

Official Constitution for the Student Senate of Titusville High School

We, the students of Titusville High School, in order to establish better communication between the students, the faculty, and the administration; to promote and organize student activities; to bring unity to the student body; to involve students in an important learning activity; to allow students to have a voice in democratic decision-making; to provide a guideline for student rights and responsibilities, do hereby ratify this constitution.

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Student Senate of Titusville High School.

Article II. Membership

Membership in this organization shall be based on scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Members must complete thirty (30) hours of school service before the end of the school year for which they are elected in order to receive a pin.

Membership in this organization is open to all Titusville High School students who meet the above criteria.

Members must maintain the standards by which they were elected and meet other obligations as determined by the Student Senate Executive Committee.

Article III. Organization

The Student senate shall be a unicameral legislative body under the supervision of the Student Senate Executive Committee.

A. The Student Senate shall consist of the following members:

1. Five elected officers of the Student Senate (president of the Senate, president pro tempore of the Senate, Senate secretary, Senate treasurer, and Senate sergeant-at-arms) who are elected by the Student Senate. The president of the Senate is the presiding officer over the Senate.

B. The Executive Committee

The executive committee shall be composed of the following members:

1. The Senate Advisor/s
2. Senate Officers

C. Legislation

All legislation will originate in the Executive Committee and be passed by a simple majority of the Student Senate. Members are encouraged to voice their concerns during debate of the pending legislation.

D. Violations

No action of the Student Senate shall be in violation of the practices and policies of the State and National Association of High School Councils. Nor will any action be in violation of the practices and policies of the Brevard County School Board.

Article IV. Meetings

- A. The Student Senate shall meet twice, the first and third Tuesday of every month.
- B. The Executive Committee shall meet once a week on a day agreed upon by the Committee.

Article V. Officers and their Duties

- A. The officers of the Student Senate shall consist of a president of the Senate, president pro tempore of the Senate, Senate secretary, Senate treasurer, and Senate sergeant-at-arms, who shall have been a member for one year and meet the School Board of Brevard County requirements for participation in extra-curricular activities.
- B. The president of the Senate shall be a member of the senior class; shall demonstrate knowledge of parliamentary procedure; shall preside at meetings of the Executive Committee and the Student Senate; shall vote only in the case of a tie; will appoint with the concurrence of the Student Senate advisor all committee chairpersons, and shall assign duties to senators as needed.
- C. The president pro tempore of the Senate shall be a member of the senior class; shall demonstrate knowledge of parliamentary procedure; will assist the president of the Senate in the selection of all committee chairpersons; shall have one vote in the Senate and the Executive Committee; assume the duties of the president of the Senate in the event of his/her absence.
- D. The Senate secretary shall be of any grade level; shall keep on file the minutes of each meeting of the Student Senate and Executive Committee; shall handle all correspondence of the Student Senate and keep a record of them; shall have one vote in the Student Senate and Executive Committee.
- E. The Senate treasurer shall be of any grade level; shall handle all financial matters pertaining to the Student Senate; to keep accurate records of all money transactions; to receive all monies of the Student Senate and deposit it; shall have one vote in the Student Senate and Executive Committee.

- F. The Senate sergeant-at-arms shall be of any grade level; shall handle all attendance matters pertaining to the Student Senate; keep accurate records of all attendance; shall keep order in meetings of the Student Senate and shall have one vote in the Student Senate and Executive Committee.
- G. Senators shall first represent the entire student body and then his/her class in making decisions concerning the welfare of the school; shall have one vote in the Student Senate.

Article VI. Filling Vacancies

- A. If the president of the Senate becomes temporarily unable to carry out his/her duties, the president pro tempore will assume said duties until the Senate president is able to resume them. If the office of president of the senate is permanently vacated, the president pro tempore of the Senate shall become Senate president.
- B. If a vacancy of any seat on the Executive Committee, other than the president occurs, the entire Student Senate shall select a replacement by a two-thirds vote. The Executive Committee shall make recommendations from among the members of the Senate for the replacement.

Article VII. Elections

All elections shall be under the supervision of the SGA Advisor/s.

- A. The following procedures shall be followed during elections:
 - 1. Student Senate elections will take place during the month of April for all senior, junior, and sophomore senators. Freshmen senators will be elected during the third week of the new school year.
 - 2. During the first week of elections, all persons planning to run for the Student Senate will make their intentions known to the Student Senate advisor/s by a petition referring one-hundred individual signatures of current Titusville High School students, five faculty signatures, and one administrative signature. Signatures may not be duplicated.
 - 3. During the second week, the Student Senate advisor/s shall verify the qualifications of all candidates, or a duly selected individual by the Titusville High School administration.
 - 4. Actual campaigning may begin on Monday of the designated week and continue throughout that week.
 - 5. Campaign speeches shall be made on film during the campaign week. If speeches aren't deemed appropriate by the Student Senate advisor/s, the candidate will be disqualified from the election.

6. Voting will take place on days scheduled by the Student Senate advisor/s and the student activities coordinator.
7. Vote counting will be under the supervision of the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections and will be approved by the Student Senate advisor/s.

Article VIII. Committees

- A. The president of the Senate shall appoint the chairperson of all committees, with the concurrence of the advisor/s.
- B. Committee chairpersons shall select their membership from the Student Senate.

Article IX. Rules of Order

The Student Senate meetings shall be based on Robert's Rules of Order.

Article X. Ratification and Amendments

This constitution shall be ratified by a majority vote of all senators. All amendments to this constitution shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the Student Senate.

Article XI. Removal from Office or Membership of the Student Senate

Excused absences must be submitted in writing twenty-four hours before a meeting is scheduled to occur. Administrators, teachers, coaches, doctors, and parents are the only individuals who can excuse all senators from a meeting.

- A. Removal from office can occur under the following situations:
 1. Missing two activities or meetings with unexcused absences.
 - a. one unexcused absence = warning
 - b. two unexcused absences = dismissal
 2. Suspension out-of-school can lead to dismissal from office at the discretion of the administration, student activities coordinator, and the Student Senate advisor/s.
 3. Other disciplinary actions taken can lead to dismissal from office after review by the Executive Committee, student activities coordinator, and the administration.
 4. Any senator having 4 unexcused tardies to meetings. Two tardies is the equivalent of one unexcused absence.