



We, the students of Lake Dallas High School, in order to promote harmony among the student body and the various intra-school organizations, to maintain a better relationship between this school and all others of this kind, and to raise the standards and ideals of students themselves, do ordain and establish this constitution for the betterment of the school, community, state, and country.

Article I

Name and Purpose

Section A.

This organization shall be known as the Lake Dallas High School Student Council.

Section B.

The purposes of this organization shall be:

1. To bring about closer cooperation between the faculty and the student body as Representatives of the student body.
2. To cooperate with the administration when solving problems concerning the school and the student body.
3. To promote in each individual of Lake Dallas High School a desire for good citizenship based on democratic processes.
4. To create and maintain school interest, school spirit, and school loyalty.
5. To provide a forum for student expression.

Article II Membership

Section A.

Method of Accepting Membership

1. All candidates for membership must submit a letter of interest and teacher recommendations by the designated deadline.
2. Candidates may not have served more than two days in ISS during the school year of application.
3. Candidates may not have been guilty of a major disciplinary infraction that resulted in DAEP or suspension during the school year of application.
4. All candidates shall be passing all subjects with a grade of 70 or above during the school year of application.
5. All candidates shall be in compliance with the Texas Compulsory Attendance Laws.
6. Members with high teacher recommendations that have submitted a letter of interest will be considered.
7. The applicant will be interviewed by at least three Student Council officers (one Executive Committee member may be substituted if not enough officers are available) in the presence of the Student Council sponsor.
8. Once accepted into the Student Council, candidates will be referred to as Representatives.

Section B.

Qualifications for Maintaining Membership

1. All Representatives of the student council must have and maintain a grade average of 70 or above in each of his/her classes each nine weeks period. Any Representative who receives a grade lower than a 70 shall be placed on probation for the remainder of the next nine weeks period. If the student receives a grade of less than 70 for two consecutive nine weeks grading periods they will be removed.
2. All representatives of the student council must maintain a passing average for each semester. Any representative that does not will be dismissed from the student council.
3. Any Representative who has acquired more than two days of ISS in any given semester will be removed.
4. Any Representative who has been guilty of a major disciplinary infraction resulting in DAEP or suspension in any given semester will be removed.
5. All Representatives shall be in compliance with the Texas Compulsory Attendance Laws.
6. Members will attend all of the meetings of the general council. Failure to give 24 hours notice of absence to three meetings will result in removal from the council.

Article III

Dismissal of Representatives

Section A.

Representatives may be dismissed from the Student Council if they have failed to give 24 hours notice of absence to three meetings in any given semester.

Section B.

If a Representative is removed by the Student Council, he/she may not hold a position in the Student Council for the remainder of the school year.

Section C.

The principal and/or sponsor shall have the power to remove any Representative.

Section D.

The principal and/or sponsor shall be present at all meetings where the Representative is dismissed.

Section E.

All Representatives of the Student Council shall refrain from the use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, or other controlled substances; use profane/abusive language; engage in any inappropriate sexual conduct at school or while attending any school activity or event regardless of the location. Any Officer who violates these will be immediately removed from Student Council. Students must sign and adhere to the Lake Dallas ISD UIL / Extracurricular Illegal Drug and Alcohol Administrative Regulation contract.

Section F.

Representatives shall not be involved in activities that could be punishable as a felony at any time whether on or off campus. If said act is conducted, the student will be dismissed from the council.

Section G.

Students who receive 3 demerits for 2 consecutive grading periods will be dismissed from the Student Council.

Article IV Officers and Committees

Section A.

Executive Board Officers

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary/Parliamentarian
4. Historian/Reporter
5. Lead Committee Chairperson
6. The “Executive Board” shall consist of all Student Council executive Officers and committee chairs.

Section B.

Qualifications for Officers of Student Council

1. All candidates applying for office in the Student Council must have passed all subjects the prior and present year in which he/she runs.
2. All appointed Officers must meet the same qualifications as Representatives.
3. All Executive Board members must maintain an average of 70 at all times. Executive Board members must pass all classes.
4. A candidate for office must not have been in two or more days of ISS at any time prior to the election. A candidate for office must not have been guilty of a major disciplinary infraction last year or during the time prior, prior to assuming office, or after assuming office that resulted in DAEP or suspension.
5. The President must be a senior in the year he/she is to serve and have been on the Executive Board of the Lake Dallas High School Student Council in a previous year. The candidate could not have been removed from his/her Executive Board position.
6. All elected Officers must meet the Qualifications for Officers of Student Council from the time of elections to the end of the term.
7. All Officers must, at all times, model the ideals promoted in the Student Council committees.

Section C.

Duties and Powers of Officers

1. President
 - a. Preside at all Student Council meetings.
 - b. Preside at all executive council meetings. Use the executive committee as a major way of conducting business so that you will not bog down council meetings with minute details.
 - c. All committees must be accountable to the President.
 - d. Along with the executive committee, plan all council activities and plan each council meeting’s agenda.

