

Travel the World with Leadership!

North District

Sandburg Middle School in Elmhurst, Illinois

Grades 6, 7 & 8

790 students

Mascot: Spartans

School Colors: Red and White

Student Council Advisors: Ms. Katy Padberg, Ms. Elizabeth Marcellus, Ms. Lisa Connor and Ms. Sarah Pauly



Sandburg Middle School Student Council consists of 48 dedicated members that vary across the grade levels. Our general council meets after school for one hour on Monday afternoons. We usually meet three times a month. Our council strives to make an impact on our school, our community and, eventually, our world. We are a proud member of the IAJHSC!

At each meeting, we start off with a fun and social icebreaker activity. This icebreaker requires that we meet and work with members of the council who might be in a different grade. After the fun introductory activity, we review all of our set goals for that meeting. Then, we split off into committees to divide and conquer our tasks. These tasks include writing posts for our website, creating posters for our various school activities, planning upcoming fundraisers and brainstorming more ideas. At the conclusion of each meeting, we agree upon which students will run snack bar the following week.

Within our school, our student council members try to set good examples. More importantly, we hope to create a better educational and social atmosphere at Sandburg. We also try to show our compassion for others by fundraising and planning activities on many levels. Our fundraising efforts provide a variety of opportunities for those in both the local community and the state of Illinois.



In order to help the Elmhurst community, we recently sponsored a coin drive called Coins for Change. The students at Sandburg donated over \$1000 for a local charity called United Community Concerns. After concluding our fundraising efforts the week prior to Thanksgiving, we were able to provide 52 Thanksgiving meals for families in need within our community. Since the holidays are a great time for giving, our student council also sponsors a winter coat and winter accessory drive during the winter months. Throughout much of December, “The Giving Tree” is stationed in the main entrance of our school. Students are encouraged to donate their gently used winter coats, gloves, mittens, hats and scarves. They hang the items to be donated right on a lovely little evergreen tree! We then donate these items to the people who need them the most.

Outside of our community, we also fundraise in order to benefit the state of Illinois. In the lunchroom, we encourage all students to take off their pop tabs and add them to our collection jar. These tabs go to the Ronald McDonald House, which provides homes for the parents of children who are in the hospital. The pop tab collection is an ongoing fundraising effort.

Throughout the winter, our council is busy planning for one of the most popular student events at Sandburg – the Student vs. Faculty basketball game! A bold group of 8th grade students volunteers to play a game of basketball against a team full of Sandburg staff members. A great game calls for a great audience. So, we do a lot of advertising for the event. The council also sells raffle tickets during lunch that allow students the chance to win floor seats, foam fingers and other exciting game-related prizes. In February, we are proud to host the Student vs. Faculty showdown! All of the money we raise from this event goes to the IAJHSC state charity.

Another fun event the student council is responsible for is the 6th grade party. At the beginning of each academic year, the student council sponsors a party for incoming 6th graders that includes carnival games, a scavenger hunt and snacks. It is a great chance for the 6th graders to get to know both their new school and their new classmates! The money raised at this event is used to better the student council efforts throughout the remainder of the year.

Here at Sandburg, the student council sponsors a snack bar that is available to our students and staff. Every day after school from 3:20 to 3:30, the snack bar is up and running! Student council members are responsible for taking and fulfilling orders. We sell various healthy snack items for \$0.75 and water for \$0.50. The proceeds help to fund our student council in its many endeavors. At Sandburg, the snack bar is a very popular entity. Plus, working the counter at snack bar is loads of fun for our members!

About once a month, Sandburg students have the opportunity to display their school spirit during student council sponsored spirit days. These spirit days helps build character while also having fun! Some of these days include red and white day (our school colors), pajama day, crazy hair day, dress up day, color day, favorite holiday character day and red, white and blue day. A very easy and fun way for our school to become united!

As you can see, the Sandburg student council is hard at work bettering our school and helping out in the community.

