

Virginia Student Councils Association 2024–2025 Advisory Committee Elections Forms



Inside please find information and forms for elections for the 2024–2025 VSCA Advisory Committee. Elections will be held at the

97th Annual VSCA State Convention
March 15–16, 2024
Courtland High School

Elections will be held for the following positions:

VSCA President School (Student must be a rising senior)

VSCA Vice-President School (Student must be a rising junior or senior)

VSCA Secretary School (Student must be a rising sophomore-senior)

VSCA High School Representative School (8 positions available)

VSCA Middle Level Representative School (3 positions available)

VSCA Elementary Level Representative School (3 positions available)

All positions will be filled by member schools. Schools, once elected, will be represented on the VSCA Advisory Committee by a student and the school's SCA adviser, who will be jointly responsible for fulfilling all duties of office. See inside for details, or log onto www.scaleader.org to view the VSCA Bylaws and Policies.

All candidate forms must be received by January 19, 2024
Send completed PDF to LFiscus@scaleader.org

Election Checklist

Be certain to have the following forms emailed to LFiscus@scaleader.org by January 19, 2024 (in one virtual packet):

- Complete Candidate School Application* (***Be sure you meet the criteria for the office to which you aspire***)
- Complete School/Student Resume Flyer to be presented at Meet the Candidates (see “Election Procedures” for details)*
- Signatures (Forms require signatures of the principal, advisor, student)*
- Availability to attend mandatory candidate’s meeting at 1:00 p.m. Friday, March 15, 2024*

Things to bring to Convention:

- Campaign presentation (limited to a total length of 3 minutes; this may include the speech, skit, PowerPoint, video, etc. Only students from the candidate school may be involved.)*
- Campaign budget (see “Election Procedures” for details)*
- One campaign poster or a tri-fold board poster.
- Flyer with school and student resumes including student picture

** Failure to include these marked items or to attend the meeting may result in candidate disqualification.*



VIRGINIA STUDENT COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

2024–2025 Candidate School Application and Student Representative Form

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

School Phone: (_____) _____ Adviser E-mail: _____

Division/District _____ VSCA Region: _____

Please indicate the Office your school is seeking for the 2024–2025 term.

___ VSCA President School

___ VSCA Regional Representative School

___ VSCA Vice-President School

___ VSCA Middle Level Representative School

___ VSCA Secretary School

___ VSCA Elementary Level Representative School

Is your school interested in hosting the 2025 VSCA State Convention? YES NO

Candidate Name: _____

Rising Grade (2024–2025): _____ Candidate GPA: _____ Candidate shirt size: _____

Home Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: (_____) _____ Candidate Email: _____

Parliamentary Procedure Training Hours: _____ (Two hours are required for all Officer School Candidates)

List VSCA Programs student candidate has attended (Two programs required for all Officer School Candidates)

1.

2.

3.

SCHOOL/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

I understand that if elected I, along with my school, will be responsible for fulfilling the duties of office as outlined in this election packet to the best of our abilities.

I understand that if elected, my school's student council adviser and student representative will be responsible for attending three to four (3-4) meetings for the purposes of assisting with planning for the Virginia Student Councils Association, including summer camps, regional programs, recognition and awards programs and the 2024 VSCA State Convention. In addition, officer schools are expected to attend the NASC National Convention. Students who are unable to meet these expectations are to notify their SCA Adviser as soon as possible.

Our school agrees to abide by the regulations established by the Virginia Student Councils Association (VSCA) with regard to election campaigning, to be prepared with a three-minute presentation to be given during a session of the VSCA State Convention, and to participate in the program as necessary.

I understand the importance of this position, and recognize that if our school is unable to fulfill the duties of the office to which it is elected, it may be necessary for our school to vacate the office.

(please check) **Our school has an active student council and is a member of the Virginia Student Councils Association. (Please call VSCA at 804-355-4263 if you are unsure of your school's membership status.)**

Please email *Candidate School Application*, *Student Representative Form*, and *School/Student Resume Flyer* in one virtual packet. Faxed copies will not be accepted. Incomplete packets, including those missing signatures, will not be accepted.