- e. Work with the principals. Visit periodically to exchange views, give ideas, and learn what the principal thinks about council matters.
- f. Represent the council at one School Board meeting per semester.
- g. Have a firm knowledge of parliamentary procedures.
- h. Make sure that he/she has a thorough understanding of Student Council purposes, policies, guidelines, methods of operation, and constitution.
- i. Plan the calendar with the sponsors and administration.
- j. Appoint committees.
- k. Make sure that all council Representatives have a firm understanding of the Student Council.
- l. Utilize the committee system to get work done. Refer most business brought up in council meetings to the appropriate committee.
- m. Will listen to both sides of an issue. After listening to both sides, the president should make a decision and stick to it.
- n. Assume total responsibility for carrying out Student Council projects.
- o. Always present himself/herself in a professional manner at all meetings.
- p. Have complete and enthusiastic participation in all Student Council activities.

2. Vice President

- a. Assist the President in all areas of council participation.
- b. Preside in the President's absence.
- c. Serve as a chairman of one of the major standing committees.
- d. Have a thorough understanding of Student Council purposes, policies, guidelines, methods of operation, and constitution.
- e. Have a firm knowledge of parliamentary procedure.
- f. Work with the President in presenting views to the administration.
- g. Serve on the executive committee.
- h. Always present himself/herself in a professional manner at all meetings.
- i. Have complete and enthusiastic participation in all Student Council activities.

3. Secretary/Parliamentarian

- a. Take minutes of all meetings to prepare them for distribution to council Representatives. Take minutes according to the agenda (this serves as an outline).
- b. Type minutes and reproduce as soon as possible so that details will not be forgotten.
- c. Read minutes aloud at the end of each meeting. For additions or corrections, add them directly to your copy and then retype them for permanent files.

- d. Write minutes so that anyone can understand them. Do not use first names or vague dates. Use plenty of background information when the need arises to ensure that Representatives who were absent will still be able to understand what was missed.
 - e. Always be as specific as possible: know what motions were made, who made them, who seconded them, and the vote.
 - f. Record any announcements given.
 - g. Always type the minutes and sign them in your own handwriting.
 - h. Handle all council correspondence, including thank you notes, Christmas cards to area schools, etc.
 - i. Serve on the executive committee.
 - j. Always present himself/herself in a professional manner at all meetings.
 - k. Have complete and enthusiastic participation in all Student Council activities.
4. Historian
- a. Record all council activities visually.
 - b. Chair the scrapbook committee.
 - c. Serve on the executive committee.
 - d. Always present himself/herself in a professional manner at all meetings.
 - e. Have complete and enthusiastic participation in all Student Council activities.
5. Lead Committee Chairperson
- a. Call and preside over meetings of all committees.
 - b. Inform advisors of progress and problems which arise.
 - c. Delegate tasks of committees and follow up with members to be sure plans are completed.
 - d. Recruit members for committees.
 - e. Write up all proposals for committees.
 - f. Serve on the executive committee.
 - g. Always present himself/herself in a professional manner at all meetings.
 - h. Have complete and enthusiastic participation in all Student Council activities.

Section D.
Committees

The President shall have the power to appoint standing committees for the Student Council upon the approval of the sponsor.

The following committees shall be appointed:

1. Pride and Patriotism committee
 - a. Plan and implement activities which promote pride and patriotism:
 - 1.National pride
 - 2.State Pride
 - 3.School Pride
 - 4.Individual Pride
 - b. Plan and implement cultural and school spirit related activities such as:
 - 1.National Women's History (March)
 - 2.Cinco de Mayo
 - 3.African American History (February)
 - 4.Chinese New Year
 - 5.Christmas Party
 - 6.Homecoming Projects
 - 7.Responsible for accomplishing at least one activity with a middle or elementary school each semester.
 - 8.Responsible for encouraging voting and voting registration in the faculty and with eligible students.
 - 9.Responsible for meeting all other qualifications as outlined by the TASC.
 - c. Responsible for participating in student council activities outlined in this constitution.
2. New Student Committee
 - a. Greet all new students to the campus and show them the school and its facilities.
 - b. Create new student gifts each grading period.
 - c. Other Student Council activities as outlined in the constitution
3. Community Service Committee
 - a. Responsible for the following activities:
 - 1.Lake Cities Canned Food Drive
 - 2.Campus Improvement Project
 - 3.Carter Blood Drive
 - 4.Must complete other small projects each six weeks.
 - b. Responsible for participating in student council activities outlined in this constitution.

