exists to raise money for KDO Student Council. They plan, organize, and carry out large fundraising events that incorporate the entire student body. They sometimes collaborate with the social and service committees to plan small initiatives that can go along with the service and social events.
- Social Committee: The Social Committees' ultimate goal is to be in direct communication with the KDO student body, discerning what they enjoy, dislike, or wish for improvement in. In turn, they hold events that unite the students into one body, with many members working for one goal, in order to improve the childhood experience for the average KDO student.
- Communications Committee: The Communications Committee organizes weekly lunch announcers and keeps the Student Council updated on weekly events. They gather the announcements from the KDO weekly email to send to lunch announcers and the rest of the Student Council body. They also gather ideas that the other committees (such as the social and fundraising) come up with (such as KDO event ideas or possible fundraisers

for SC) to keep the entire Student Council body informed of what is happening in the other committees.

- Constitution Committee: It is the role of the KDO Student Council Constitution Creation and Amendment Committee to create a constitution for the procedures of the Student Council by collecting the procedural decisions of the Council that have passed a vote of the Council, and writing these decisions as a single document to be approved as an official Student Council Constitution.
  - It is also the role of the KDO Student Council Constitution Creation and Amendment Committee to take ideas for amendments to the Constitution and prepare a written form of the amendment to be voted on by the whole Student Council; and to, if the amendment passes the vote, add the amendment to the Constitution.

## How Do Student Council Ideas Become Reality?

The Student Council has the opportunity to develop ideas, but there is also an important process for making sure our plans are responsible and appropriate for KDO.

For events or projects that involve spending money, an idea must first be developed into a **written plan**, including a financial plan when necessary.

The plan is then presented to the Student Council. Council members discuss it and vote on it, and a **two-thirds vote** is required for it to move forward.

After Student Council approval, the proposal is presented to the **Student Council advisers** for approval. If approved by the advisers, it is then presented to the **KDO Board** for final authorization.

This process allows students to have a meaningful role in developing ideas and making decisions while also working within the leadership structure of KDO.

## What Does It Mean to Be a Student Council Member?

The Student Council works best when its members are willing to be involved. We are looking for students who are willing to:

- Attend and participate in meetings: Student Council will meet the 3rd Thursday of each month, beginning October 15, from 2:30-3:30, at Genesis Church (exact room is TBD).
  - There will also be occasional lunch meetings, as needed for special events or circumstances
- Share ideas and respectfully listen to the ideas of others
- Work cooperatively as part of a team
- Help plan and carry out activities and projects

- Take responsibility for assigned tasks
- Follow through when they make a commitment
- Represent KDO and Student Council in a positive way
- Look for opportunities to serve rather than simply opportunities to lead
- Be respectful of the decisions made by the Council, advisers, and KDO leadership

You do **not** need to be the loudest person in the room or already consider yourself a leader to be a valuable member of Student Council. We need many different kinds of students—students who have creative ideas, students who are organized, students who enjoy helping behind the scenes, students who are good listeners, and students who are willing to work.

What matters most is that you are willing to **participate, serve, and contribute**.

## Interested in Joining?

To be considered for the student council, please complete an application. Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Miles will complete an initial screening to verify that you are a student who is in good standing with your teachers and KDO. After the initial screening, we will remove your name from the application, and anonymous applications will be passed to the student council for them to vote on new members. Again, current student council members will not see names on the applications when they vote, so it is very important that you represent yourself well on the application. As you complete your Student Council application, think about why you would like to serve and what you could contribute to the Council.

Consider the following questions:

**What ideas do you have for making KDO better?**

**How could you help create fellowship among KDO students?**

**What strengths or abilities could you contribute to the Student Council?**

**Are you willing to commit your time and effort to helping turn ideas into actual events, projects, and service?**

Student Council can be a lot of fun, but it is also an opportunity to serve others, grow as a leader, and take an active role in the KDO community.

We look forward to learning more about you and hearing your ideas!

**Mrs. Stephens & Mrs. Miles**  
KDO Student Council Advisors