

The Constitution of Homestead High School Latin Club

Preamble:

We, the members of the Homestead High School Latin Club, in order to coordinate the work of our members and assist with the activities of the Wisconsin Junior Classical League, do hereby adopt the following constitution and agree to abide by its provisions.

Article I: Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of the Homestead High School Latin Club shall be to gain a more thorough knowledge of classical life, history, and literature; to understand the practical and cultural values of the classics; and to interest other students in classical languages, literature, government, law, and arts.

Section 2. The Homestead High School Latin Club formulates its policies in accordance with the policies of the Wisconsin Junior Classical League.

Section 3. The welfare of the Homestead High School Latin Club requires close cooperation among the affiliated members, the board members, and the teachers. Long-term needs and immediate concerns must be balanced carefully. To this end, every attempt has been made to provide checks and balances to assure that every substantial decision truly has the support of both those most concerned with the long-term health of the organization – the teachers – and those most concerned with the immediate needs of the organization – the members and board members.

Article II: Membership

Section 1. Any Latin Student in Homestead may join the Homestead High School Latin Club through the payment of dues and enrollment in the Latin program. The sponsors of the Homestead High School Latin Club shall be members of the American Classical League.

Section 2. Qualified members of Homestead High School Latin Club are also individual members of the WJCL and the NJCL.

Section 3. Members of the Homestead High School Latin Club are entitled to one vote per position during elections for the next year's Homestead Latin Board.

Article III: Officers

Section 1. The elected officers of the Homestead High School Latin Club shall be the following, in gavel order: President, two 1st Vice Presidents, two 2nd Vice Presidents, Parliamentarian, Secretary, Historian, Treasurer, State Representative, and Public Representative.

Section 2. All officers shall serve one full school year and newly elected officers shall take their positions September 1st, unless a current officer is elected to the WJCL Board or wishes to step down after elections.

Section 3. Any officer must be a member of the Homestead High School Latin Club, the WJCL and the NJCL.

Section 4. Officers may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to both the President, Parliamentarian, and Latin teachers two weeks prior to resignation.

Section 5. Any sponsor or officer may begin impeachment proceedings by sending the President, Parliamentarian, Latin teachers, and charged officer a letter detailing charges or wrongdoings of duties of office. At the next board meeting – which may not be held until at least one week after the charged officer has received written notice of the charges – a motion to read the charges against the officer may be introduced. If a majority of Board members present passes the motion, the charged officer will be granted the floor in order to present a defense. Only after this defense may a motion to remove the officer from office be introduced. This motion shall require the approval of two-thirds of Board members present in order to pass.

Article IV: Duties of Office

Section 1. The President shall preside and lead/conduct at all meetings of the Homestead High School Latin Club. The president may appoint committees with their respective chairs, serve ex-officio on committees, and plan yearly projects and events.

Section 2. The 1st Vice Presidents shall oversee the training of Certamen players in order to prepare them for State Convention. The 1st Vice Presidents shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President or when otherwise requested by the President. There must be two 1st Vice Presidents at all times.

Section 3. The 2nd Vice Presidents shall perform all duties relating to spirit and service, including spirit contests, service contests, promotion of spirit and service, and delegating roll call for the WJCL State Convention. There must be two 2nd Vice Presidents at all times.

Section 4. The Parliamentarian will be responsible for using Robert's Rules of Order to determine any procedural questions. The Parliamentarian shall maintain a current copy of the Homestead High School Latin Club Constitution and provide the proper forms for candidates. The Parliamentarian shall preside over all meetings pertaining to elections, the constitution, or amendments.

Section 5. The Secretary shall take minutes of Homestead High School Latin Club Board Meetings, send copies of the minutes to all officers within two weeks after such meetings, and provide a link to published minutes on the Homestead High School Latin Club website. The Secretary shall also conduct Homestead High School Latin Club correspondence and retain appropriate records, as well as maintain the Homestead High School Latin Club website.

Section 6. The Historian shall prepare a scrapbook for the WJCL convention and photograph all Latin events at Homestead, as well as Homestead students at WJCL and NJCL conventions. The Historian shall also keep the Flickr account up to date.