4. Energy and Environment committee
 - a. Make posters publicizing the importance of energy and environment conservation.
 - b. Create projects that promote an environment-friendly school mentality.
 - c. Work with companies outside of school for clean ups.
 - d. Create presentations to bring awareness to energy conservation.
5. DASH (Drugs, Alcohol, Safety, Health)
 - a. Responsible for the following activities:
 - 1.Red Ribbon Week
 - 2.Drunk Driving project/Hazardous driving project
 - 3.Shattered Dreams
 - 4.Pennies for Pasta
 - 5.Teens in the Driver's Seat
 - 6.Must complete other small projects each six weeks.
 - b. Responsible for participating in student council activities outlined in this constitution.
6. I am Beautiful Committee
 - a. Promote self beauty on campus
 - b. Create posters that promote self confidence.
 - c. Become involved in activities that promote students/faculty members to find things they love about themselves.
7. Teacher Appreciation Committee
 - a. Responsible for all activities regarding teacher appreciation.
 - b. Create posters thanking teachers and promoting appreciation for teachers among the student body.
 - c. Responsible for all activities regarding Teacher Appreciation Week (first week in May).

Section E.

Power and Duties of the Committee Chairpersons

1. Make a report in writing to the Secretary of the Student Council and to the Student Council proper on activities of their committees upon request of the executive committee.
2. Attend all executive committee meetings.
3. See to it that the committee fulfills the duties for which they were set up to.

Section F.

The Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee consists of all Officers plus the chairpersons of the standing committees. The President shall preside over the Executive Committee.
2. Any new business taken before the council will be placed on the agenda before the new business can be discussed in a general session. One day before the regularly scheduled Student Council meetings, the Executive Committee will plan the agenda which will be distributed to every Representative of the Student Council.
3. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President, Principal, Sponsor, or three members of the Executive Committee.

Article V

Election of Student Council Officers

Section A.

The President, Vice-President, Secretary/Parliamentarian, Treasurer, Historian, and Lead Committee Chairperson shall be elected by the entire student body by popular vote, and considerations given by the sponsor and school administration.

Section B.

Candidates for President, Vice-President, Secretary/Parliamentarian, Treasurer, Historian, and Lead Committee Chairperson have their names printed on the ballot by presenting an application to the sponsor.

1. Candidate names and applications must be submitted by the due date, no exceptions.
2. Student Council Officer Elections will be held after the third nine weeks.
3. Candidates for Student Council Officer must have been an active member of Student Council the school year in which they are running.
4. Candidates for officer must present a digital portfolio of their contribution to the council as well as project proposals for each reporting category.

Section E.

A candidate must receive a majority of votes cast in order to win.

Section F.

Ballots will be counted in the presence of the sponsor, principal, teacher, and one senior member of the executive committee.

Article VI

Dismissal of Officers and Committee Members

Section A.

All grounds for the *Dismissal of Representatives* apply to Officers and Committee Members.

Section B.

If an Officer or Committee Member down-grade, unduly disturbs, does not meet point requirements for two consecutive grading periods, or does not cooperate with the Student Council, he/she may be removed from the council by a vote of two-thirds of members present at any regular meeting, by the sponsor, or by the principal.

Section C.

If any Officer or Committee Member of the Student Council resigns, moves from the school, or is removed from the council, a replacement must be appointed at once by any means decided upon by the council and sponsor.

Section D.

If the President is removed from office for any reason, the Vice-President automatically takes his/her place, and another Vice-President is appointed by the executive committee, sponsor, and approved by the principal.

Article VII

Removal of Officers

Section A.

The following procedures apply for the removal of Student Council Officers:

1. Any Officer who fails a course for a semester after he/she is elected shall be removed.
2. Any Officer who has been elected but has not assumed office and fails a course will not be allowed to take office.
3. Any Officer who has acquired more than two days of ISS from the time of elections to the end of the term will be removed from the office.
4. Any Officer whose grade drops below a 70 for any nine weeks will be on probation, if it continues the next nine weeks they will be removed from office and face the consequences of a Representative.
5. Any Officer who neglects his/her duties and powers will be put on probation.
6. Officers shall be present for all meetings. Only excuses approved by the sponsor will be accepted, and each will be evaluated individually. Except for sudden illness or death in the family, the sponsor must be notified before the absence. If an Officer misses more than two meetings in a single nine weeks period without sponsor approval, the Officer will be removed from office.
7. Any Officer that is put on probation more than once, for any reason, will be removed from office.
8. The Officer may appeal to the principal. An appeal must be initiated within seven days of the Officer's removal. The principal will hear both sides and make a decision. During the appeal hearing, the principal, sponsor, Officer, Officer's parents, and a teacher of the student's choice may be present.
9. Officers may also be removed if they at any point reach below a zero on the point system and remain negative for longer than a three week period.

Article VII
Amending the Constitution

Section A.

Amendments shall be proposed in writing at a regular meeting by a Representative of the Student Council.

Section B.

Amendments shall be discussed and voted on at the next regular meeting.

Section C.

Amendments shall be effective when ratified by two-thirds of the Representatives present at the meeting.