



Election Guidelines For Candidate Schools

I. ELECTION DOCUMENTS:

- A. Turn in Declaration of Candidacy Form by deadline
- B. Turn in Campaign Theme Sheet by deadline
- C. Turn in Intent to Run Form by deadline

II. GOALS

Campaign rules are established with several goals in mind:

- A. To “equalize” opportunities for running for office among different sized schools of varying financial situations.
- B. To prevent unethical conduct
- C. To allow each candidate an opportunity to present its views.
- D. To prevent damage to the physical facilities, etc.

III. CANDIDACY

Notice of candidacy must arrive at the Parliamentarian school no later than forty-five days prior to the election and be verified by the signatures of the principal and advisor of the candidate school. A copy of the platform and theme must also be enclosed.

Candidacy is for the whole student council from the campus; not for an individual from the campus. All campaign items and activity, including the skit, should reflect this.

The winning school promises to attend all AASC meetings, activities and workshops. The winning school also promises to have a student representative and sponsor work with the AASC executive board for all meetings, activities and workshops.

IV. CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Campaign expenditures for a candidate school must be limited to the amount determined by the executive board. This includes any items distributed to any school.

- A. Any item distributed by another school/organization for a school's campaign shall be charged against the amount permitted.
- B. All props purchased specifically for use in the campaign or skit must be charged as part of the campaign expenses. Any prop borrowed for the campaign skit will not be charged as campaign expense providing that the prop has a "commonly" accepted school and family use other than the campaign skit. The following are examples of items that could be utilized at no expense: tricycles, CD players, mascot uniforms, band instruments, cardboard boxes, etc.

V. CAMPAIGN MATERIALS

A. WHAT CAN BE USED:

1. All banners, posters, and campaign materials must be checked and approved by the Parliamentarian school student officer and sponsor at the time indicated at the convention.
2. Noisemakers, musical instruments, amplifiers, and other approved demonstration materials may be used during the political demonstration.
3. Helium or any other lighter-than-air gas must not be used to fill balloons.
4. Confetti-type materials may not be used during the political rally.
5. Gum label material may not be used.

B. WHERE AND WHEN CAN CAMPAIGN MATERIALS BE USED:

1. Campaign materials may not be posted in certain specified places at the convention site (or slipped under the doors of individual rooms or cabins). In other words, campaign materials may **ONLY** be used in areas specified by the Parliamentarian school.
2. Handouts and other distributions may be made at the convention site according to the program schedule, provided it does not interfere with any of the other convention activities. No distribution of material may take place in the general session room at any time.
3. Candidate novelty items may be distributed during the political demonstration as long as they do not interfere any way with the activities being conducted. Approval for novelties must be secured before you order them.
4. Nothing is to be thrown into the audience during the rally. All handouts or giveaways are to be passed hand-to-hand.
5. Election posters and signs may not be displayed prior to the campaign time given for all candidate schools. When campaigning set-up time is given, it is on a first-come, first-served basis for each school's location.
6. It is forbidden for any school to deface or remove election materials except as specified in the Election Guidelines.
7. All election materials in the convention area must be neatly removed and the area polished and cleaned before the results of the elections are announced.

C. HOW CAN CAMPAIGN MATERIALS BE HUNG:

1. Candidate schools must furnish their own materials including masking tape, posters, etc.
2. When signs and posters are hung at the convention site, such signs and posters must be removed by the persons hanging them.
3. No hooks, screws, or nails may be attached to any surface. Masking tape is the only acceptable means of attaching signs, other than banners which may be hung with wire or string.
4. No items may be hung from light fixtures, air conditioners, air supply ducts, return air grills, or diffusers.
5. No exit is to be obstructed by anything.
6. No exit light or fixture is to be blackened out or have its original line of site altered. No lighting circuits or extensions are to be plugged into any exit light fixture or socket.
7. If damage is done to the real estate, the school liable for the damage will be liable for the expense.

VI. CAMPAIGN SKIT

- A. Each candidate school shall be allowed only 10 minutes during which time nominating, seconding, acceptance speeches may be made, and all campaign skits are to be performed.
 1. Each school will receive a silent notification after 9 ½ minutes. They will then have 30 seconds to complete all presentations. At this time the Parliamentarian School will announce “Your time has expired.” Any continuation of presentation beyond five seconds after notifications will result in disqualification.
 2. Any mechanical or technical delay, upon request of the sponsor immediately upon occurrence, will allow for an extension equal to that amount of lost to be added to the presentation.
 3. Please remember that audience reaction will be included as part of the 10 minute skit time. Also, allow time for movement to and from the microphone.
- B. Any report of suspected campaign rule violations should be made to the Parliamentarian. Depending upon the severity of the alleged violation, the offending school may be asked to correct the infraction or to report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will take whatever action is deemed appropriate. A school’s name may be removed from the ballot if the violation is intentional or flagrant.
- C. Each candidate school should avoid using any questionable materials or procedures that circumvent the intent of campaign rules. Such items may include, but not be limited to: sexual innuendo, gestures, posturing, dress or costuming, props, or oral expression that may be interpreted as improper by the Executive Committee. This also applies to song

lyrics. Such occurrences may be cause for disqualification of the candidate school as determined by the Executive Committee.

- D. Candidate schools are only allowed to have 10 participants for campaigning, skits, set-up, etc., even if more students are brought to the convention. If a school has a current AASC officer, he or she is not to be a part of his or her school's campaign.

VII. RUN-OFF

- A. If a run-off election is needed, further campaigning is permitted, but no podium time will be assigned; therefore, formal speeches and/or additional handouts must be included in the expense report and may not exceed the amount determined.
- B. Changes may be needed depending upon the number of candidate schools or special rules at the convention site. Candidates will be notified of any changes by the Parliamentarian school.