

# PALMETTO MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Student Government Application 2024-2025

### Do you want to be a part of the Palmetto Middle School Student Government?

#### About the PMS Student Gov't

- Do you want to make a difference? Do you want school to be an even more fun and exciting place to be? Are you willing to make a difference in your school and community? Student Government does all of those things and more!

#### Who Can Participate?

The PMS Student Government will consist of representatives from each homeroom and officers from 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

- **PRESIDENT** – The President oversees the student government, along with Mrs. Figueiras, Student Government Sponsor. This is a student who can lead, work well with others, and possesses great organizational skills. The President is responsible for planning for goals, activities, and projects. They will work with the Sponsor to create meeting agendas and help lead each meeting. They will represent PMS at events as necessary. **\*\*8<sup>th</sup> Grade position only**
- **VICE PRESIDENT** – The Vice President is a student who is responsible, organized and has good time management skills. The Vice President will assume responsibilities when the President is absent. They will collaborate with the President and the Sponsor in the planning of goals, activities, and projects. **\*\*8<sup>th</sup> Grade position only**
- **SECRETARY** – The Secretary is a student that has exceptional notetaking and organization skills. This position is responsible for taking accurate notes (minutes) at each meeting and reporting those minutes to the student council before, during or after the meetings, as necessary. This includes taking attendance of all council members at each meeting and event.
- **HISTORIANS** – The historian is a student who has knowledge of camera equipment, video equipment, and journaling/creative writing. The Historian is responsible for documenting the important events for the Student Government; this will involve taking photographs or taking notes and keeping a journal and using social media. **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade position- One from each grade**
- **SPIRIT DIRECTORS** – The Spirit Director is a student that is enthusiastic, has a positive attitude, and shows a regular presence at school events. They will lead spirit days, pep rallies, and other spirit activities, as necessary. This position will also work with the Historian to capture school spirit through various media (photographs, video, etc.) **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade position- One from each grade**
- **6<sup>th</sup> GRADE CHAIRS**- The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Chairs are responsible for representing the sixth-grade students and assisting the officers at meetings and events.

- Qualities necessary for any member on Student Government are:

- **Leadership skills** – Are you willing to lead committees and be a representative for your class?
- **Creative** – Are you able to think of new and exciting activities and fundraisers for the student council?
- **Communicative** – Are you able to share ideas with other Student Government members, your class and all middle school?
- **Team player** – Are you willing to work as a team to generate ideas and organize events for the Student Council?
- **Responsibility** – Are you responsible and reliable for running activities throughout the school year?
- **Commitment** – Are you committed to attending meetings, events and making PMS the best middle school in Miami-Dade County?
  - This is a yearlong club. If you commit to being an officer, you will be expected to participate in all meetings for the remainder of the year. This can include meetings before and after school, lunch meetings, community service events and school activities.

### **When & Where Does Student Government Meet?**

During the school year we will have meetings scheduled as needed. Meetings will take place in room 207.

### **Application Timeline**

- Thursday September 12, 2024 @ 4:00 pm – Deadline for submission of completed packet to Mrs. Figueiras.
- NO packets will be accepted after the deadline.
- Eligible students will be notified by Friday, September 13, and must attend the meeting to review campaigning regulations.

**Completed packets due to Mrs. Figueiras  
by Thursday, September 12th, no later than 4:00pm.**

### **CAMPAIGN & ELECTION WEEK**

- Monday, September 16 through Monday, September 23 – Campaigning.
- Campaign speeches will be aired on the morning announcements the week of campaigning.
- Candidates may create up to 2 posters to hang in the cafeteria. Posters may not exceed the regular poster board size, 24 x 36 inches and must be turned into Mrs. Figueiras for approval and placement.
- Stickers, buttons, flyers, voting incentives and social media campaigning are not permitted and will result in immediate disqualification from running.
- Wednesday, September 25. Voting will take place during Homeroom period.
- Results will be announced Friday, September 27.

**Student Government Parent Permission Slip**

Student Name:

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Homeroom teacher:

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Dear Parents or Guardians,

Your child is interested in running for a Student Government Officer position. During our meeting times, students will plan and prepare for school events throughout the school year. At times, your child may be asked to attend additional school meetings or activities as well. We will inform you of these events as they arise.

Students interested in Student Council should consider the following guidelines and rules:

**Student Council Representative Responsibilities**

1. Attend ALL scheduled meetings. Three unexcused absences will result in dismissal from the Council.
2. Act responsibly at all meetings and activities/events and as a leader at PMS.
3. Meet attendance, academics, and behavior criteria.
4. Solicit input from your grade level peers. You are THEIR representative.
5. Attend all committee meetings and perform all assigned responsibilities at activities/events.

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to campaign for Student Government. I have read and understand the rules and guidelines for Student Government Officers.

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Parent Signature

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Date

Students:

- You must meet academic, behavior and attendance criteria.
- You must obtain **2 CURRENT** teacher recommendations.
- You must adhere to the campaigning rules as stipulated in the application packet.

I understand all the rules and responsibilities of running and potentially being elected as a Student Government Officer.

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Student Signature

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Date

# Student Government Application

**Directions:** Please answer the following questions utilizing your best writing and thinking skills. Give the questions serious thought before answering. You may use the back of this sheet to finish answers, or you may use a separate sheet of paper.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Officer Position Running For: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Tell about yourself. What type of leadership experiences have you had both in school and in the community?

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2. If you could make ONE improvement at PMS, what would it be and why?

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3. How do you respond when people do not agree with your ideas?

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4. What makes you the best candidate for the position that you are applying for?

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5. If you could create one school event, what would it be and why?

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## Teacher Recommendation Form #1

**To the Applicant:** Please give this form to a current teacher.

**To the Teacher:** Please complete the following recommendation by evaluating the candidate on the criteria located on this form. **Please return the form to Mrs. Figueiras in room 207, DO NOT GIVE BACK TO STUDENT.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria:	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent
Academic performance				
Attendance				
Behavior in class				
Participation in class				
Preparation for class				
Leadership potential				
Positive relationship with peers				
Ability to work with others				
Communicates effectively with adults				
Creative thinking				
Critical thinking and problem-solving skills				
Organizational and time-management skills				
Honesty and integrity				

Please provide any additional comments below regarding the student's character and leadership ability, if needed:

## Teacher Recommendation Form #2

**To the Applicant:** Please give this form to a current teacher.

**To the Teacher:** Please complete the following recommendation by evaluating the candidate on the criteria located on this form. **Please return the form to Mrs. Figueiras in room 207, DO NOT GIVE BACK TO STUDENT.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria:	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent
Academic performance				
Attendance				
Behavior in class				
Participation in class				
Preparation for class				
Leadership potential				
Positive relationship with peers				
Ability to work with others				
Communicates effectively with adults				
Creative thinking				
Critical thinking and problem-solving skills				
Organizational and time-management skills				
Honesty and integrity				

Please provide any additional comments below regarding the student's character and leadership ability, if needed: