

George Walton Comprehensive High School

Student Government Association Constitution and Bylaws

The name of this organization shall be the George Walton Comprehensive High School Student Government Association herein referred to as the “SGA”. The “SGA” shall be composed of an Executive Board, Class Officers, and Class Representatives from each grade, and overseen by the SGA Sponsor. All powers of the SGA shall be vested in the elected Officers and Representatives and the actions taken by this organization will have the prior approval of the Advisors and Administration.

The Student Government Association of George Walton Comprehensive High School shall follow the parliamentary procedure of the National Association of Student Councils.

The purpose of the organization is to give Walton students a voice in aiding the administration and faculty in carrying out the mission and goals of the school by providing student leadership and acting as a liaison between the students, faculty, and administration.

“SGA” represents the student body in carrying out the school's mission and goals to ensure inclusion, student well-being, and community involvement by:

*Improving the quality of life for the student body through school initiatives and efforts,
Increasing the connection of Walton’s students to the school leadership and community as a whole,
Ensuring Walton’s various organizations have a common purpose, and
Embracing Walton’s spirit.*

Article I: Membership

All students enrolled at George Walton Comprehensive High School are members of the Student Government Association. The student body shall elect Officers and Representatives to carry out the mission of the “SGA”. In order to be a voting member of the SGA, the student must be enrolled as a student at Walton High School. If any member of SGA is suspended from school for any reason, he will be dismissed from office. Anyone under suspension cannot be elected or appointed to a student government position.

Section 1: Candidate Qualifications

1. At the time of qualifying, all candidates must have a 3.0 overall academic grade point average and a “satisfactory” (S) average in conduct.
2. Candidates must be members of his/her Class determined by the number of credits necessary as set by the State Board of Education and the Cobb Board of Education.
 - a. If a student is to be retained in their current grade, they may run for Class Representative, but not Class Officer. (Amended Fall 2011)
3. All candidates should demonstrate a concern for the school’s mission and passion in promoting school spirit.
4. All upcoming sophomore, junior, and senior candidates will be required to receive an endorsement by one faculty member or administrator. (Amended Summer 2026)

5. Candidates may not have been guilty of serious infractions of school rules and regulations, such as cheating.
6. Disciplinary infractions will prohibit any candidate from running for office/membership in SGA. (Amended Fall 2010)

Section 2: Requirements for SGA Membership and Office

1. Once elected to office, all Officers and Class Representatives must pay the monetary amount as set forth in the application packet in dues, which includes their SGA T-Shirt and other organizational expenditures. (Amended Fall 2010)
2. If SGA Dues are not paid by the date and time intended, the amount shall increase by \$10. If a member has not paid their dues by October 1st of that year, he/she will be dismissed from the program. Student Government T-shirts will only be distributed to students if and only if he/she has paid his/her Dues for that school year. (Amended Fall 2009)
3. All members in SGA must complete at least 12 total hours of service: 8 hours in the Fall and 4 hours in the Spring. For underclassmen, failure to meet service requirements will result in removal from SGA and prohibition for running for future office/ membership. For seniors, failure to meet the Fall requirement will result in removal for the Spring semester.

Article II: Elections

Section 1: Executive Board

1. The Executive Board Officers shall be elected by outgoing SGA Officers and Representatives, prior to the Spring elections of the next year.
2. Candidates will be required to submit an application demonstrating their interest.
3. During a regularly scheduled meeting, candidates are given a thirty second period to showcase why they should be elected.

Section 2: Class Officers and Representatives

1. Upperclassmen Officers and Representatives shall assume office May 1st
 - a. Upperclassmen Officers will be elected by the most votes during the Spring semester at a time designated by the Election Committee.
 - b. Freshmen Officers will be elected and assume office during the Fall semester at a time designated by the Election Committee.
 - c. Representatives from each grade level to be chosen from the student with the second highest number of votes for each Officer position.
 - d. Rerunning candidates who were not selected as either officer or representative may be selected by the SGA Sponsor as a member at large based on previous excellent service, class officer recommendations, etc. (Amended Fall 2012, Fall 2026)

2. Students are prohibited from running jointly for any Officer or Representative position in Student Government. Running as Co-Presidents, Co-Vice Presidents, Co-Secretaries, Co-Treasurers, and Co-Representatives will not be permitted. (Amended Fall 2009)

Article III: Executive Board

The Executive Board shall be composed of the President and Vice-President.

