

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
• GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL •



Election Packet

for

2022-2023 GHS Student Government
Executive Committee and Class Officers

IMPORTANT: Read all information contained in this packet.

DEADLINE

Completed Google Form application must be submitted no later than

Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 3:15 pm

Greenwich High School Student Government Mission Statement

The Greenwich High School Student Government, comprised of an Executive Committee (ExComm) and a body of Homeroom Representatives, seeks to:

1. increase school spirit
2. effectively communicate with the student body and promote ethical behavior
3. support community service projects
4. improve equity and access for students who have been historically marginalized and/or underrepresented
5. represent the voices of all GHS students in the community

Executive Committee (ExComm) Roles and Responsibilities

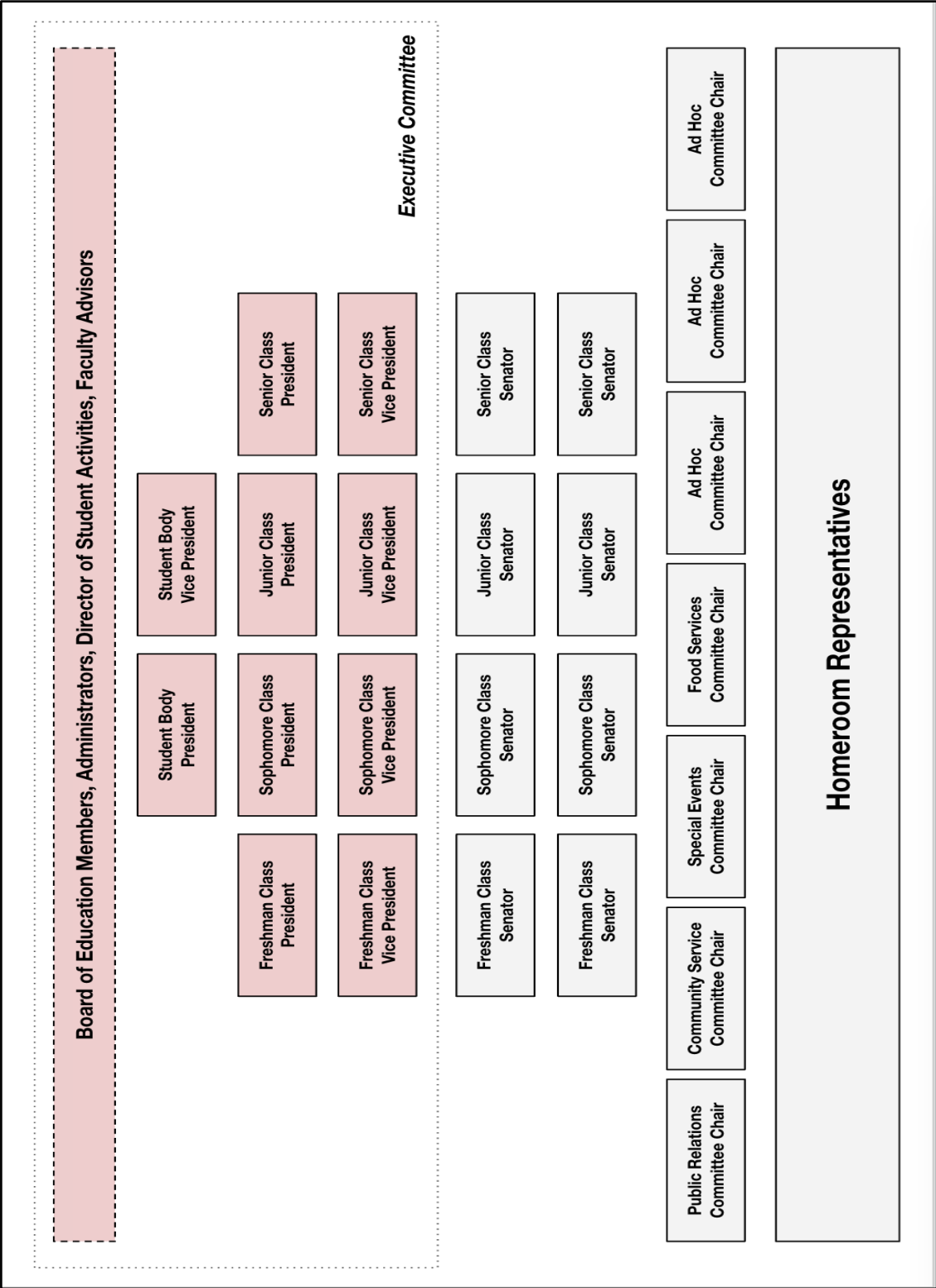
The Executive Committee (ExComm) leads Student Government and is comprised of:

- Student Body President
- Student Body Vice President
- Senior Class President and Vice President
- Junior Class President and Vice President
- Sophomore Class President and Vice President
- Freshman Class President and Vice President

ExComm oversees all Student Government initiatives and ensures that Student Government is working toward its five goals. All members of ExComm must:

- commit themselves to Student Government and the betterment of GHS through active leadership in GHS activities and events and the fulfillment of all Student Government responsibilities
- uphold the Greenwich District Norms, remain in good academic standing, and engage appropriately in all community forums (e.g., Board of Education meetings, town events)
- attend all Student Government meetings, including:
 - a kick-off meeting in August (with ExComm and Advisors)
 - Student Government Mass Meetings (once per month)
 - ExComm Dinner Meetings (once per month)
 - ExComm Lunch Meetings (once per month)
 - Officer and Committee Meetings (as appropriate)
- collaborate with administrators, teachers, staff, and community members to represent and advocate for the interests and needs of the student body

Organizational Chart



School-Wide Positions

During the month of May, the GHS student body will vote to elect a Student Body President and a Student Body Vice President (refer to voting procedures on page 9).

The **Student Body President** will:

- lead ExComm and facilitate Student Government meetings
- coordinate all meeting agendas with ExComm and the Faculty Advisor
- oversee all Student Government events, projects, initiatives, and proposals and collaborate with ExComm, Committee Chairs, and Homeroom Representatives
- speak at Greenwich Board of Education Meetings and meet with GHS administration on behalf of the student body

The **Student Body Vice President** will:

- in the absence of the Student Body President, lead ExComm and facilitate Student Government meetings
- maintain the Student Government calendar, roster, and social media account(s)
- provide Student Government updates through Homerooms and Cardinal News
- speak at Greenwich Board of Education Meetings and meet with GHS administration on behalf of the student body

Class Officer Positions

During the month of May, each grade will vote to elect Class Officers (refer to voting procedures on page 9); Freshman Class Officers will be elected in October.

Each **Class President** will:

- lead the Class Officers and facilitate Class Committee meetings
- coordinate all meeting agendas with the Class Officers and the Class Advisors
- oversee all class activities including fundraisers, dances, events, Homecoming Week, community service projects, etc.
- elevate class-specific challenges and concerns to ExComm

Each **Class Vice President** will:

- organize and execute all class activities including fundraisers, dances, events Homecoming Week, community service projects, etc.
- maintain the class meeting calendar, roster, and social media account(s)
- elevate class-specific challenges and concerns to ExComm

Both **Class Senators** will:

- organize and execute all class activities including fundraisers, dances, Homecoming Week, community service projects, etc.
- publicize all class events and activities and recruit participants
- attend all Student Government meetings, including:
 - a kick-off meeting in August (with ExComm and Advisors)
 - Student Government Mass Meetings (once per month)
 - Class Officer Meetings with Class Advisors (as appropriate)
 - Class Committee Meetings (as appropriate)

Additionally, specific Class Officers will:

Class Officers	Additional Responsibilities
Senior Class Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● organize and execute signature events (e.g., prom) ● support graduation planning, including identifying speakers and selecting the class gift ● coordinate future class reunions
Junior Class Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● organize and execute signature events (e.g., prom)

Note: Executive Committee (ExComm) members and Class Officers who do not fulfill their designated responsibilities are subject to removal from office according to criteria and procedures set forth by the Office of Student Activities. If a Student Government leader is removed from office, they will not be eligible to run for office at GHS again.

Election Process, Information, and Guidelines

Candidate Eligibility

All candidates must be in good academic standing and must obtain digital verification from his or her House Administrator and School Counselor. These electronic signatures will confirm the candidate's academic status and good citizenship, and that candidates have demonstrated a commitment to the Greenwich High School community and have not committed any serious infraction of school rules.

