

The Constitution of Linganore High School Student Government Association

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Linganore High School Student Government Association (SGA).

Article II: Affiliation

The Linganore SGA shall maintain an affiliation with the Frederick County Association of Student Councils (FCASC), the Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC) and the National Association of Student Councils (NASC).

Article III: Purpose

The purpose of this association shall be:

1. To act as the official voice of, and as a representative of, the students of Linganore High School.
2. To promote the welfare of the students of LHS and to work for the betterment of their education.
3. To create opportunities for the exchange of ideas and increased interest in student government.
4. To foster an environment that promotes the development of leadership skills.
5. To promote citizenship and knowledge of the democratic process.

Article IV: Membership

Any eligible student in grades 9-12 may serve as a representative to the SGA.

The officers and advisor shall create a system each year to gather representatives that represent the student body as a whole. SGA representatives shall attend the general assembly meetings and vote on SGA business. Any student is welcome to attend events and activities outside of the business meetings.

Article V: The General Assembly

All legislative powers shall rest with the General Assembly.

The General Assembly shall consist of representatives from all four grade levels and the elected officers.

The representatives shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Attend meetings of the General Assembly;
2. present concerns of students they represent;
3. take an active participatory role during meetings; and
4. vote on business issues before the SGA.

All business conducted by the General Assembly shall be in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Article VI: Executive Board

All executive powers shall rest with the Executive Board.

The Executive Board shall be comprised of the elected officer team, which consists of:

President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and FCASC Representative. Class Council Officers will also be members of the Executive Board.

The duties and responsibilities of the Executive Board shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Planning and executing all SGA activities;
2. preparing agendas for all SGA meetings;
3. representing LHS at county, state, and national events; and
4. attending all SGA meetings and events.

The Executive Board shall have the power to formally recommend action on documents, provisions, and any other official business.

Article VII: Elected Officers & Duties

Officers are expected to attend all meetings and events.

The President shall:

1. serve as a representative from LHS to FCASC and MASC;
2. set the agenda and run all meetings of the group;
3. perform all other duties pertaining to the office as deemed necessary;
4. report on current activities at all General Assembly and Executive Board meetings; and represent the student body on the School Improvement Team.

The First Vice President shall:

1. assume all duties of the President in his or her absence;
2. aid the President in the fulfillment of his or her duties;
3. assume responsibility for organizing and coordinating committee meetings;
4. coordinate all service activities;
5. coordinate the Homecoming Parade;
6. perform any other duties pertaining to the office as deemed necessary by the President; and
7. be first in the line of succession to the President.

The Second Vice President shall:

1. assist in organizing and coordinating committee meetings;
2. coordinate the winter spirit week; and
3. perform any other duties pertaining to the office as deemed necessary by the President; and

The Secretary shall:

1. keep and record the minutes of all meetings;
2. send the complete minutes to the President and the Advisor within one business day of the meeting;
3. oversee public relations and social media; and
4. perform any other duties pertaining to the office as deemed necessary by the President;

The Treasurer shall:

1. keep record of monies earned and spent;
2. make regular financial reports; and
3. perform any other duties pertaining to the office as deemed necessary by the President;

The FCASC Representative shall:

1. attend all FCASC meetings and activities;
2. regularly report to LHS the information from FCASC and MASC; and
3. perform any other duties pertaining to the office as deemed necessary by the President;

Article VIII: Individual Class Councils

Each Class Council is comprised of the following elected positions:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian.

All class council members serve on the SGA Executive Board.

Individual Class Advisors work with Class Councils to complete the business of their individual groups.

Article IX: Qualifications, Elections, and Term of Office

Qualification

1. All Executive Board members must be a student at LHS during their entire term of office/service.
2. All Executive Board members must be academically eligible.
3. The 2nd Vice President must be a 9th or 10th grade student while serving in office.
4. All other offices shall be filled by students who are in any grade.

Elections

1. Elections must follow a specific election procedure as outlined in writing annually.
2. Candidates must receive the simple majority of votes to gain a position, except in the case of an uncontested race, where the candidate must receive 2/3 of the votes cast.
3. All students in grades 9-11 are eligible to vote in annual SGA elections.
4. Regular Elections must be held at least annually.
5. Special Elections will be held as necessary to fill vacant positions.

Term of Office

1. All newly elected officers shall serve as an officer-elect/shadow for the remainder of the current year.
2. Terms will run consecutive to the school year.
3. In the case of a special election the newly elected officer will take office immediately following the election.
4. Newly elected officers may hold and attend meetings during the summer prior to holding office.

Article X: Executive Board

All board members shall:

1. Be an elected SGA officer, Class Council Officer, or official Committee Chair.
2. Meet all qualifications to hold the position.
3. Develop and implement goals for the group.
4. Attend as many Executive Board meetings as possible.
5. Work together to support all student government and class council activities, meetings, and events.

The Executive Board shall:

1. Meet at least once a month,
2. Be composed of the elected SGA officers, Class Council Officers, and official Committee Chairs,
3. Coordinate the activities, meetings, and events of the SGA and Class Councils,
4. Approve or deny all recommendations made by the Executive Board by a simple majority vote.

Article XI: Removal of Officers

Grounds for removal from office shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Serious violation(s) of this constitution or power of office,
2. Excessive absence from meetings and events, and
3. Conviction of felonies or misdemeanors excluding minor traffic violations.

Any student at LHS may submit a written complaint against any officer or member to the SGA Advisor. The Advisor shall investigate the complaint in order to determine whether or not it merits further action.

Every member of the SGA is held to the same standards as all students as outlined in the eligibility section of the FCPS student handbook. Failure to meet the outlined standards will result in being automatically suspended from office. Any student who meets the eligibility standards after being suspended may resume participation in SGA immediately.

Filling of Vacancies:

If the office of President is vacated during the school year, the 1st Vice President takes the office of President.

If the office of President is vacated prior to the start of school, or any other office is vacated at any time a special election will be held.

Article XII: Amendments

Any amendment, or change to this constitution, may be proposed in writing to members of the General Assembly and/or Executive Board. Amendments will be subject to debate under Parliamentary Procedure and will require a simple majority vote of the General Assembly to pass.

Article XIII: Ratification

This document shall be ratified by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly.