Student government at Yarmouth High School is broken up into two bodies:

- Student Senate
- Class Council

**Student Senate**

**ARTICLE I: STRUCTURE**

The Student Senate is the political section of the Yarmouth High School student government and is responsible for students’ political voice in the areas of school culture, academics, and extracurricular activities.

A. Positions: A total of 31 students will constitute the Student Senate.

   I. Executive Council
      
      Three positions will constitute the Executive Council of the Student Senate:
      
      President, Vice President, and Clerk

   II. The Delegation
      
      a. There will be four elected delegates per class.
      b. The remaining positions of the Student Senate will be held by ten at-large delegates appointed by the senate regardless of class.

   III. School Committee Liaisons
      
      a. The two members of the student body (one senior and one junior) who are accepted as School Committee Liaisons will automatically be senate members.

B. Responsibilities of positions

   I. Executive Council:
      
      a. the President will moderate discussions and be responsible for setting an agenda before each meeting.
      b. the Vice President will serve as assistant moderator and will be responsible for the president’s duties if the president is absent.
      c. the Clerk will be responsible for taking notes and attendance at each meeting. Also, the clerk will post the agenda and be responsible for publicizing events and happenings of the Executive Council.
II. Delegates:
   b. All delegates will serve on committees created by the Student Senate as described in Article III.

C. Relationship between Class Council and Student Senate:
   The four Class Presidents of the Class Councils may meet when necessary with the Executive Council of the Senate. The meetings will be moderated by the Senate President.

ARTICLE II: ELECTION PROCESS
A. Candidacy Requirements:
   I. Written Submission:
      Candidates for all positions (elected or at-large) will be required to submit a statement with a maximum of 250 words that addresses two or more of the focus areas of the Senate: School Culture, Academics, and Extra Curricular Activities.
   II. Speeches:
      Each candidate for Executive Council and elected delegate positions (but not at-large positions) will give a speech limited to two minutes. Executive Council candidates’ speeches will be given in front of the entire student body and class delegate speeches will be given to classes only.
   III. Question and Answer Session:
      The candidates for the President, Vice President, and Clerk of the Executive Council will undergo a question and answer period (either live or on Clipper TV) in which two faculty advisors and/or members of the current Executive Council ask questions submitted in advance by the student body.
      IV. Candidates for executive council must have previously served a full year on the Senate.

B. Timing of Elections:
   I. 2nd week of April: Executive Council Elections
   II. 3rd week of May: Senior, Junior, Sophomore elected delegate Elections
   III. 3rd week of September: Freshman elected delegate elections
   IV. 4th week of September: At Large delegate appointments

C. Filtering:
   I. Any candidate from the Executive Council elections who is not elected can participate in the class delegate elections.
   II. Any candidate who is not elected to a class delegate position can then resubmit materials into the At Large delegate appointment pool in the fall.

D. Transition of Power:
   The Executive Council will take office two weeks after being elected.

ARTICLE III: COMMITTEES
A. Standing Committees: When the full Senate first meets in the fall, it will create three standing committees. Proposals to the Student Senate may then be directed to standing committees or Ad Hoc Committees. The three standing committees are:
I. School Culture- dealing with areas such as parking, lunch, and student privileges.
II. Academics- dealing with areas such as review of CEP policies, graduation requirements, and faculty hiring.
III. Extra Curricular and Technology Activities- dealing with such areas as athletics, clubs, and technology.

B. Assembly Committee
   I. Members who are part of the assembly committee will organize senate run Wednesday morning assemblies and other assemblies as needed.
   II. The assembly committee will be made up of interested senators from any standing committee. These senators will will only meet with their standing committee when they do not have upcoming assemblies to organize.

C. Committee Chairs
   I. Election Process
      a. Individuals interested in a committee chair position will discuss their interest with their committee and notify the executive council
      b. Elections for the committee chair position will be by secret ballot within the committee
      c. Chairs can be a single senator or two senators who share the position as co-chairs
   II. Responsibilities
      a. Leading committee meetings during senate
      b. Sending an agenda every Monday to the committee and executive council
      c. Sending meeting minutes to the clerk

D. Ad Hoc Committees When need arises, the Senate may vote to create ad hoc committees to deal with a specific issue or policy areas:
   I. The Senate will elect one of its members to be Chair of the committee
   II. Ad Hoc committees will be open to any interested member of the student body or faculty. Anyone who attends at least the required number of meetings may have voting privileges on that committee.
   III. Meeting schedules and attendance requirements must be determined before the committee is formed with student body members.
   IV. Ad Hoc committees proceedings and votes are not binding, they work to clarify issues and make recommendations to the full Senate for final debate and voting.

ARTICLE IV: PROPOSAL SYSTEM
A. Students may submit a proposal using the given proposal system form (to be drafted/revised by the Student Senate each year or as necessary).
B. Proposals may be submitted anonymously.
C. Club proposals will also be submitted in this way.

ARTICLE V: POLICY REVIEW
A. The standing committees on School Culture, Academics, and Extracurricular/Technology will actively review and explore policy change.
B. In the fall, each committee will create a prioritized agenda of policy areas to be reviewed or researched and an action plan for this work.
ARTICLE VI: VOTING
A. Fist to five vote
   I. The “fist to five” voting system will be used as a means to enhance discussion and gauge initial support of an issue.
   II. If any voting member “fists” the vote the fistimg member must explain his or her reasons for disagreeing.
   III. The “fist to five” voting system will also be used to pass club proposals. If any voting member fists the club proposal, it will not pass, and further discussion will be necessary.
B. Two-thirds majority vote
   I. A two-thirds majority vote will be used to approve decisions that affect school wide policy or are controversial. A quorum of 20 senators is needed to enter final voting on such issues.

ARTICLE VII: ATTENDANCE AND REMOVAL
A. An excused absence from a Senate meeting is one that has been authorized before the meeting by either an advisor or a member of the executive council.
B. When a Senate member has three unexcused absences, the Senate will discuss and vote on the removal of that member.

Class Council

ARTICLE I: STRUCTURE
Each class has a class council which represents it at Yarmouth High School and is responsible for organizing spirit week, class fundraising, and other class needs.

A. Positions: A total of 5-7 students will constitute the Class Council.
   I. The positions will be as follows:
      President, Vice President, Clerk, and Representatives (between 2-4)

ARTICLE II: ELECTION PROCESS
A. Candidacy Requirements:
   I. Written Submission:
      Candidates for all positions will be required to submit a statement with a maximum of 250 words that addresses what skills, characteristics and/or experience they bring to the position
   II. Speeches:
      Each candidate for president, vice president, and clerk will give a speech limited to two minutes. Speeches will be given in front of respective class.
B. Timing of Elections:
   I. 3rd week of September: Sophomore, Junior, and Senior class council elections
   II. 3rd week of October: Freshmen class council elections
C. Representative Appointment:
   I. Representatives will be appointed by the newly elected President, Vice President, and Clerk for each class
   II. Each class council can appoint from 2-4 representatives based on class needs