Additionally, the following students are eligible to run for leadership positions:

- **Student Body President:** any rising sophomore, junior, or senior who has served at least one year as a Student Government Representative (or has equivalent leadership experience as determined by the Director of Student Activities)
- **Class Officers:** any current member of the class

Mandatory Candidate Meeting

A mandatory candidate meeting with the Class Advisors and/or the Director of Student Activities will be scheduled in order to explain the expectations and responsibilities of each position and to review campaign rules. Questions regarding election and campaign procedures will be clarified. Failure to attend the mandatory candidate meeting will result in removal from the ballot.

Speeches

Each candidate must prepare a 1 to 2 minute speech supporting their candidacy. The speech should be about the candidate and their ideas and qualifications. Speeches must be submitted to their class advisor for approval on or before the stated deadline according to the publicity and election schedule in this packet. Speeches follow a prescribed order: Senators and then President. CANDIDATES MUST DELIVER ALL SPEECHES AS WRITTEN – FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM THE BALLOT.

Student Body President Candidate Debate

To demonstrate leadership abilities, share ideas, and connect with peers throughout the school community, all candidates for Student Body President will participate in a public, moderated debate. GHS students will submit questions for the candidates ahead of time; the moderator(s) will pose those questions to individual candidates and the candidates will respond directly to the moderator(s). Candidates will NOT directly engage with one another during the debate.

Publicity Guidelines

All candidates must follow the publicity guidelines:

- Each candidate may have one flyer layout approved by Student Activities.
- The approved flyer may be printed and posted at school (up to thirty 8 ½ x 11s).
 - 8 ½ x 11 flyers may be printed in Student Activities, the media center, or on your own.
 - Flyers must be hung up using painters tape provided by Student Activities
 - Flyers must be taken down within 24 of the election results announcement.
- Flyers may be hung:
 - On the bulletin boards in front of each House
 - On the pillars in the Student Center, Gym Foyer, and Music/Science hallway
 - Note: nothing may be hung on windows, doors, in the Glass Corridor, or within any of the Houses
- Each candidate may have one large banner hung in the Student Center
 - Materials will be provided by Student Activities.
 - See timeline for dates to create the banner.
 - Banners must be handmade. It is not an enlarged version of your flyer.
 - You may receive assistance from other students.
- With approval, candidates may express support of other candidates.
- Candidates run individually and cannot appear on the ballot as running mates.

NOTE: The use of non-District approved digital tools is at the sole discretion and/or approval of the candidate's family.

Campaign Guidelines

Adapted from the Connecticut State Department of Education

Campaign guidelines are an important part of the civic process because they ensure campaigns (and elections!) are fair and ethical. If any candidate on the ballot is found violating any of the campaign rules, they will automatically be disqualified and taken off the ballot. The following guidelines have been adapted from the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE).

- All campaign materials (posters, logos, etc.) must be student generated, made by hand or by students on the computer. Under no circumstance may professional graphic designers be consulted or used during the campaigning period. No students can use their own source of income to purchase arts-and-craft materials. Students are encouraged to create campaign posters using resources already made available by their school.
- Any campaign materials must be reviewed, approved, and signed off by Student Activities before being hung around the school. Any information and/or speeches must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate advisor, who will ensure content meets campus standards.
- Candidates can in no way give, lend, or promise any money, favors, or items to any other person to influence their vote. Students are prohibited from handing out swag, such as customized clothing, tote bags, buttons, stickers, candy, food,

pens, money, or any other incentivizing materials that may be used to solicit votes.

- Candidates may not take down another candidates' poster to hang up theirs, nor may they cover another poster with their own or deface another candidate's poster.
- Campaigning must be done in a positive, fair spirit. Students cannot use profane or discriminatory language or images or make any negative reference to other proposals or students while campaigning. Candidates are expected to be respectful of all other candidates for the duration of the campaign time period and voting process.
- Any speeches that candidates wish to conduct on school grounds during homeroom, lunch periods, group assemblies, or any other forum must be approved by the relevant school official and conducted at a time and place that has been sanctioned by Student Activities.
- Any/all campaign materials must be removed within 24 hours of the end of the election voting period.

Bullying Statement

Attacks against candidates by other candidates or members of the student body will not be tolerated. Attacks include any form of bullying, harassment, or non-student government-related criticism directed at a student. Specific places where attacks will not be permitted include but are not limited to campaign posters, speeches, and social media platforms.

