State Officer Candidate Application

2021-2022 Term

**General Information**:

* Each candidate must be either a sophomore or a junior during the 2021-2022 school year.
* Candidates must receive written approval from their council adviser and school principal in order to run for office. A letter of recommendation from each is required.
* Each school may sponsor only one (1) candidate.
* Candidates are **not** allowed to run as a ticket. Each candidate is prohibited from discussing the campaign plans with anyone – outside of their own council – **prior to the start of state convention**. Therefore, please refrain from making social media posts, etc. to initiate your campaign prior to the start of state convention.
* Each candidate must sign the WASC Code of Conduct.

In order to help candidates plan for a strong, realistic campaign, the following information is provided regarding the realities of the executive board operations.

We want you to have a positive and exciting experience if you run for a WASC office.  We suggest that you ask your adviser and/or Ben Schanck - WASC Executive Director - about any ideas or concerns you have in planning your campaign.

1. **Funds for WASC are limited.**  ALL WASC funds are generated through registration fees for Summit meetings, State Convention and Summer Leadership Conference (SLC).  Our funds are budgeted to meet our projected expenses and **do not allow for** additional items.  We are a non-profit organization.  **Please do not promise new initiatives that will require funds that we do not have.**
2. The WHSAA calendar is filled with athletic events and activities.  **Please do not promise a longer convention or another convention** because both time and funding would be prohibitive.
3. All officers will abide by the WASC Code of Conduct.
4. The board holds approximately three or four meetings annually - one in December or January, one in the spring and/or summer, one on the Sunday prior to Summit meetings, and one on the Sunday prior to State Convention.  One of our board meetings will require travel to the upcoming convention host site (2022 = Cody High School). Furthermore, our board meetings will either be located in Casper.
   1. Your attendance at these meetings is mandatory. In the event that you cannot travel to the site of the board meeting, we can arrange for a conference call to allow for your participation - advanced notice is required.
5. We encourage students to carpool with adult members (parents or school advisers) whenever possible - or use school transportation to board meetings.  Mileage is **not** reimbursed.
6. Officers are required to attend all board meetings, the NatStuCo Conference (2022 = dates/location is still to be determined, SLC (second week of July) - as either a Level I or Level II delegate or be accepted through the application process to be a JC, Summit Meetings (second week of September), the Region IV Meeting in Minneapolis (late October), and the WASC State Convention (November).
7. If a pre-trip before the NatStuCo Conference is planned, WASC officers must pay their own expenses for the pre-conference trip.  Their transportation and conference registration are covered by WASC funds. Furthermore, your SLC registration fees are paid for by WASC.  Lastly, your hotel, food and airfare to the Region IV meeting in Minneapolis is paid for by WASC.
8. Communication among board members depends heavily on e-mail.  You should have an e-mail account that you check regularly for WASC information.
9. A WASC office is more than “another line on your resume.”  It is an amazing experience, but has a serious commitment of time and energy.  If you are not able to meet the requirements of the office, abide by the WASC Code of Conduct and/or attend the events listed above, please do not consider running for an office.

Please direct any questions you have about the responsibilities or procedures to:

Patty Mitchelson

WASC Board Member

pattymitchelson@yahoo.com

**2021 Election Procedures** -

The following is crucial for schools that plan to have a candidate for office.

1. All candidates for office must complete the Officer Candidate Application in its entirety by **FRIDAY**, **OCTOBER 21, 2021**.  Late applications will not be accepted.
2. Only one (1) candidate may run from each school.  Candidates must be official voting delegates to the convention.  Please read the WASC Constitution (posted on [www.wyoasc.org](http://www.wyoasc.org)) to be perfectly clear on procedures and expectations.  Ignorance or failure to comply with election guidelines will result in disqualification.
3. In the event that no one has filed for an office (such as no candidates for vice president) by October 22, 2021 - all candidates will be notified and at that time they can choose to run for another office.
4. The candidate essay, written by the candidate on their application form, will be reproduced and distributed to schools in the registration packets.  This is an initial impression of the candidate, so please proofread and be genuine.
5. No candidate can send out pre-convention mail-outs or campaign via e-mail or social networking sites, and any other mass-messaging tool (i.e. - cell phones - texting - Twitter - etc.).  Campaigning before the start of convention is prohibited. Candidates who violate this rule will be disqualified.
6. Candidates are **not** allowed to discuss their campaign plans with anyone outside of their own council.  Therefore, running on a “ticket” is prohibited. Discussing your plans to run for a specific office and joining with other candidates is considered “pre-campaigning” and is prohibited.
7. Because, as a candidate, you will be on stage and because it is important to let your appearance make a great first impression, candidates must adhere to the candidate dress code:

* Ladies - Pants suit, knee length (or longer) dress or skirt with appropriate top or jacket.  No bare shoulders or midriffs.
* Gentlemen - Dress slacks or khakis, collared shirt (tie optional).  No hats.
* Please dress accordingly for both days of the convention should you proceed through the primary election (to be held Monday evening).

1. Candidates will have a brief meeting Monday morning before the start of the convention.  Candidates will be introduced by the current state officers and give their primary speech during the first general session on Monday morning.  You will then participate in a question and answer session Monday afternoon/evening.
2. Candidates for secretary should have some background in desktop publishing or journalism.
3. The key to success is meeting people.  Campaigning on Monday must be limited to before the morning session, breaks, and the dinner hour.  Campaigns cannot interrupt the general sessions, interschool sharing, or workshops.
4. A candidate’s school delegation can wear buttons or stickers supporting the candidate, but the buttons or stickers cannot have the candidate’s picture on them.
5. Every candidate will receive an email from the executive director by October 25, 2021 confirming his/her candidacy.  If you do not receive an email, please contact the executive director immediately.
6. Elections will be held as follows:
   1. There is a primary and a general election.
   2. Primary candidates will send in an electronic poster to be shown on the screen in the main gym.  If you have questions about your posters, PLEASE INQUIRE ABOUT APPROPRIATENESS BEFORE SENDING IT IN.  Only members of your school delegation can wear buttons or stickers for your campaign - you cannot hand them out to delegates outside of your school.  You cannot provide handouts to delegates at convention. Please send your digital poster to Ben Schanck at [ben\_schanck@natronaschools.org](mailto:ben_schanck@natronaschools.org) no later than **FRIDAY, November 5, 2021.**
   3. Primary election speeches will be no longer than three **(3) minutes** and will be delivered Monday morning.  Speeches are timed. Jolene Whitley will raise her hand when you have 30 seconds remaining. Should your time expire while you are still speaking, Mrs. Whitley will yell “time.”  You are to stop speaking and return to your seat on the stage.
   4. General election speeches will be no longer than **90 seconds** and will be delivered Tuesday morning.  Mrs. Whitley will raise her hand when you have 15 seconds remaining. Should your time expire while you are still speaking, Mrs. Whitley will yell “time.”  You are to stop speaking and return to your seat on the stage.
   5. Candidates are encouraged to be on stage - alone - for their speeches.  However, if you need someone to hold an appropriate prop, that person may be on stage with the candidate, but cannot speak or beat box.
   6. Speeches are encouraged to be of a professional nature.  Time for the speech includes set-up time. Each candidate in the general election will be asked an extempore question by the current officers prior to the election on Tuesday.
   7. The primary election will be held from 8:00 - 8:30 pm on Monday night.  Two candidates for each office will advance to the general election.
   8. The general election will be held Tuesday morning.
   9. Please ensure that you keep your campaign positive.  At no time should a candidate ever demean their opponent(s).  Negative campaigning will result in the disqualification of the candidate.

State Officer Candidate Application

**General Information**:

Candidate Name:

Current Grade:

School Name:

Adviser Name:

Adviser Email Address:

Mailing Address:

City:

Zip Code:

Cell Phone Number:

Personal Email Address:

**WASC Experience – Please place an “X” next to each WASC event you have participated in:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Region VI Vision Conference in Kansas City, Missouri

\_\_\_\_\_ Summer Leadership Conference

\_\_\_\_\_ WASC Summit Meeting

\_\_\_\_\_ WASC State Convention

**Which state office do you intend to run for? Please place an “X” next to the office you wish to seek.**

\_\_\_\_\_ WASC Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ WASC Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_ WASC President

**Applicant Acknowledgement:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (printed name), understand the role of a state officer and the election guidelines/process and will work with the WASC Executive Board to complete the duties of this position.