Section 1: SGA Executive Board Qualifications

1. Executive President: The candidate will be an upcoming Senior who has served in SGA for at least one year. The candidate may not plan to graduate after the first semester and cannot have an 0th period.
2. Executive Vice-President: The candidate will be an upcoming Junior or Senior who has served in SGA for at least one year.
3. Executive President and Vice President candidates will be required to submit endorsements by two faculty members and/or administrators. (Amended Fall 2026).

Section 2: Duties of the Executive Board

1. President: The President will be the Chief Executive Officer of the Student Government Association. The President will, with the consent of the Advisors, have the power and authority to convene the Executive Board and/or the Student Government Association. The President shall preside over Student Government and Executive meetings. The President will, with the consent of the Advisors, appoint special Committee Chairpersons and empower them within the confines of this constitution, recommend legislation to the Association, lobby on its behalf, and request the opinions of Representatives concerning matters relating to the Student Government Association. The President will oversee the conduct of Class Presidents and Vice Presidents. The President will be responsible for oversight of communication between SGA and the school. (Amended Fall 2026)
2. Executive Vice-President: The Executive Vice-President will assist the President as requested and shall assume responsibility in the absence of the President. This person will serve as President of the Raider Club, composed of the Presidents of all clubs at Walton High School. The Executive Vice President will oversee Class Treasurers and Secretaries in the recording of attendance and service hours.
3. The Executive Board shall meet periodically to discuss any current events and issues within the organization.
4. The Executive Board shall constitute the Election Committee by:
 - a. Setting dates for annual elections,
 - b. Deciding upon election procedures, and
 - c. Conducting Homecoming Court Elections and Winterfest Court Elections.

Article IV: Class Officers

Each Class at George Walton Comprehensive High School will elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer to work with the Class Advisor.

Section 1: Duties of the Class Officers

All Class Officers will represent the student body with integrity and hold office for a period of one year. All Class Officers are expected to meet in SGA homeroom when delegated. All Class Officers will observe all rules and regulations set down by the Executive Board regarding attendance and parliamentary procedure.

1. **President:** The President will be the Chief Executive Officer of his/her respective Class. He/she will, with the consent of the Class Advisor, have the power and authority to convene Class meetings, report on the status of his represented Class, and any other duties necessary and/or delegated by the Class Advisor.
2. **Vice-President:** The Vice President oversees all communication between their SGA Class and the school, including coordinating announcements and social media for all SGA events. The Vice President will be responsible for representing their class on the Communications Committee. The Vice President will assume the duties of the President in the event of his/her absence. The Vice President will be responsible for any other duties delegated by the President. (Fall 2026)
3. **Secretary:** For all meetings, the Secretary will take minutes while keeping permanent records. The Secretary will be responsible for taking and keeping accurate attendance records for all meetings on a spreadsheet delegated by the Executive Board, and will notify the Executive Vice President and SGA advisor of students not adhering to attendance policies. The Secretary will work with the Vice President to handle all official correspondence amongst the members of SGA. The Secretary will be responsible for any other duties delegated by the President.
4. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer will prepare an annual budget with the assistance of the officers, representatives, and sponsors. The Treasurer will maintain accurate records of all SGA funds, ensure that expenses are reimbursed, and handle the financial aspects of SGA activities, including purchasing all supplies. The Treasurer will be responsible for representing their class on the Fundraising Committee. The Treasurer is responsible for any other duties as delegated by the President. (Fall 2026)
5. If the office of President is vacated for any reason, the Vice-President will immediately become the President with all the powers and responsibilities of that office. The new President will serve the full unexpired term of his predecessor. If the office of Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer is vacated for any reason, the President will appoint a member of his or her Class Representatives for that office. The appointee will be approved by the remainder of the Class Officers, Class Advisor, and SGA Advisor.

6. In case a Senior Class Officer does not fulfill his/her duties by the end of the year, the corresponding Senior Class SGA Executive Board Officer will take over his/her responsibilities at graduation. (Amended Fall 2011)

Article V: Class Representatives

Section 1: Duties of the Class Representatives

1. Serve the school through SGA committees.
2. Promote, legislate, and lobby for rules and regulations for the general welfare and improvement of the school.
3. Observe all rules and regulations set down by the constitution, the Executive Board and their Class Officers regarding attendance and assigned duties.
4. Attend all scheduled and announced SGA meetings.
5. Vote on all legislation.

