



The Constitution with Amendments of the Brothers Leadership Council

Updated as of April 19, 2022.

**THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE CBHS BROTHERS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

ARTICLE I. Preamble

We the students of Christian Brothers High School, in order to form a more perfect student government, create optimal conditions for students to reach maximum potential in service of others, enhance school pride, ensure collaboration with the faculty, connect every student to his community, promote a fraternal experience, create leaders for the betterment of society, and develop character, do hereby form the Brothers Leadership Council.

ARTICLE II. Name

The name of the organization shall be the Brothers Leadership Council (BLC).

ARTICLE III. Source of Authority

The Christian Brothers High School President and Board of Trustees will be the sole source of authority from which the students derive the power to govern their student body. This convention recognizes the administration of Christian Brothers High School as the main authority of our school to which we look for guidance to improve student life and experience.

ARTICLE IV. General Assembly

Section I. Executive Branch

The Brothers Leadership Council will comprise a new General Assembly. At the head of this assembly will be an Executive Council, consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Speaker. Working below, but in cooperation with this council, will be four cabinets, designated toward Academics, Mission, Brotherhood, and Spirit. These nine members shall be referred to as the “BLC Board” of the Executive Branch.

Section II. Cabinet Structure

At the top of each cabinet will be a chairman to oversee the success of each department’s responsibilities. Reporting to each chairman, there will be three elected officers—one senior, one junior, and one sophomore—who help run the tasks designated to each cabinet. Below this General Assembly of elected officers will be several appointed positions to aid the mission of each department. The duties of each of these officials will be outlined herein.

ARTICLE V. Duties and Responsibilities

Section I. Executive Responsibilities

The Executive Council will comprise of the following elected members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Speaker. The responsibilities of each will be as follows:

1. The BLC President approves the final requested budget of the BLC, schedules General Assembly and BLC Board meetings, oversees the work of each Cabinet, and communicates with the Dean of Students and the Head Faculty Moderator.
2. The BLC Vice President assists the President in overseeing the work of each Cabinet, acts as a direct advisor to coordinating the Brothers' Cup in cooperation with the Brotherhood Chairman, and assumes the role of President in the case of any presidential absence. If the President is removed from office for any reason, the Vice President will assume the position of President. The new President will select his new Vice President. This appointment will be approved by the Dean of Students, the Faculty Moderator, and 2 of the 3 remaining Executive Board members
3. The BLC Secretary recognizes proposed amendments and presents them to the General Assembly, holds elections and counts the results, takes notes and attendance at General Assembly and BLC Board meetings, organizes projects in action and oversees the responsibilities carried out by each officer, and manages personnel of the Cabinets.
4. The BLC Treasurer manages the expenditures and deposits of the BLC Treasury, assists in managing the mission collection and food drives, and prepares the annual budget in cooperation with each Cabinet Head.
5. The BLC Speaker promotes school functions with written, graphic, or video publications, designs apparel in coordination with the Wave Shop, distributes written, video, and graphic publications, publishes photography of student life, and oversees the morning announcements in coordination with any student of his choosing

Section II. Cabinet Responsibilities

Each cabinet will consist of a chairman, officers from the Senior, Junior, and Sophomore grades, and appointed positions to assist in the duties of the department. Four cabinets will exist to promote students in the categories of Academic, Brotherhood, Spirit, and Mission.

1. The Chairman of the Academic Department, in coordination with the cabinet officers and appointed members, proposes new policies to the administration, serves as the

student voice to the CBHS Academic Council, acts as an Honor Council member, and provides academic assistance to all students.

2. The Chairman of the Spirit Department, in coordination with the cabinet officers and appointed members, proposes and organizes the Spirit Department Annual Budget, leads the Yell Leaders in cultivating school spirit, creates themes and other activities to enhance student sections at athletic events, organizes tailgates prior to athletic events, coordinates pep rallies to engage the student body, arranges the annual Wave Talent Showcase.

3. The Chairman of the Brotherhood Department, in coordination with the cabinet officers and appointed members, proposes and organizes the Brotherhood Department Annual Budget, coordinates the workings of the House system, including intramurals and Advisory Functions, communicates with the Vice President in managing the Brothers Cup, organizes dances during the fall and spring semester, including Victory Dances, Homecoming, and Prom, and leads management of club functions, including the coordination of Club Day.

4. The Chairman of the Mission Department, in coordination with the cabinet officers and appointed members, proposes and organizes the Mission Department Annual Budget, organizes religious services available to the student body, conducts various student service projects and student ministries, coordinates the Mission Collection, Food Drive, Toy Drive, or other functions aimed at cultivating the generosity of the student body, and provides the student body with service opportunities.

Section III. Additional Responsibilities

1. Cabinet Class Officers

The rising sophomore, junior, and senior classes will each elect one Cabinet Class Officer for each cabinet. They will exist under each department to assist in performing each cabinet's functions.

2. Yell Leaders

Yell Leaders will be appointed by the General Assembly and will be responsible for attending every major sporting event, pep rally, and tailgate, creating interest and school spirit for all sporting events, promoting a positive image of the school, and engaging the entire student body to promote school spirit.

ARTICLE VI. Elections for General Assembly Positions

Section I. Nominations

For each of the positions in the General Assembly, election nominations will be due near the end of March. The acting BLC will remind the student body of information regarding eligibility and nominations at an information session scheduled in accordance with the Assistant Dean. All interested candidates interested in a General Assembly position must attend this meeting. If a candidate is for any reason unable, he must contact and inform the BLC Secretary to receive election information. After this session, applications for nomination must be submitted to the Assistant Dean.

Section II. Qualifications

In order to be eligible for the Executive Council, candidates must have a cumulative, weighted GPA of 3.5 or above. In order to be eligible for the Cabinet, candidates must have a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 or above. Those below this academic requirement may appeal their nomination to the Assistant Dean to receive election eligibility. In addition, the Academic chairman must have no Honor Council violations, while all other candidates for a General Assembly office must also have no more than one Honor Council violation. These requirements are present to ensure that the BLC General Assembly attracts only the most qualified, dedicated students to hold leadership positions.

Section III. Candidate Approval Process

Each candidacy must be approved by the Dean of Students. Approval will be based on the Dean's discretion, but the process may include interviews, disciplinary and academic review, and teacher surveys.

Section IV. Campaign Requirements

1. Each spring, the BLC may determine the specific campaign requirements for the candidates in each office. The Secretary of the BLC will be responsible for enforcing the requirements and communicating guidelines to each candidate.
2. Executive Council Elections:
 - a. On the second week following Spring Break, the first election will be held for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Speaker.
 - b. The President and Vice-President will run on a single ticket. For all Executive Council elections, a majority of votes must be attained by the candidate. If a candidate is unable to attain a majority, a run-off election will be held between the two candidates with the most votes the following school day.
 - c. The Presidential Election will be according to an Electoral College, in which each of the forty advisories act as weighted, winner-take-all voting

bodies. Junior class votes will be weighted at a value of 1.4. Sophomore class votes will be weighted at a value of 1.2. Freshman class votes weighted at a value of 1.0.

- d. The other three Executive Council elections will be determined by weighted popular votes, with class-based distributions as stated above.
3. General Assembly Elections:
 - a. On the second week following the Executive Council Elections, the first election will be held for the positions of the Departments of Academics, Brotherhood, Spirit, and Missions.
 - b. For all General Assembly elections, a popular majority of weighted, individual votes must be attained by the candidate. If a candidate is unable to attain a majority, a run-off election will be held between the two candidates with the most votes the following school day.

ARTICLE VII. Appointments

All appointed positions, including the Yell Leaders, will be selected by the members of the newly elected General Assembly, in coordination with the administration.

ARTICLE VIII. Term

Elected members of the General Assembly will serve one school year term and they will begin their term the third full week of April.

ARTICLE IX. Removal

Section I. Disciplinary

Any elected or appointed member of the organization placed on disciplinary probation, for any reason, shall be immediately placed on probation and will be subject to removal at the discretion of the Dean of Students.

Section II. Dereliction of Duty

1. All elected and appointed members of the organization shall diligently and faithfully perform the responsibilities and duties of their position as outlined herein.
2. A consensus decision of the General Assembly to remove a member for gross dereliction of duty shall require the support of a majority of members of all the General Assembly. The member whom the vote relates shall not be present in the meeting at the time that the vote occurs. However, the Dean of Students will maintain the option to overrule any attempted removal for dereliction of duty.

3. If somebody is to be removed from office, the General Assembly will nominate a qualified replacement to be voted upon and approved by the Dean of Students.

ARTICLE X. Meetings

Section I. Agenda Elements

The agenda elements to be followed for General Assembly meetings are as follows: Attendance Taken as Officers Enter, Call to Order, Prayer, Discussion of Previous Projects, Reports of Cabinet, Discussion of new projects, Adjournment.

Section II. Quorum

A quorum shall be defined as a minimum of 16 of the 21 elected General Assembly members. Such meetings must occur at least once every two weeks. These meetings will be scheduled at the dawn of each semester.

Section III. Votes

The official presiding over the meeting will decide if a vote is necessary to gain a consensus on a particular topic. If the vote is necessary the measure will pass with a simple majority with each present General Assembly member having one vote.

Section IV. Special Meetings

1. For BLC Board Meetings, 7 of 9 members must be present and the procedure follows the same process as General Assembly meetings. Such meetings must occur at least once every two weeks alternating with the General Assembly meetings. Additional meetings will be scheduled at the discretion of the President
2. For Cabinet meetings with Cabinet Officers and appointed staff, an Executive Board member must be present. Such meetings must occur at least once a week.
3. During summer break, Cabinets must meet until the Executive Board is satisfied with each group's progress. The Executive Board may call any General Assembly meeting during this period. Attendance stipulations previously outlined do not apply.

ARTICLE XI. Event Attendance

All of the elected members of the General Assembly will attend and assist in the following school events: Lasallian Leadership Conference, Orientation, Homecoming, Open House.

Article XII. Amendments

Section I. Proposal

The Secretary will be responsible for hearing and organizing proposed amendments. Amendments may be proposed by any student of the school.

Section II. Ratification

Three-fourths of the General Assembly is required to ratify any proposed amendment.

Article XIII. Ratification of the Constitution

The ratification of two-thirds of the voting body at Christian Brothers High School shall be sufficient for the establishment of the Brothers Leadership Council.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CBHS BROTHERS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Amendment I. Reorganization of Cabinet Structure to a Legislative Structure

Section I. Addressing Current Articles and Sections

The following Amendment refers to Constitutional Article IV, Section II., Article V., and any other article or section thereof that refers to the words "Cabinet" or "Department".

Section II. Addressing the Cabinet Structure

As of the 2021-2022 academic year and in accordance with the executive orders jointly issued by the President of the 2020-2021 school year and the President-Elect for the 2021-2022 school year following the executive elections in the Spring of 2021 and prior to the representative elections that took place a few weeks later, the Cabinet structure was not implemented into the representative elections. Instead, the joint order called for no designated elections for each of the four departments. To replace this, each of the eligible classes of students elected four students to represent their class in the BLC General Assembly, not the departments.

Section III. Issuing the Decision

Herein after the ratification of this Amendment to the BLC Constitution, there shall be four elected students from each class (rising seniors, juniors, and sophomores) that will continue to serve as Representatives for their classes. These twelve students will serve in the new Legislative Branch. It is the responsibility of the Legislative Branch to promote

the interests of their respective classmates to the General Assembly and to cooperate with the BLC Executive Board with production of its duties and other responsibilities designated unto the Legislative Branch.