Section 7: The Treasurer shall maintain a record of receipts and expenditures, purchase materials and supplies when needed, for which they will be reimbursed, and submit treasury reports at board meetings. All payments shall be co-signed by the Head of The Latin Department. In addition, the Treasurer shall be responsible for generating any needed club revenue through fundraising.

Section 8. The State Representative shall attend all WJCL board meetings as the Homestead voting delegate, maintain connections with other schools and the WJCL board, and record details from these meetings to report to the Homestead High School Latin Club Board.

Section 9. The Public Representative shall publicize all going-ons of Homestead High School Latin Club in the form of announcements, Facebook posts, the Snapchat account, the Instagram account, and the announcement board.

Article V: Elections

Section 1. All candidates who wish to run for office must declare their intention to do so by submitting the necessary forms to the Parliamentarian with a signature from the Head Latin teacher by a date determined by the current board.

Section 2: Candidates for President must be a junior the year they run. Candidates for any other office must have entered the ninth or higher grade. Candidates for President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and Parliamentarian must have attended at least one State Convention, and it is highly recommended for all other candidates to have done so as well. The positions of 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President must run as a pair. No candidates for office shall have completed the eleventh grade unless in the case of an emergency election.

Section 3. Should no candidates declare their intent to run for an office by the determined date, a State-of-Emergency is to be declared. The Parliamentarian is obligated to notify all club members as soon as possible. Any qualified member of the Homestead High School Latin Club, including a current candidate for another office, may declare their intention to run for the office. Should no Homestead High School Latin Club member declare candidacy for the office by the end of the school year, a Vacancy Election shall be held at the beginning of the next school year.

Section 4. Officers shall be elected at a predetermined date by the Parliamentarian and Latin teachers. The Parliamentarian shall keep a record of any contested election for examination by any Homestead High School Latin Club member until the start of next school year after the election in question.

Section 5. Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, a runoff election will occur between the 1st Vice Presidents unless one of them does not wish to be President. Should a vacancy occur in any office other than that of the President, the Parliamentarian must notify all Latin Club members as soon as possible and call a Vacancy Election.

Section 6. Any qualified Homestead High School Latin Club member may submit a declaration of candidacy to be considered a candidate in a Vacancy Election, provided that the candidate is declared at least one week prior to the election meeting. At the election meeting, each candidate shall be interviewed individually in front of the Homestead Latin Board. Each Board member and each Latin teacher shall be entitled to one vote. A candidate must win a majority of votes cast in order to be elected. Should no candidate win a majority of the votes, a runoff election between the two candidates who received the most votes shall occur.

Section 7. Should a State-of-Emergency be declared and a Vacancy Election occur, current officers will be barred from running for a second position. Officers may only hold one position on the Homestead Board per term.

Article VI: Amendments

Section 1. Any Homestead High School Latin Club member may submit amendments to the Parliamentarian for consideration. At the next Homestead High School Latin Club meeting, the Parliamentarian shall present proposed amendments for discussion and revision.

Section 2. Ratification of amendments shall require a two-thirds majority of votes cast, excluding those of abstention.

Section 3. The Homestead High School Board as well as the Latin teachers of Homestead are allowed to vote. If a voter is absent at the time of the meeting, their vote may be collected electronically, with some form of evidence shown to the Parliamentarian or one of the Latin teachers.

Article VII: The Head of the Latin Department Supremacy of Law

Section 1: Magis' rulings take precedence over constitutional laws, but in order for her ruling to take effect, it must be passed by a majority of the board.

Article VIII: WJCL State Convention and NJCL National Convention

Section 1: The WJCL State Convention attendees shall be determined by grades, behavior, merit, interest in Latin, and ultimately chosen by the Latin teachers. Refer to the WJCL Constitution for more information.

Section 2: The NJCL National Convention attendees shall be determined by oneself, as attendees must sign up themselves. Refer to the NJCL Constitution for more information.

Section 3: There may only be four Homestead candidates for the WJCL State Latin Board. There will be a runoff election between all candidates, regardless of what position they want to run for. Each Homestead High School Latin Board member and each Latin teacher shall be entitled to one vote. If a candidate for the WJCL State Latin Board is a member of the Homestead Latin Board, they cannot vote and their vote is not counted in the tally nor is it counted as a vote of abstention. The four candidates with the most votes will become Homestead's WJCL State candidates.