I certify that the above information is true and accurate to the best of my ability, and that the student indicated above is an active member of our school's SCA as determined by the SCA Adviser. I understand that this student, if elected, will serve in collaboration with the SCA Adviser to fulfill the duties of office in the position that is being sought. If at any time this student is unable to carry out the duties of office, or no longer meets the qualifications for office, our school will find a qualified student to fill the position, or vacate the position. I understand that this position may require attendance at 3-4 Advisory Committee meetings, the VSCA State Convention, the appropriate VSCA Summer Leadership Workshop, VSCA Regional Workshops, and other VSCA events.

Student: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

SCA Adviser: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Election forms must be submitted by January 22, 2024 in PDF format with all required signatures to:

LFiscus@scaleader.org

Officer Schools—Qualifications for Candidacy and Duties of Office

Qualifications for Officer Candidate Schools:

- a. A candidate school shall have been a member of VSCA the school year preceding its nomination and shall be a current member.
- b. A school may hold only one office at a time. A school shall not hold consecutive terms as the same officer school.
- c. The candidate school shall file, with the office of the VASSP Department of Student Leadership, a properly completed candidate school application. This application shall be signed by the Principal of the school and submitted to the VSCA State Office by the stated deadline.
- d. Candidate schools and candidates are required to have attended an annual Convention previous to the one he/she is running.
- e. Candidates must be current members of the VSCA Advisory Committee.
- f. Should an office receive fewer than two qualified candidates by the stated deadline, a Call for Additional Candidates with a subsequent deadline will be announced.

Qualifications for Student Representatives from Officer Candidate Schools

The following provisions shall govern the qualifications and eligibility of persons to be student officers of the VSCA:

- a. Candidates for the office of President shall be a rising 12th grader.
- b. Candidates for the office of Vice President shall be a rising 11th-12th grader.
- c. Candidates for Secretary shall be a rising 10th-12th grader.
- d. Candidates must currently be an active member of the Officer School's SCA as determined by the SCA adviser.
- e. A member school may nominate only one (1) student for state office and only one (1) student to serve as a regional representative in a given year.
- f. During the annual Convention, nominations from the floor shall be permitted only in the event that there are less than two (2) candidates for the position for which the nomination is being made. Candidates nominated from the floor shall have submitted the required elections application no less than three (3) days prior to the opening of Convention.
- g. The candidate must be free of any violations of the VSCA Code of Conduct.
- h. Each candidate shall have had at least two (2) hours of training in parliamentary procedure and agree to attend a parliamentary procedure training session sponsored by the VSCA.
- i. Each candidate shall be required to have a minimum "C" Grade Point Average or its equivalent and be a student in good standing as determined by the School Principal.
- j. Each candidate must be current members of the VSCA Advisory Committee.
- k. Each candidate must have attended an Annual Convention previous to the one he/she is running, and at least one of the following: a Summer Leadership Workshop, a national conference, an area leadership conference, or a Regional Meeting in addition to those regional meetings held at Summer Leadership Workshops and Annual Convention.
- l. Only those students who meet the foregoing qualifications and who have the appropriate signed consents to stand for election to an office shall be nominated for or elected to such an office.

Officer School Duties

All duties of officer students will be conducted by students in collaboration with the SCA adviser.

President School duties:

- a. to preside over the VSCA Annual Convention;
- b. to chair VSCA Advisory Committee Meetings and VSCA Executive Committee Meetings;
- c. to attend the VSCA Summer Leadership workshop and at least one Regional Workshop;
- d. to serve as liaison between the VSCA Advisory Committee and the VASSP Board of Directors;
- e. to represent the VSCA at the National Association of Student Councils (NASC) National Conference, if possible;
- f. to chair the Convention subcommittee;
- g. to nominate members to the positions of Historian and Membership Coordinator;
- h. to serve as an ex-officio member of all other standing committees;
- i. to prepare reports of activities of the VSCA Advisory Committee;
- j. to have first choice to host the annual VSCA Convention. If the president school does not wish to host, the choice will fall to the vice president school. The decision will then fall to the secretary school if the latter also does not want to host. Should no executive officer schools desire to host, any Advisory Board school is welcome to apply. The application process will transpire immediately after the given year's convention, and applications will be due May 1. The application will then be reviewed at the first Advisory Committee Meeting of the year. A vote of the Executive Committee will finalize the convention's host school.
- k. to perform other duties as applicable to the office as prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Association.