Article VI: Committees

Each committee will be headed by a designated Chairperson appointed by the Executive Board. The entirety of the “SGA” will be responsible for serving on one or more of the following committees:

1. Communications:
 - a. Creating communication material to go out for any SGA events.
 - b. Making posters for upcoming events (fundraisers, community service)
 - c. Student climate (work to get more students involved in SGA events)
 - d. Make announcements during lunch (with admin)
2. Community Service:
 - a. Run the Schoolwide Club Food Drive
 - b. Research and coordinate other community service opportunities for SGA (1 Fall & 1 Spring).
 - c. Work with other clubs on community service opportunities.
 - d. Organize and supervise community service events.
3. Homecoming & Winterfest:
 - a. Compile list of nominees and make ballots for voting
 - b. Design notifications and Notify respective Courts of results
 - c. Prepare and supervise reception on TBD dates
4. Fundraising:
 - a. Come up with viable ideas for fundraising (1 fall & 1 spring).
 - b. Organize and supervise any fundraising events.
 - c. Set up and clean-up of any fundraising events.
5. Bulletin Boards:
 - a. Hang up SGA flyers/posters
 - b. Maintain organization/clean up boards
 - c. Redesign boards

Article VII: Meetings & Attendance

1. The SGA will meet on the ***second Friday of each month***, and during the school year as deemed necessary by the Executive Board. At each meeting, committees will meet with the designated Chairperson. When necessary, each class, including Officers and Representatives, will meet with the Class Advisor.
 - a. All members of the SGA are required to attend every meeting. After the ***second*** unexcused absence, a letter of reprimand will be sent to the absentee. After the ***third*** unexcused absence, the member will be removed from office.
 - b. With regards to all official meetings and any other Student Government related activities, two delayed, unexcused arrivals (tardies) will be counted as one unexcused absence. (Amended Fall 2009)
2. In addition to the mandatory regular once a month SGA meeting, class officers will attend and preside over class meetings. These meetings are open to the general student body of Walton and provide Student Government a means of informing and getting the student body involved in our activities.

Article VIII: Impeachment

Section 1: Grounds for Impeachment of SGA Officers or Representatives

Consequences for the blow offenses may consist of a certain amount of community service hours, as deemed proper by the Executive Board. Continual and repeated nonparticipation offenses will result in permanent dismissal from SGA. (Amended Spring 2010). The following relay the grounds of impeachment:

1. Abuse of position,
2. Neglect of duty which includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Not attending SGA meetings, class meetings, or any Committee-required meetings,
 - b. Not fulfilling Committee duties when called upon by a Committee Chair,
 - c. Noticeable lack of participation in Student Government sponsored activities and events.
3. Academic disqualification (G.P.A. remaining under 3.0 after nine weeks)
4. Any conduct considered to be inappropriate or undesirable,
5. Failing to meet GHSA requirements (must pass five classes during the previous semester)

Section 2: Impeachment Procedure

1. Any person making an accusation will first notify the Executive Board in writing of such accusation. The Officer or Representative accused will then speak in his/her own defense before the remainder of the Executive Board.
2. If the innocence of the SGA member cannot be established to the satisfaction of the Executive Board, charges will be brought against him/her at an emergency session

of the SGA. The accused then will be given the right to defend himself/herself before the SGA. A vote will then be taken by the SGA members present. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present is required to remove the accused from office.

3. Any student who is removed from office will have a letter stating the facts in the incident placed in his permanent file.
 - a. After removal from office, said member shall be indefinitely prohibited from future campaigns and membership in SGA. (Amended Fall 2010)
 - b. The replacement of a Student Government member who has been impeached, been removed from the program, or has resigned his/her position shall be left up to the discretion of the Executive Board.

Article IX: Ratification and Amendments

1. This constitution shall become effective within twenty-four hours after it is approved by a simple majority of the Student Government Association.
2. An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed at any meeting to the SGA, provided the Amendment has been submitted in writing to the Executive Board the week prior to its proposal. All Amendments shall be indicated and dated.
3. The Executive Board, in accordance with the SGA Sponsor, may at any time amend and/or edit the SGA Constitution in full. The Board must sign their names and date last edited after all previous names and dates revised.
4. The SGA Constitution must remain organized, uniform, and professional through all revisions.

Dates Revised: 5/13/2021, 7/20/2026

Last Revised: 7/20/2026, Jessica He & Mia Rhea