

**Young Women's Leadership Academy
High School Student Council
Constitution**

Texas Association of Student Councils

RATIFIED May 8, 2014

REVISED May 8, 2014

CONSTITUTION OF YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY HS STUDENT COUNCIL

Preamble

We the Students of the Young Women's Leadership Academy High School, in order to:

- Foster positive communication among the students and the faculty of Young Women's Leadership Academy,
- Promote leadership skills, responsibility and good citizenship,
- Encourage and maintain student involvement in school activities to strengthen school spirit,
- Establish a democratic forum to explore and exercise student rights in a responsible manner,
- Collaborate with parent groups, student clubs, and community organizations on service and spirit activities,

Do hereby establish and declare this the official Constitution of the Young Women's Leadership Academy High School Student Council.

Article I – NAME AND PURPOSE

Section I The name of this organization shall be Young Women's Leadership Academy High School Student Council.

This organization will be composed of the following two bodies:

- A. Executive Board – which includes elected officers and committee chairmen.
- B. Representatives – students who assist in Student Council projects and activities.

Section II The purpose of this organization shall be to provide an orderly means by which the members of this student body may participate in governing themselves and in planning and coordinating their activities and organizations.

Article II – MEMBERSHIP

Section I Officers elected by the Student Council shall be the following:

- A. President
- B. Vice-president
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Parliamentarian
- F. Public Relations

Section II Committee chairmen elected by the Student Council from its members shall be the following:

- A. Historian
- B. Teacher Appreciation
- D. Pride and Patriotism
- E. Energy and Environment
- F. DASH (Drugs, Alcohol, Safety & Health)

- Section III Representatives from each class shall consist of everyone who files for representative and meets the requirements for running.
- Section IV All members must maintain a required number of points as outlined in an approved point system.
- Section V An advisor or advisors appointed by the principal shall advise and help present subject material to the student council.

Article III – QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

- Section I All student council members must have an overall 75 grade average requirement the previous year.
- Section II All student council members are expected to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct set forth by the Fort Worth Independent School District.
- Section III Members will bring suggestions to the attention of the council for their consideration.

Article IV – ELECTION

- Section I Student Council officers (President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Public Relation) will be elected before the end of the May. The day of the election the candidates will campaign before the student body. Elected officers will attend the summer workshop the summer after they are elected beginning summer 2015.
- Section II The committee chairmen will be elected at the first Student Council meeting.
- Section III The representatives will be selected in the fall of the following school year.
- Section IV If there is only one candidate signed up for each office, a vote will be taken before the council and the candidate will be elected by acclamation.
- Section V Members of the executive board should be enrolled in the Leadership class if scheduling allows.

Article V – REQUIREMENTS FOR RUNNING

- Section I Candidates must have a 75 overall grade average for the current school year.
- Section II Candidates must be a full time student at Young Women’s Leadership Academy. Officer candidates must have been a full time student at Young Women’s Leadership Academy the previous year and a member of Student Council in good standing.

Section III Candidates must have more E's than S's in citizenship during each grading period of the current school year.

Section IV Candidates must have no N's in citizenship for the current school year.

Section V Candidates must not have placement in ISS or suspension for the current school year.

Article VI – REASONS FOR PROBATION

Section I Members will be placed on probation for a grade below 75 in one grading period.

Section II Members will be placed on probation for more S's than E's in citizenship in one grading period.

Section III Members will be placed on probation for failure to maintain the required number of points.

Section IV Probation period shall be one grading period.

Article VII – REASONS FOR DISMISSAL

Section I Members will be dismissed for assignment to ISS or suspension.

Section II Members will be dismissed for being academically ineligible (any grade below 75) for two consecutive grading periods, not necessarily in the same subject.

Section III Members will be dismissed for receiving an N in citizenship anytime during the year.

Section IV Members will be dismissed for receiving a U in citizenship anytime during the year.

Section V Members will be dismissed for failure to make up required number of points when on probation the previous grading period.

Section VI Members will be dismissed for missing three regular meetings with unexcused absences throughout the entire year (does not have to be consecutive).

Section VII If a member is dismissed due to ISS or suspension, upon satisfactory completion of disciplinary time the student may petition to be reinstated to current position for the remainder of the school year. Their request will be brought before a committee comprised of an administrator, at least one student council advisor, and the student council president and/or vice-president.

Article VIII – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section I All elected officers must attend a summer leadership workshop sponsored by TASC beginning summer 2015.

- Section II All elected officers are members of the executive committee. The executive committee will meet prior to regular meetings to prepare the agenda.
- Section III President
- A. Preside over meetings.
 - B. Preside over assemblies.
 - C. Act as intermediary between faculty and students.
 - D. Receive visitors of the YWLA campus.
 - E. Represent the student body at school, district, and civic events and meetings.
 - F. Plan regular meetings with advisors and other officers.
 - G. Prepare the Outstanding Student Council report form by spring convention.
- Section IV Vice-president
- A. Preside in president's absence.
 - B. Assist the president in their duties.
 - C. Appoint committees with council's consent.
 - D. Coordinate work of committees. Encourage chairmen to carry out their duties and complete projects on time.
 - E. Keep accurate records of points.
 - F. Assist the president and advisor with the Outstanding Student Council report form to be completed by spring convention.
- Section V Secretary
- A. Prepare agendas for meetings. Agendas must be typed and run off prior to each meeting.
 - B. Take and distribute minutes of meetings. Minutes should be posted on the website.
 - C. Check roll.
 - D. Assist the vice-president in recording points.
 - E. Give announcements of meeting to principal.
 - F. Handle all correspondence of the Student Council.
- Section VI Treasurer
- A. Keep accurate record of all financial activities.
 - B. Keep accurate record of all receipts and expenditures.
 - C. Report financial situation at council meetings.
 - D. Coordinate all fund raising projects.
 - E. Serve as chairman of the Teacher Appreciation committee.
 - F. Develop and execute projects recognizing all staff members.
 - G. Help prepare the Outstanding Pride and Patriotism report form by spring convention.
- Section VII Parliamentarian
- A. Have a thorough knowledge of correct parliamentary procedure.
 - B. Assist and advise in conducting meetings in accordance of correct parliamentary procedure.
 - C. Check members every grading period on meeting grade requirements.
 - D. Serve as chairman of the D.A.S.H. committee.