**Adviser Acknowledgement:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (printed name), will assist my student, if elected as a Region Representative, to complete the duties of the position, provide transportation (when necessary) to the required board meetings and Summit, and communicate regularly with the WASC Board.

**Please write an essay (250 words maximum) concerning your qualifications and experience, your reasons for seeking an office, and your goals if elected.** Please email your application and essay in a pdf or Word document to Ben Schanck at [ben\_schanck@natronaschools.org](mailto:ben_schanck@natronaschools.org).

**WASC Officer Code of Conduct**

Because serving as a Wyoming Association of Student Councils officer is a privilege granted by student leaders from across Wyoming and because such elected WASC officers need to set an exemplary model for high school students, the WASC Board will enforce the following regulations.

These regulations will be in effect throughout the officer’s term of office and apply to the officer’s home school as well as all WASC events.

1. Officers will not use, possess, transfer or disperse any tobacco products, alcoholic beverages or controlled substances.
   1. Tobacco products include, but are not be limited to, cigarettes, vaporizers, chewing tobacco, etc.
2. Officers will not confiscate, destroy or vandalize private or public property.  This will include, but not be limited to, theft, shoplifting, breaking and entering, or vandalism.
3. Officers are expected to avoid situations/gatherings in which illegal substances (tobacco/alcohol/drugs) are available to underage youth.  Officers need to take positive action to avoid situations where illegal substances are present. A plan should include information about the situation/gathering prior to attending and take immediate action to leave the situation/gathering if illegal substances are present.
4. Officers will not display any behavior that is detrimental to the welfare of WASC’s image (such as obscene behavior).
5. Officers will uphold the highest level of personal and academic integrity.  If an officer violates the above regulations, he/she must immediately contact the Executive Director.  Violation of the above regulations may result in the following disciplinary actions:

* Removal from the association sponsored activity at the officer’s/representative’s expense.
* Reimbursement of WASC funds.  At any time during the officer’s term of office, if the officer receives a suspension from school, he/she must immediately contact the WASC Executive Director.  The Executive Director will consult with the school’s administration and take appropriate action. Suspension from school may result in the following disciplinary actions:
  + - 1. Suspension from a WASC activity.
      2. Removal from the elected position.
      3. Reimbursement of WASC funds.
* This Code of Conduct will be signed by a candidate for office, his/her parent/guardian, the school principal and adviser before the candidate runs for office.  The content of this agreement will be reviewed with the newly elected officers at the first WASC board meeting following convention.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (printed name), understand and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct.

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Candidate Signature Parent/Guardian Signature

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Adviser Signature Principal Signature

As a state officer for 2019 - 2020, I realize that I must take an active part in my local high school’s student council, and that I must adhere to the WASC Constitution, the eligibility requirements of WHSAA, and the WASC Code of Conduct.  Failure to comply with these rules will result in my removal from office. I also realize that I will attend state and national leadership training and that if I fail to do so after WASC has paid my registration and travel costs, I will be responsible for repaying WASC.  I have read the candidate information and regulations and the WASC Constitution, and I agree to comply with these regulations in my campaign. I realize that failure to comply will result in my disqualification.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (printed name), understand and agree to abide by the rules and regulations.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Signature

**WASC Officer Agreement of Participation -**

This agreement is between the WASC Executive Board and the Prospective Officer.  As a WASC officer, I agree to fulfill the duties of my office and will represent the Wyoming Association of Student Councils with dignity and pride.  I have read the WASC Constitution - including the officer descriptions, the WASC Code of Conduct, other candidate information, and the election procedures and will fulfill the requirements of my office.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (printed name), understand and agree to abide by the agreement of participation.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Signature

**Please secure a letter of recommendation from your school principal and submit to Ben Schanck with your completed application.**

**Please secure a letter of recommendation from your student council adviser and submit to Ben Schanck with your completed application.**