

THE CONSTITUTION OF LYONS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

Preamble

We, the students of Lyons High School, do hereby establish this constitution devoted to the task of developing better cooperation among students, between students and faculty, and between students and the administration, to preserve traditions, raise our school standards, and to promote the general welfare of the school.

Article I - Name

Sec. I - The Student Council of Lyons High School shall be the name of our organization.

Article II - Purpose

Sec. I - The purpose of this organization shall be to: represent student rights; provide orderly direction of school activities; develop attitude of and practice in good citizenship; promote harmonious relations throughout the entire school; improve student-teacher and student-administration relationships; for a more realistic government that would be a tool between students, teachers and administration; improve school morale; assist in the management of the school; charter school clubs and other organizations; create a more meaningful student participation in decision making--realizing, of course, that the school is a government of, and by itself, and that the administration and faculty have certain powers, rights and responsibilities; and promote the general welfare of the school.

Article III - Membership

Sec. I - There shall be four members from the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes. These elections shall be held the third week of April.

Sec. II - Membership Eligibility: Members shall be chosen as to leadership, ability, dependency, democratic attitude and sportsmanship, which should be stressed during elections. The members shall have a good scholastic rating which will be passing with an 80 percent average, except in special cases when the Student Council, by a two-third vote may allow someone below this scholastic level to run for a position.

Sec. III - Petitions with at least fifteen signatures shall be carried for a person who wishes to become a Student Council member. This person shall then campaign for office and be elected by their particular class. The fifteen people who sign the petition must be members of the same class as the person they are carrying a petition for. No one person may sign more than four petitions. All posters will be approved by the Student Council.

Article IV - Officers

Sec. I - The officers of the council shall be president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Sec. II - Elections for president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer will take place the first week of April. Lyons High School students and staff will compose the electorate.

Sec. IIB - President, vice-president, secretary and treasurer must have an 85 percent average and must have been in StuCo at least one year prior, as a member or an associate member, except in special cases when the StuCo by two-thirds vote may allow someone below this standard to run for office. The above officers cannot be an officer in any other school sponsored organization and must be a Sophomore, Junior or Senior. A petition must be presented one week prior to election before candidacy becomes valid.

Candidates for president and vice-president must submit a petition with 35 signatures of LHS students and candidates for secretary and treasurer must submit a petition with 20 signatures of LHS students. New officers elected in April shall be present at the remainder of the meetings during the school year. The term of office shall be one school year. Student Council Officers are strongly encouraged to attend Student Council Camp.

Sec. III - Duties of Officers:

- (a.) The President shall preside at all meetings of the council; call special meetings when necessary; appoint all committees; represent the council on all public occasions; and assume other such duties as are generally associated with this office.
- (b.) The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the president in his absence; check on all committees assigned by the president; and perform other duties as associated with this office.
- (c.) The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the student council meetings and maintain an attendance record; shall handle all official correspondence and keep a file of all official student council correspondence.
- (d.) The Treasurer shall have charge of all student council funds; have an accurate record of such funds; make a biweekly report on the council's financial condition to the student council; and his books should be audited at the end of the school year by a committee appointed by the advisor or principal.

Article V - Removal from Office

Sec. I - Method of Removal: An officer or representative may be removed from office for repeated failure to attend meetings; failure to represent his group properly and fairly; failure to carry out his duties as an officer or representative; or for any other actions which are detrimental to the welfare and best interests of the school. The student council shall constitute the trial board. A two-thirds vote of the entire membership shall be

necessary to remove anyone from office. Such actions must have the approval of the advisor or principal.

Sec. II - Vacancies: If a representative resigns or is removed from office, they will be replaced by another representative elected from their class at a class meeting.

Sec. IIB - If the President resigns or is removed from office, then the Vice-President shall assume the role of President.

Sec. IIC - If any other office resigns or is removed from office, then the Student Council shall elect a new officer.

Article VI - Meetings

Sec. I - The meetings shall be held as deemed necessary.

Sec. II - The meetings shall be held in an orderly manner according to good parliamentary procedure.

Article VII - Chartering

Sec. I - Any school organization desiring to become an official LHS organization shall apply to the council for a charter.

Sec. II - At the time of application, each group which has a membership of at least ten members, shall state its purpose, goals and regulations by which it is to be governed along with a full set of officers.

Sec. III - If the student council approves the request, it shall issue a charter.