- E. Develop and execute projects addressing education and awareness of issues concerning drugs, alcohol, safety, and health.
- F. Prepare the Outstanding D.A.S.H. report form by spring convention.

Section VIII Public Relations

- A. Serve as co-chairman of the Pride & Patriotism committee.
- B. Shall write an accurate account of the activities sponsored by the Student Council for newspaper articles and public relations.
- C. Make sure all activities are properly publicized and reported.

Section IX Historian

- A. Coordinate community service projects for the council.
- B. Offer invocation/inspiration at regular student council meetings.
- C. Prepare the Community Service report form by spring convention.
- D. Serve as the chairman of the Scrapbook Committee.

Section X Pride and Patriotism

- A. Serve as the chairman of the Pride and Patriotism committee.
- B. Develop and execute projects involving pride in country, community, school and self.
- C. Work with the Teacher Appreciation committee chairmen to complete the Outstanding Pride and Patriotism report form by spring convention.

Section XI Energy and Environment

- A. Serve as the chairman of the Energy and Environment committee.
- B. Develop and execute projects that address education and awareness of energy and environment issues.
- C. Prepare the Outstanding Energy and Environment report form by spring convention.

Article IX – MEETINGS

Section I Time

- A. The first official meeting shall be prior to the beginning of the new school year to be determined as need arises.
- B. Thereafter, meetings will be held on the first and third Mondays of each month. If the first or third Monday falls on a school holiday, the meeting will be held on the following Tuesday. High School meetings will be held during the Advisory/Lunch hour.
- C. The advisor(s) may call special meetings with the approval of the principal.

Section II Rules of Council Meetings

- A. Two-thirds of the Student Council membership will constitute a quorum.
- B. Meetings will be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

Section III Executive Meetings

- A. The officers and advisor(s) will meet to discuss what subject material will be introduced in the council meetings.

- B. The meetings will be held prior to each regular meeting at a time and place to be determined by the advisor and president.
- C. Executive meetings shall be attended by all officers and standing committee chairmen.

Article X – COMMITTEES

Section I The Executive Committee shall appoint Committee chairpersons with the approval of the advisor.

Section II The following committees are standing committees.

- A. D.A.S.H. – will handle all drug, alcohol, safety, and health projects.
- B. Teacher Appreciation – will keep lines of communication open between staff and students.
- C. Energy and Environment – will handle all projects involving energy and environment issues.
- D. Scrapbook – will keep a record of year’s activities in the form of pictures and news items.
- E. Pride and Patriotism – will sponsor projects encouraging pride in self, school, community, and country, as well as patriotism.

Section III Committee meetings

- A. Committee meetings will be held prior to regular council meetings.
- B. Committee chairmen shall keep notes on business handled by the committee and report to the vice-president and advisor.
- C. A file shall be kept by the chairman on work done by their committee and a roll check for committee meetings. Summaries of each individual project shall be placed in a binder.
- D. Committee chairmen shall designate another committee member to conduct committee meetings should they be unable to attend.

Section IV The president and/or advisor may appoint special or temporary committees if the need arises.

Article XI – DUTIES OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Section I The Student Council will in some manner make regular reports of its activities to the student body.

Section II The Student Council will be in charge of planning and coordinating assemblies, activities, and special events of the student body.

Section III The Student Council will be in charge of conducting elections and voting for Student Council officers and will set forth all rules and requirements for carrying out these elections.

Section IV At the end of the year the Student Council will prepare a full report of its activities for its own evaluation and the student body that it serves.

Article XII – REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

- Section I Removal from Student Council office shall be decided and carried out by the principal and advisor. If a person is removed from office, she may not run for Student Council office the following year.
- Section II If an officer fails a class for a six weeks or fails to maintain an overall average of 75, she will be placed on probation for six weeks. If she fails to bring up her grades to Student Council standards at the end of the probation period, she shall be removed from office.
- Section III If an officer fails to complete the duties of her contract or the Student Council Constitution and Bylaws, she shall be removed from office.
- Section IV If an officer does not maintain the required points for two consecutive months, is in ISS or suspended, she may be removed from office.

Article XIII – VACANCIES IN OFFICE

- Section I Vacancies in Student Council office will be filled by the runner-up per balloting results providing that the runner-up meets the qualifications for office. If there is no runner-up, the Student Council Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement with the approval of the principal.

Article XIV – VETO POWER

- Section I The principal will have the power of veto on all that is proposed by the Student Council.

Article XV – AMENDMENTS

- Section I This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths majority vote in the Student Council and approval of the principal.

Article XVI – RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

- Section I For this constitution to be ratified it must pass through the Student Council with a three-fourths majority vote and approved by the principal.