

Castor Valley Elementary School Council

Constitutional Amendment

Radam Feizo-Gas, Member at Large

Summary

Change the constitution to reduce the number of meetings voting members can miss before becoming non-voting members.

Rationale

Council has shown concern about reaching quorum at Council meetings. If I am not mistaken in the previous 2 years at least once a year Council has been unable to reach quorum; preventing Council business from being conducted.

I've decided to take the formal step of putting forward a motion to amend the Constitution to try and address this issue. I fully expect and invite anyone that feels they wish to have influence on this motion, either to support, amend or defeat it, to turn up for the Council meeting. It is meant as a good-faith effort to fix an issue via proper and transparent means.

My goal with this amendment is to reduce the number of consecutive meetings a voting member can miss before becoming a non-voting member while also trying to balance the need of Council to get work done and the need for some flexibility for members' life circumstances.

Below is the original paragraph that is meant to be replaced:

*"14. For purposes of achieving quorum and in order to ensure an effective Council, any voting member is deemed to have resigned his or her position if he or she is absent for three (3) consecutive Council meetings. In special circumstances, members may be reinstated at the discretion of the Executive."*

You might notice that numbering for the paragraph changes from 14 to 12. There is currently no 12 or 13 in Article IX of the Constitution, so that is just cleaning up the numbering a bit.

The next page has the actual motion that will be presented. I will not be making any adjustments before putting forward the motion, the opportunity for that will be during the meeting itself.

Motion to amend the rules governing voting members and missed meetings.

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Whereas, Council has been unable, at times, to conduct business due to a lack of reaching quorum to conduct meetings;

Resolved, that Council shall amend "Article IX – Meetings" of the Constitution replacing paragraph 14 with the following paragraph:

"12. Strictly for purposes of achieving quorum and in order to ensure an effective Council:

- a. Any voting member, if he or she is fully or partially absent for two (2) consecutive Council meetings, becomes a non-voting member. The Council Chair shall inform such member of their new non-voting status within 7 calendar days.
- b. If there are 2 or less scheduled Council meetings remaining in the academic year, the member shall not be granted the opportunity to regain voting member status.
- c. If the member has previously missed any meetings, the member shall not be granted the opportunity to regain voting member status.
- d. If b. and c. above are not true and the member informs the Chair when contacted that he or she wishes to retain voting status, he or she will immediately regain voting status. Should he or she be absent a subsequent meeting he or she will become a non-voting member immediately before the determination of quorum for that meeting and shall remain a non-voting member for the remainder of that academic year."