Vice-President School duties:

- a. to assume the duties of the President when necessary;
- b. to assume responsibilities and duties assigned by the President;
- c. to attend the VSCA Annual Convention, Summer Leadership Workshop, VSCA Advisory Committee meetings, and Executive Committee meetings and at least one Regional Workshop;
- d. to represent the VSCA at the National Association of Student Councils (NASC) National Conference, if possible;
- e. to chair the spirit subcommittee;
- f. to lead and teach all energizers at all VSCA meetings;
- g. to serve as a voting member of the VSCA Advisory Committee;
- h. to compile spirit materials for availability to regions;
- i. to prepare reports of activities for the VSCA Advisory Committee;
- j. to have the second choice to host the VSCA annual convention, if desired; and
- k. to perform other duties as applicable to the office as prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by the VSCA.

Secretary School duties:

- a. to assume responsibilities and duties assigned by the President;
- b. in the absence of the President and Vice-President, to call the meeting to order and preside until the immediate election of a Chairman pro tem;
- c. to attend the VSCA Annual Convention, Summer Leadership Workshop, VSCA Advisory Committee meetings, Executive Committee meetings and at least one Regional Workshop;

- d. to represent the VSCA at the National Association of Student Councils (NASC) National Conference, if possible;
- e. to serve as Chair of the Communications Committee;
- f. to maintain attendance records and accurate minutes of all VSCA Advisory Committee and Executive Committee meetings;
- g. to submit typed minutes within 20 days to the state director in order that they be distributed to all VSCA Advisory Committee members in a timely manner;
- h. to serve as a voting member of the VSCA Advisory Committee;
- i. to compile spirit materials for availability to regions;
- j. to furnish committees with documents that are required for the performance of their duties and to have at each meeting a list of all committees and their members;
- k. to maintain a record book in which bylaws, special rules of order, standing rules, and minutes are entered, with any amendments to these documents properly recorded, and to have this book at every meeting;
- l. to prepare reports of the activities of the VSCA Advisory Committee;
- m. to have the third choice to host the VSCA annual convention, if desired; and
- n. to perform other duties as applicable to the office as prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by the VSCA.

Representative Schools—Qualifications for Candidacy and Duties of Office

Elementary or Middle Level Representative Schools

Qualifications for student representative of an Elementary or Middle Level Representative School

- a. Candidates must currently be an active member of the Officer School's SCA as determined by the SCA adviser.
- b. The candidate must be free of any violations of the VSCA Code of Conduct.
- c. Each candidate shall be required to have a minimum "C" Grade Point Average or its equivalent.
- d. Each candidate must be a student in good standing as determined by the School's Principal.
- e. Only those students who meet the foregoing qualifications and who have the appropriate signed consents to stand for election to an office shall be nominated for or elected to such an office.

Elementary Level Representative School Duties

- a. to attend Elementary and Middle School Workshop;
- b. to represent the interests of Elementary School on Advisory committee;
- c. to assist with the regional/state meeting at camp;
- d. to promote membership throughout their area by conducting a membership drive;
- e. to serve as a voting member of the VSCA Advisory Committee;
- f. to arrange for an elementary school workshop at Convention; and
- g. to submit at least one article related to elementary school student councils for publication.

Middle Level Representative School Duties

- a. to attend Elementary and Middle School Workshop
- b. to represent the interests of Middle Schools on VSCA Advisory Committee;
- c. to assist with the regional/state meeting at camp;
- d. to promote membership throughout their area by conducting a membership drive;
- e. to serve as a voting member of the VSCA Advisory Committee;
- f. to arrange for a middle school workshop at Convention; and
- g. to submit at least one article related to middle school student councils for publication.

Regional Representative High Schools

Qualifications for student representative of Regional Representative Schools

The following provisions shall govern the qualifications and eligibility of persons to be student Regional Representatives of the VSCA:

- a. A member school may nominate only one (1) student for state office and only one (1) student to serve as a regional representative in a given year.
- b. The candidate must be free of any violations of the VSCA Code of Conduct.
- c. Each candidate shall be required to have a minimum "C" Grade Point Average or its equivalent.
- d. Each candidate must be a student in good standing as determined by the School's Principal.
- e. Each student must be an active member of the candidate school's SCA as determined by the SCA adviser.
- f. Each candidate school must be current members of the VSCA Advisory Committee.
- g. Only those students who meet the foregoing qualifications and who have the appropriate signed consents to stand for election to an office shall be nominated for or elected to such an office.

Duties of the Regional Representatives School:

- a. to promote the VSCA throughout the region;
- b. to serve as a voting member of the VSCA Advisory Committee. Votes shall be cast by the student representative after consultation with his or her SCA adviser;

- c. to assist in membership recruitment within the region and serve as a consultant to individual schools within that region;
- d. to conduct the regional meetings at the VSCA Regional Meetings and Annual Convention;
- e. to organize and chair a planning session for the Regional Leadership Workshops (include Regional Hosts, Regional Coordinators, and Regional Representatives);
- f. to plan and execute activities for the Regional Leadership Workshops according to VSCA guidelines;
- g. to lead seminars at the VSCA Regional Meetings when requested;
- h. to attend the VSCA Regional Meetings, Annual Convention, and Summer Leadership Workshops;
- i. to communicate and network with other regional representatives;
- j. to submit at least one article related to high school student councils for publication; and
- k. to perform other duties as applicable to the office as prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Association.

Election Procedures

The School and Student Resume Flyer

- a. Each school shall submit a flyer including the student and school resume outlining their SCA experience and qualifications for office.
- b. The flyer must include a picture of the student representative.
- c. All resumes shall be submitted in PDF format as part of the application process and will be posted on the convention website. Resumes may be distributed to schools attending the annual convention at the Meet the Candidates session.
- d. The resume may include such topics as SCA experience, awards received, participation in local, regional, state, and national activities, community service projects, and school service projects.
- e. *The resume/flyer is limited to one 8 ½ x 11" page front and back.*

The Campaign

- a. Each officer candidate school is to submit to the Elections Committee an official campaign budget signed by the school's SCA adviser. This budget must include **all** campaign expenses including the regular retail value of any materials donated to or supplied at a special reduced price to the candidate. This is to include all campaign activity whether conducted at the local, regional, or state level, either before or during the time of the Annual Convention. The total expenses are not to exceed \$50.00 for Officer Candidate Schools or \$30.00 for Representative Schools. **Submitting a fraudulent budget is grounds for disqualification of the officer candidate school.**
- b. **Campaigning may not begin until after the officer candidate school has been approved by the Elections Committee. Social media may be used to announce your campaign once you get the confirmation email from the VSCA stating you have been approved.**
- c. Each candidate's campaign platform and activities are entirely dependent upon the school's initiative and imagination. However, no disruption or conflict with the schedule of the state convention will be permitted.
- d. Each student representative of a candidate school must be prepared to give up to a **three** minute presentation at one of the convention sessions. Any campaign speeches, skits, or performances must be counted as part of these three minutes. Candidates are encouraged to use creative methods of communication for their presentation.
- f. The only campaign accessory is the resume flyer. It will be disclosed on the campaign budget (\$0.02 per paper copy and \$0.04 per cardstock copy or a receipt from the printing company).
- g. All donated materials must be included in the budget (markers, ink, paint, letters, etc).
- h. During Meet the Candidates, only the school adviser, candidate, and one other school member will be allowed in the booth area to campaign and hand out the flyers.

The Election

- a. All elections shall take place at the Annual Convention.
- b. The voting body shall consist of three (3) student voting delegates per school. Each member of the voting body may cast one (1) vote per office.
- c. The vote shall be conducted by written or online ballot.
- d. The school/student receiving the most votes will win the election. In the event that there is a tie after the first ballot, there shall be a run-off election of the tied candidates that received the highest number of votes in the first election.
- e. The vote shall be conducted under the supervision of the Elections Committee.

Election of Middle Level and Elementary Level Representative Schools: There may be up to three Middle and Elementary Level Representatives. This will be determined by the three candidates receiving the most votes in the election.