Section IV. Date of Ratification

The majority of the General Assembly voted in favor of the full ratification of Amendment I on April 13, 2022.

Amendment II. Formalization of the Appointment Process and Posts

Section I. Addressing Current Articles and Sections

The following Amendment refers to Constitutional Article IV, Section II., Article V, Section III., and Article VII and any other article or section thereof that refers to the words “Appointed Member(s)” or “General Assembly”.

Section II. Addressing the Appointment Process and Posts

According to Article IV, Section II., the appointed members are referred to as “below the General Assembly”. The appointed members have exemplified what it means to be a member of the BLC time and time again. They have fulfilled the duties designated to them through the Preamble of the BLC Constitution, the Executive Board, and Faculty Moderators. In addition, though not in formal writing yet in actuality, the appointed members have an opinion as valuable as the Legislative Branch.

Section III. Issuing the Decision

Herein after the ratification of this Amendment to the BLC Constitution, the appointed members of the BLC, excluding Yell Leaders, shall be full members of the General Assembly. Furthermore, the creation of the third branch of the BLC is formed: the Appointed Branch. Members of the Appointed Branch shall be nominated by the President over the Summer Break in coordination with the BLC Vice-President, Head Faculty Moderator, and the CBHS administration (such as stated in Article VII). Once the President nominates potential appointed members, a majority of the remaining members of the BLC Council (this excludes the President and Vice-President) shall give their consent and approval to the President on nominees. If the nominee is approved, it is the President’s responsibility to notify the newest member of the BLC. If the nominee is not approved, that ends the nomination process and there is no notification. The Appointed Branch, serving at the pleasure of the BLC Board, shall assist each member of the BLC Board in fulfilling their responsibilities. It is at the discretion of the President to give an appointed member a specific responsibility that will be fulfilled and managed by that student, including the role of Assistant to the President. The votes of the Appointed Branch shall equal the value of those by the Legislative Branch.

Section IV. Date of Ratification

The majority of the General Assembly voted in favor of the full ratification of Amendment II on April 13, 2022.

Amendment III. Correcting Issues About Positions.

Section I. Addressing Current Articles and Sections

The following Amendment refers to Constitutional Article IV, Article V, and any other article or section thereof that refers to the words “Executive Council”, “BLC Board”, “Chairman” or any titles associated with those stated words.

Section II. Addressing the Executive Structure

For the Brothers Leadership Council to thrive and ensure its duties to the school stated in the Preamble, the structure of the BLC Executive Board does not do just that. Utilization of the members on the Executive Board needs to change so every student can provide their talents and opinions in the most fulfilling way they can.

Section III. Issuing the Decision on the Executive Positions

Herein after the ratification of this Amendment to the BLC Constitution, the Executive Board structure shall be changed. The following executive positions are disestablished following the end of the 2021-2022 Academic Year: Secretary, Treasurer, Academic Chairman, Brotherhood Chairman, Mission Chairman, and Spirit Chairman. With this being so ratified prior to the Elections of 2022 and all those to come after, the positions a student can be elected to are as follows: President and Vice President (the qualifications and election standards will remain the same as stated in the original text of the Constitution), and Executive Board. There shall be seven Executive Board members elected. These must be either rising Juniors or Seniors at time of election. The election for these seven positions will be elected in one large group pool. The seven candidates with the most votes will be elected to the Board. This is modeled after Amendment I.

Section IV. Issuing the Decision on Committees

Over the Summer Break, the Head Faculty Moderator, President, Vice President, Executive Board members, the Representative Branch, and the Appointed Branch must meet and discuss what they can bring their Session of the Brothers Leadership Council. This meeting shall result in a period of placements. These committees can be flexible, but responsible for fulfilling the duties and expectations placed on them by the BLC. These committees shall have members from each branch of government, with the exception of the President, Vice President, and Assistant to the President; however, these members are still expected to work in close association with each committee.

Section V. Date of Ratification

The majority of the General Assembly voted in favor of the full ratification of Amendment III on April 13, 2022.