Adopt-A-School – Constitution

Article I – Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy

a) Name: Adopt-A-School

b) Purpose: Adopt-A-School is a student organization at The Ohio State University in which its volunteers tutor students at Columbus-area schools. As tutors, college students help the kids by aiding in their studies and serving as a kind of mentor to the students in a structured environment.

c) Non-Discrimination Policy: This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

d) Sexual Misconduct Policy: As a student organization at The Ohio State University, Adopt-A-School expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy115.pdf

If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at http://titleIX.osu.edu or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleIX@osu.edu.

Article II – Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership

Qualifications of membership:

a) Any regularly matriculated undergraduate or graduate student of The Ohio State University shall be eligible for participation in Adopt-A-School.

b) Faculty and staff are also eligible for participation.

c) The leadership team will inform potential members on how to get involved.

d) Tutors are required to serve the time they commit to the organization.

Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

a) Members that fail to attend three or more scheduled tutoring days/sessions per semester are subject to removal from the organization. It is left up to the discretion of the leadership team to determine if member has valid excuse that therefore allows them to continue in the organization.

b) Members will be notified after two absences that they are on probation and missing one more day will force the leadership team to suspend membership in Adopt-A-School.

c) To remove a member, the leadership team will notify the member of removal and remove the member from all emailing lists and Adopt-A-School’s Canvas page. The member will be notified that they can be retrained and rejoin the following semester. If member once again incurs three or more absences, member will be permanently removed from the organization.
d) If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization’s constitution, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the leadership team in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

e) Any elected leadership member may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The leadership team may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the leadership team in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

f) In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the leadership team, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or leadership team member.

Article IV – Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties of the leaders

a) Required Leadership Positions:
   a. Primary Leader (President)
   b. Secondary Leader (Vice President)
   c. Attendance Office (logged as Treasurer)
   d. Advisor

b) All members of the leadership team are able to remain in their elected positions or change positions within the leadership team until the graduate and are no longer affiliated with The Ohio State University.

c) It is preferable that the primary leader be in their last year of college and that both the secondary leader and attendance officer are either in their second or third years of college so that they may advance into the position of the primary leader in their final year.

d) The primary leader works to shape and lower-level leadership team members so that they may take over once the primary leader must step down after graduating.

e) Each year the duties of each member of the leadership team may differ. It is up to the leadership team to collaborate and decide who will be in charge of what tasks to help keep Adopt-A-School functioning.

f) It is the job of the attendance officer to keep track of the members that are or are not attending their scheduled tutoring days/times each week. It is also their responsibility to report members with two or more absences to the primary and secondary leaders so that the process for removal can begin.
Article V – Election/Selection of Organization Leadership

The leadership team is a student organizational board that represents the general organization of Adopt-A-School. The leadership team is responsible for coordinating the organization.

a) Spring quarter of each year, the advisor(s) of the program will approve leadership team positions for the following academic year based on the recommendations of the current leadership team.

b) The advisor(s) will then select the primary leader(s) (e.g. president(s) or highest officer(s)) of the organization for the upcoming academic year. The advisor(s) may also offer positions to any leadership team members of the ending academic year, if desired.

c) Once the positions are approved by the advisor(s) and the primary leader(s) are established, the new primary leader(s) must solicit the general membership for applications for any vacant positions. The new primary leader(s) will then select applicants, with the counsel of the advisors and any returning leadership team members, for these positions.

d) The primary leader(s) are responsible for setting goals and delegating tasks within the leadership team.

Article VI – Leadership Team: Size and composition of the team

The Adopt-A-School leadership team must at least include four positions. The leadership team must include a primary leader, secondary leader, attendance office, and advisor. It is up to the discretion of future leadership teams to decide if more positions should be added.

Article VII– Standing Committees (if needed): Names, purposes, and composition

Adopt-A-School does not have a standing committee due to a lack of need.

Article VIII – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification criteria

Adopt-A-School advisor(s) must be members of the University Honors and Scholars center staff. The advisor acts as a mentor to the leadership team and ensures that the leadership team accomplishes all organizational directives. The advisor(s) also select the primary leader(s) for each year.

Article IX – Meetings and events of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency

The leadership team will meet as needed. Meetings of the general membership are optional.
Article X – Attendees of the Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency

The organization reserves the right to address member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee’s behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with the organization’s constitution. Any member or event attendee that behaves in a way that does not align with the constitution, Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law is subject to removal from the event and organization permanently.

Article XI – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements

Amendments to the constitution should be proposed in writing and read in a meeting of the leadership team. The amendment can then be voted on in the subsequent meeting. All amendments must be passed with a majority vote of the leadership team.

Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization

Adopt-A-School shall use funds only to accomplish the purposes stated in this constitution in accordance with University policy. On dissolution of Adopt-A-School, all unused operating funds shall be returned to the Council on Student Affairs.