



THE GONZALES YOUTH COUNCIL - GYC Member Application

The City of Gonzales and the Gonzales Unified School District are seeking youth representatives to serve on the Gonzales Youth Council. The purpose of the Gonzales Youth Council is to provide youth formal, official opportunities to:

1. Advise, recommend and share information to ensure youth have a voice and influence in their city government, school and community, especially related to policies, programs and services that affect children and youth;
2. Plan and implement service-learning projects and other community-improving activities of high interest to children and youth; and
3. Gain valuable leadership skills and experience to aid their success.

This Application is due no later than:

Monday, October 17th by 5pm at City Hall (147 4th Street, Gonzales)

% Gonzales Youth Commissioners Janelle Gil or Anthony Avila.

Important Dates:

➤ Mon., October 17th	Applications Due (by 5pm); Schedule Interview
➤ Tues. & Wed., October 18th-19th	Interviews
➤ Fri., October 21st	Selection Announced
➤ Mon., October 24th	Orientation, 3:30pm - 6pm
➤ 1st & 3rd Mondays Monthly	Gonzales Youth Council Meetings, 3:45pm - 5:45pm
➤ GYC Family Welcome Celebration/Mixer	To be scheduled in November or December
➤ 2-3 Saturdays	Leadership Training
➤ To be Scheduled	GYC Action Projects & Events (usually afterschool/Saturdays)

Application Checklist:

Submit Completed Application:

- General Information
- Response to Questions
- Activities
- Essay
- Signatures of Agreement (Applicant & Parent)
- Recommendation Form & Letter

Don't miss this exciting, fun opportunity to:

Make a Positive Difference in Your School & Community -

***Care * Connect * Inform * Advocate * Learn * Serve * Lead ***

Apply Today – DEADLINE:

Submit completed application by 5pm, Monday, October 17th, 2016.



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The City of Gonzales and the Gonzales Unified School District are seeking youth to serve on the newly established Gonzales Youth Council (GYC). The purpose of the GYC is to provide youth formal, official opportunities to:

1. Advise, recommend and share information to ensure youth have a voice and influence in their city government, school and community, especially related to policies, programs and services that affect children and youth;
2. Plan and implement service-learning projects and other community-improving activities as well as positive activities of high interest to children and youth; and
3. Gain valuable leadership skills and experience.

Two representatives from each grade: 7th to 12th and two representatives from any grade at Somavia will be selected to serve on the GYC for one term (October 2016 to June 2017). Each GYC Member is eligible to reapply to serve another term. There is a three term limit.

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS: With support and guidance from the GYC Youth Commissioners and GYC Advisors:

1. Develop and present informed perspectives, advocate and make recommendations on key issues, policies, programs and services affecting the success of Gonzales children and youth;
 - a. Review and analyze information, reports and studies; and
 - b. Gain input/feedback from other children and youth as well as adults (e.g., parents, teachers, coaches, pastors, etc.) regarding their concerns, interests, assets and needs.
2. Participate in meetings to discuss and address matters affecting children and youth and plan activities, including:
 - a. Regularly attending twice monthly GYC Meetings;
 - b. Engaging in leadership trainings; and
 - c. Attending assigned City Council and School Board Meetings (at least one of each within a term).
3. Assist in planning, coordinating and implementing:
 - a. a quarterly service project &/or activity of high interest to children and youth which also contributes to the betterment of the community;
 - b. an annual Forum to engage youth on exploring critical youth-related issues and devising and recommending potential solutions; and
 - c. a Youth Action Fund that Gonzales youth can apply to in support of service projects and activities that address youth interests while supporting them to improve their community.
4. Promote activities and opportunities to other children, youth and relevant adults.



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WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE: Students of the Gonzales Unified School District or residents of Gonzales who are 7th-12th graders and that meet the following qualifications are eligible for this exciting opportunity:

- Wants to make a positive difference;
- Has great interest in representing youth perspectives and contributing to solutions which help children and youth succeed;
- Will gain input/feedback from children and other youth, including those outside of existing friendship and peer circles;
- Is open to learning and gaining leadership skills;
- Follows-through on responsibilities; and
- Is available to participate in the following:
 - GYC Orientation at City Hall- Monday, October 24; 3:30pm - 6pm;
 - Twice Monthly GYC Meetings, beginning the week of October 31, 2016 (generally to be held the first and the third Mondays from 3:45pm - 5:45pm);
 - GYC Family Welcome Celebration/Mixer (to be scheduled in November or December);
 - GYC Leadership Trainings (generally held on Saturdays 2-3 times during the school year);
 - At least one City Council Meeting and one School Board Meeting during term; and
 - At least 75% of meetings & activities planned by the Gonzales Youth Council.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS? There are MANY benefits for both the youth involved as well as our community – following are highlights:

For Youth, the opportunity to:

- ✓ Make a positive difference for Gonzales children, youth, families and communities;
- ✓ Gain leadership skills that will help them succeed beyond high school throughout their college/vocational training, career and civic life;
- ✓ Have fun, develop new friendships, enjoy new experiences; and
- ✓ Earn recommendations for other leadership development opportunities, college, scholarships and employment.