Students who have not followed the above guidelines or are found to be negatively campaigning against others per the Bullying Statement at any time prior to when the announcement of election results will be removed from the election ballot and may be subject to discipline from the GHS administration.

Voting Procedures and Election Results

Every GHS student can vote by casting one electronic ballot for the following positions:

Position	Winner
Student Body President (school-wide election)	The top vote-getter is Student Body President, and the second highest vote-getter is Student Body Vice President
Class President (class-specific election)	The top vote-getter is Class President, and the second highest vote-getter is Class Vice President
Class Senators (class-specific election)	The top two vote-getters are Class Senators

On the electronic ballot, each student will rank their first and second choice candidates for each of the positions above. The first choice candidate will receive a weighted vote that will be applied to the final tally.

Election results will be shared directly with the candidates upon completion of the ballot count. The results will then be emailed to all GHS students.

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DRAFT GHS Student Government Ballot

daniel_silkman@greenwich.k12.ct.us (not shared)

[Switch account](#)

Student Body President

For Student Body President, select your 1st and 2nd choice candidates. The top vote-getter will be the Student Body President; the second highest vote-getter will be Student Body Vice President.

	1st Choice	2nd Choice
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Application and Election Timeline

The digital ExComm and Class Officer Application opens on **Monday, April 4, 2022.**

Task	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OPTIONAL: Attend Informational Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any interested candidates may meet with Ms. Foster and Mr. Silkman (not required). ○ Sign up for informational meeting 	<p>Thu., April 7, 2022 8:00 am or 2:45 pm Room 123 <i>Choose one to attend</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Submit ExComm and Class Officer Application ● House Administrator and counselor submit Academic Standing Verification Form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is the responsibility of the candidate to ask them & make sure they have done this. ○ The Google Form was sent directly to each House Administrator and counselors. 	<p>Wed., April 27, 2022 by 3:15 pm</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attend Candidate Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All candidates <u>must</u> meet with Ms. Foster, Mr. Silkman and class advisors. ○ Sign up for Candidate Meeting 	<p>Thu., April 28, 2022 8:00 am or 2:45 pm Room 123 <i>Choose one to attend</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attend Debate Logistics Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student Body President candidates <u>must</u> meet with Ms. Foster and Mr. Silkman 	<p>Fri., April 29, 2022 8:00 am Room 123</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Design & make one Student Center banner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sign up to make a banner for a date 	<p>May 2-5, 2022</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Submit draft speeches for approval ● Submit campaign materials for approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student Body President candidates submit to Mr. Silkman (see email below) ○ All other candidates submit to your class advisors (see emails below) 	<p>Fri., May 6, 2022 by 3:15 pm</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Post approved campaign flyers 	<p>Beginning May 10, 2022</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Body President Debate (Debate Practice on Monday, May 16 at 7:45am in meeting rooms 1 & 2) 	<p>Wed., May 18, 2022</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Class Officer Speeches during Homeroom via grade-level Google Meets 	<p>May 25 - TBD</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vote! 	<p>Wed., May 25, 3:15 pm - Thu., May 26, 3:15 pm</p>

Completed Google Form application must be submitted no later than Wed., April 27, 2022 at 3:15 pm.

Task	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Candidate Meeting to share results 	Fri., May 27, 8:15 am
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022-2023 election results announced. 	Fri., May 27, 2022, 8:30am
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ExComm Only: Attend Dinner Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New ExComm members • Past ExComm members (optional) 	Tue., May 31, 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ExComm Only: Attend Transition Lunch Meeting 	Wed., June 1, 2022

Contact Information

Reach out to the following GHS staff with questions and to submit campaign materials.

Role	Name	Email
Director of Student Activities	Ms. Karen Foster	karen_foster@greenwich.k12.ct.us
Student Government Advisor	Mr. Dan Silkman	daniel_silkman@greenwich.k12.ct.us
Class of 2023 Advisors	Ms. Regina Minuetti Mr. John Schlesinger	regina_minuetti@greenwich.k12.ct.us john_schlesinger@greenwich.k12.ct.us
Class of 2024 Advisors	Ms. Colleen Mayo Mr. Sean Mayo	colleen_mayo@greenwich.k12.ct.us sean_mayo@greenwich.k12.ct.us
Class of 2025 Advisors	Ms. Danielle Nash Dr. Jennifer Nielsen	danielle_nash@greenwich.k12.ct.us jennifer_nielsen@greenwich.k12.ct.us