Article VIII - Advisor

Sec. I - The principal shall appoint a member of the faculty to serve as a sponsor to the student council, from a list of three which shall be submitted by the council in preferential order.

Article IX - Quorum

Sec. I - A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the members of the council.

Article X - Parliamentary Authority

Sec. I - In all matters, not specifically expressed in this constitution, the parliamentary authority shall be Robert's Rules of Order, revised.

Article XI - Powers

Sec. I - All powers of the Student Council shall be two types: those which are of a determining nature and those which are of an advisory nature. Furthermore, all powers are subject to administrative approval since the student council's powers are delegated to it by the school administration.

Sec. II - The student council shall have the advisory power in a case which affects the general welfare of the student body as a whole, and this advice shall be given to the administration through the student council president, or an appointed student council delegation.

Sec. III - The determining power of the student council shall be as follows:

1. The council can develop its own programs with other schools.
2. The council can charter other school organizations.
3. The council can develop its own calendar of social activities for the students.
4. The council can raise its own funds and can establish policies and procedures for fund-raising by other school organizations.
5. The council can establish its own awards and can establish policies governing awards by other groups.
6. The council can hold its own elections and can develop policies for all school elections.
7. The council can interpret and enforce its own dress code.

Article XII - Judiciary

Sec. I - A committee composed of two students, one chosen by the student council and one by the administration, and two teachers, one chosen by the student council and one by the administration, will serve as a jury in hearing any cases of disagreement on issues concerning the interpretation of this constitution. This committee will meet only on such cases.

Sec. II - The term of existence for this committee shall be one school year.

Sec. III - The decision of this committee is final and both parties are to agree and act in accordance with the committee's decision.

Article XIII - Veto

Sec. I - The principal has the right to veto any act of the student council or to revoke any of the powers held by the student council.

Article XIV - By-laws

Sec. I - By-laws may be carried by a majority vote of the council and approved by the student body.

Sec. II - They may be proposed by the student council members or by a petition from the student body.

Article XV - Ratification

Sec. I - This constitution shall become valid as soon as it is ratified by a majority vote of the students, staff, and approved by the principal.

Article XVI - Amendment Procedure

Sec. I - This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the council provided the amendment was presented in writing, read at the previous meeting and has the approval of the student body.

Article XVII - By-laws

Sec. I - The Homecoming King and Queen will be a member of the Senior class. The Senior class will nominate four Senior girls and four Senior boys as queen and king candidates; one boy and girl from each of the three underclasses will also be selected by their class. The entire student body and staff will elect one of the four Senior boys to serve as king and one of the four Senior girls to serve as queen. The six remaining Senior boys and girls will serve as attendants along with the underclassmen.

Sec. II - No boy or girl may be an attendant more than one time before his or her Senior year. All Senior boys and girls are eligible for king/queen candidates one time during their Senior year.

Sec. III - Any boy or girl in good academic standing may be eligible for king or queen candidate or class attendant as long as he or she is a full-time student of Lyons High School.

Sec. IV - Any boy or girl who has been elected once for Winter Formal King or Queen candidate may not be elected again to the same honor.

Article XVIII - Club Membership

Sec. I - An officer in any organization will consist of president, vice-president, secretary and/or treasurer and any other office as is necessary.

Sec. II - The Student Council election of officers shall be the first election held for the upcoming school year.

Sec. III - All clubs and class elections for officers shall be done by secret ballot.

Sec. IV - Students may hold office in no more than two clubs, and be president in no more than one. Class officers may belong to clubs and be a Student Council Representative but can only hold office in one. Student Council Officers may belong to other clubs but may not hold office in them. All cheerleaders may belong to clubs and can hold office in only one.

Article XIX - Associate Members

Sec. I - Any student of Lyons High School, upon a two-thirds vote of Lyons Student Council and approval by the Student Council sponsor, may become an associate member of the student council.

Sec. II - The associate member shall be expected to meet the same requirements as elected members.

Sec. III - They will be allowed to participate in discussions in Student Council meetings, serve on committees and be actively involved in all Student Council activities.

Sec. IV - They will not be allowed to chair a committee. They will not be allowed to vote, except on informal votes of a committee they are on.

Sec. V - First priority will be given to those students who ran for a seat in the Student Council and lost.

Sec. VI - Two people from each class may be voted in as associate members. If one or more classes do not have two people desiring to be an associate member, then another class may be allowed more than two associate members up to an overall total of eight associate members at the discretion of the Student Council.