For the City of Gonzales, Gonzales Unified School District and community, the opportunity to:

- ✓ Gain insights of youth to develop more informed and responsive policies, programs and services to better achieve results for children and youth; and
- ✓ Further contribute to an informed, engaged citizenry and skilled workforce.

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS: Complete attached application consisting of: General Information, Response to Questions, Essay & Recommendation Form.

HAVE QUESTIONS? FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT: GYC Youth Commissioners: Janelle Gil at jgil@gonzales.k12.ca.us or Anthony Avila at aavila@gonzales.k12.ca.us; GYC Advisors: Michelle Slade at michelle@myc4strategist.com, 831-521-8254 or Harold Wolgamott at hwolgamott@ci.gonzales.ca.us, 831-594-8101.



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I. General Information:

Name:	Birthday:
School:	Current Grade:
Mailing Address:	
Your Phone Number:	
Your Email:	
Parent/Guardian Name:	Parent Email:
Parent Phone:	Parent Email:

II. QUESTIONS: Please answer the following three questions. Answers can be written or typed on separate sheets of paper if necessary. Be sure you read the GYC Member position description before responding.

- A. What interests you about becoming a GYC Member?
- B. What do you most want to gain from serving as a GYC Member?
- C. What do you think will be the most challenging aspect of successfully serving as a GYC Member? What support would be helpful to help you overcome this challenge?

III. ACTIVITIES: Please list your prior, current and expected future community involvement, extracurricular activities &/or leadership experience. *(Continue on separate sheet of paper if necessary.)*

<i>Community Involvement/Activities/Leadership Experience</i>	<i>Participation Dates</i>

IV. ESSAY: What do you think are the three (3) most important issues facing Gonzales today and what are your suggestions for dealing with these issues? *(Attach your one to two page response - can be written or typed.)*



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V. SIGNATURES – VERIFYING AGREEMENT

A. Youth Applicant

By signing below, you affirm you understand and agree to fulfill the Gonzales Youth Council (GYC) Member responsibilities: you know you want to make Gonzales an even more youth-friendly and success-supporting, you understand the commitment required for being a successful GYC Member, and you believe you have what it takes to be a successful GYC Member.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

B. Parent/Guardian

By signing below, you affirm your support of your child’s application to serve as a GYC Member and commit to support her/him to fulfill the responsibilities of this position, including allowing her/him to participate in the following activities during her/his term which begins October 2016 to June 2017:

- GYC Orientation at City Hall- Monday, October 24; 3:30pm - 6pm;
- Twice Monthly GYC Meetings, beginning the week of October 31, 2016 (generally to be held the first and the third Mondays from 3:30pm - 5:30pm);
- GYC Family Welcome Celebration (to be scheduled in November or December);
- GYC Leadership Trainings (generally held on Saturdays 2-3 times during the school year);
- At least one City Council Meeting and one School Board Meeting during term; and
- At least 75% of meetings & activities planned by the Gonzales Youth Council.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

VI. QUESTIONS, CONCERNS &/or ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Please share any questions, concerns &/or additional considerations you like the Selection Committee to address:

**Completed applications are due no later than
Monday, October 17, 2016 BY 5PM at Gonzales City Hall, 147 4th Street.**



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VII. RECOMMENDATION FORM

Thank you in advance for your insights into why this youth is a good fit to serve as a Gonzales Youth Council (GYC) Member. GYC Members serve as the official youth advisors to the leadership of the City of Gonzales and the Gonzales Unified School District who aid the development and implementation of policies, programs and services that promote the well-being and success of children and youth. **Note: Completed applications are due no later than 5pm October, 17th and must include at least one Recommendation Form.**

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Applicant:	
How do you know applicant?	How long have you known applicant?
Name of Recommender: Title:	Organization:
Phone number:	Email:

B. Please rate the applicant's level of consistency demonstrating the indicated attribute:

ATTRIBUTE	RATING: 1-Never, 2-Infrequently, 3-Sometimes, 4-Mostly, 5-Always
Follow-Through: completes assignments/commitments in a timely manner	
Openness to Learning: is curious and interested in gaining knowledge, understanding and skills	
Service Ethos & Ethic: wants to be helpful, has desire to make a positive difference and contributes time and talent to do so	
Inclusive: able to consider perspectives and experiences different from her/his own	
Articulate: able to express information, including her/his views	
Leadership: is able to influence others	

C. Please provide a brief explanation of why you feel this youth is a good fit for the GYC Member opportunity by using the backside of this form or by attaching a typed letter.