



# HAMILTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Date: 21 October 2009

## Student Council's functions

The key principle of all authority structures within the biblical worldview is the Kingship of Christ (Romans 13 and Psalm 2:6). As such this means that all human institutions ought to bow to the crown rights of King Jesus. Those in positions of authority lead through service to others following the example of the Lord Jesus.

The functions therefore of a Student Council at Hamilton Christian School are:

- To promote and protect the Lordship of Christ over every aspect of life at HCS.
- To encourage students to excellence in attitude and academics and to faithful service as servants of Christ.
- To provide servant leadership and direction to the student body as it seeks to glorify God in the various activities of the school community.
- To assist and advise the school management and teaching staff in fulfilling the Mission Statement of HCS.
- To promote the life of the community of faith and learning through organization of educational, spiritual, recreational, cultural, sporting and entertainment activities (roundtables and forums, debates, prayer meetings, Bible studies, fundraising, clubs, inter-house sports and other competitions, concerts, picnics, excursions, senior banquet etc.).
- To mentor other students and be examples of godly student leadership.
- To be an example to other students of what it means to be a committed Christian (I Tim 4:12).
- To liaise with external institutions and organizations that deal with youth.

## Student Council's composition

The Student Council will be composed of the following:

- Head Boy and Head Girl (who will chair and vice-chair the Council)
- Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl (The alternate candidates from the duos for Head Boy/Girl.)
- The four House Captains
- An advisor appointed by Senior Management.

The Council is to appoint from its membership the following officers:

- A Chairperson to set the agenda for each meeting, and chair the proceedings.
- A Vice-Chairperson to deputise in the absence of the Chairperson.

- A Secretary to take care of all correspondence and maintain the records and minutes of the Council.
- A Treasurer to maintain accurate records of all monies received or disbursed by the Council. All payments are to be authorised by both the Treasurer and the Advisor. The accounts are to be audited by the Bursar and a nominated Year 13 student once each year.

## **Student Council meetings**

- The Student Council is to meet at least once each fortnight.
- The place and time of the meeting is to be posted on the student noticeboard and notified with an agenda to the Advisor at least two school days notice.
- A quorum will be deemed to exist when either the Chair or Vice-Chair and five others are present.
- Each meeting is to open and close with prayer and should include a short devotion from Scripture prepared by one of the members.
- Only members of the Council have speaking and voting rights but the right to speak can be granted to others by majority vote.
- Minutes of each meeting are to be sent to each member of the Council and a copy to the Principal.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ (Principal) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix: Head Student Selection Process

The Head Boy and Head Girl have an important role to play in the school community, particularly as they are the main student role models for other students. Their leadership of the Student Council will give them significant opportunities to lead by serving the school community. It follows that the selection process should avoid being dictated by popular choice but that there should be a thoughtful evaluation of candidates as to their suitability for the office. Student input is to be taken into account but is not to be determinative. The following process has been developed to achieve our objectives as a school:

- 1) Nominations for Head Boy and Girl are sought from the student body. This process is managed by the Deputy Principal and is carried out late in term 3. A shortlist of candidates is prepared with any comments. This is distributed to all secondary teachers, and the senior management.
- 2) The Deputy Principal is to arrange for the shortlist to be interviewed by the teaching staff late in term 3 or early term 4. Out of that process, a 'duo' (two acceptable candidates) for each role is recommended to the Senior Management Team for ratification. This is crucial as the both the duo candidates must be considered as suitable by staff. If there is only one suitable candidate then that person is appointed.
- 3) The candidates on the 'duo' are to give personal presentations and answer questions one lunch break for interested students prior to a vote being taken by the students present. Yr11-13 votes will have a weighting twice that of students from Yr 10 and below. The results of this vote will select which of the duo is to be appointed as Head Boy/Girl. The other candidate from the duo will automatically serve on the Student Council as Deputy Head Boy/Girl.
- 4) The Board is to be informed by its November meeting of the outcome of this process.
- 5) The appointments will be announced to the school community once the Board has been notified.

House Captains will be appointed by teachers from applications from the student body once the head students have been finalized.