*Preamble*

***We, the students of John Lewis Invictus Academy, in order to form a more perfect learning environment, believe that:***

1. All students and staff, regardless of gender, religion, color, or creed should have the opportunity to be involved in the school’s Student Council.

2. All participants in the Student Council should be responsible members of the John Lewis Invictus Academy community.

3. The Student Council should be based on democratic principles.

4. All staff and students should work to create a safe and orderly learning environment.

5. All students shall have certain rights and freedoms as guaranteed to them as students of the

    school.

**Article 1**

**Name of the Organization**

The John Lewis Invictus Academy Student Council shall hereafter be referred to as the JLIASC.

**Article 2**

**Composition of the Student Government**

Section 1: The Representative Assembly is comprised of TWO representatives from each grade-level.

Section 2: The Executive Board is comprised of elected and appointed officers/chairpersons.

**Article 3**

**Powers of the Student Government Association**

Section 1: The power of the Student Council is provided by the administration and Atlanta Board of Education. Within this authority, the JLIASC general assembly and executive aboard shall have the power to pass legislation in matters concerning the best interests of the John Lewis Invictus Academy student body. All actions of the Student Council are subject to the approval by the principal.

Section 2: The administration, with student input will appoint a faculty advisor to the JLIASC. The advisor’s role is to direct and guide the actions of the JLIASC. He/she does not have voting rights. The student government advisor has the responsibility to:

a)  Provide guidance in all JLIASC sponsored activities

b)  Chaperone all JLIASC activities (and secure additional chaperones as needed)

c)  Excuse the absences of students who miss class because of student government activities

Section 3: The General Assembly shall have all legislative powers. All expenditures of the JLIASC over and above thirty percent (30%) of the treasury must be authorized by the general assembly.

Section 4: The Executive Board shall have all legislative powers save those superseded by the Constitution. The Executive Board has the responsibility to involve the general assembly in as many actions of the JLIASC as possible, because it is the representatives, therefore the general assembly, which expresses the voice of the total student body.

**Article 4**

**Qualifications and Terms of Office**

Section 1: General Qualifications

a)  All officers and representatives must maintain a 3.0 grade point average or better. In addition, any student serving on a JLIASC must maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

b)  All officers and representatives shall exhibit exemplary behavior and academic ethics. If reservations about behavior or academic ethics are brought forth by faculty and staff, the administration shall make the final decision concerning the qualification of the candidate in question.

c)  All officers and representatives are expected to attend all general assemblies of the JLIASC. Additional meetings are required as specific to the positions listed below.

Section 2: Specific Qualifications

a) Officers - In addition to general assemblies, the executive board is expected to attend all executive board meetings. Officers will also attend committee meetings as assigned.

1) President - shall be in any grade for the year of their service

2) Vice President - shall be in any grade for the year of their service

3) Historian - shall be in any grade for the year of their service

4) Secretary - shall be in any grade for the year of their service

b) Grade level Representatives - Representative must attend all general assemblies. Should

          he or she not be able to attend, advanced notice must be given.

1) Representatives are expected to participate in the planning and implementation of at

     least one JLIASC activity.

2) Representatives must report all actions of the JLIASC to their constituents and be

    responsible for reporting to the JLIASC the concerns of their constituents.

Section 3: Term of Office

a) All fall elected/appointed JLIASC officers/chairman shall serve a one-year term beginning in September, until the last day of school in May the following year. (All elected/appointed JLIASC officers/chairman shall serve a one-year term beginning immediately upon the announcement of the election results, until the last day of school in May the following year).

b) Officers/chairman elected or appointed in the fall begin their term of office after election results/appointments are made, until the last day of school in May of that school year.

c) Representatives shall serve a one-year term beginning immediately after their election in the fall, until the last day of school in May.

**Article 5**

**Responsibilities and Duties**

Role of the Student Council:

a) To create in cooperation with the principal, staff and students, a better school life and culture for the students of our school.

b) To provide students with opportunities of leadership and to develop responsibility in all students.

c) To encourage the students in the school to become more aware of how the school is run

and to constructively identify and express their needs.

d) To contribute to overall school development by being involved in school policy

development, and to be a resource in working in partnership with the management of the

school.

e) To act as liaison where appropriate between the students and the teaching staff and

management.

President:

a)  Shall execute and carry out the Constitution of John Lewis Invictus Academy.

b)  Shall preside at all meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Board.

c)  Shall represent the student body of John Lewis Invictus Academy when called upon to

  do so by the principal, JLIASC advisor, or other JLIA administration.

d)  Shall appoint, with approval from the Executive Board, any desired chairpersons.

e)  Shall appoint, with the approval of the executive board, ad hoc committees as

    necessary.

f)  Shall have the authority, with approval from the executive board, to call additional

meetings of the JLIASC.

g)  Shall promote interest and participation within the Student Council.

Vice President:

a) In case of president’s absence or inability to carry out their responsibilities, the vice-

president will take charge and assume the responsibilities of the president.

b)  Shall assist the president as directed.

c)  Shall meet as least once a month with grade level resource/team leaders to discuss

concerns and issues relevant to the specific grade level.

Treasurer:

Shall be responsible for the record keeping concerning all student government expenditures and income.

b)  Shall, at Representative Assembly Meetings, submit a report on the financial status of

the Student Council.

c)  Shall be responsible for preparing a budget for the Student Council.

Secretary:

Shall be responsible for recording all minutes of the Student Council meetings.

b)  Shall be responsible for copying and distributing all records of the Student Council to

the Representative Assembly.

c)  Shall maintain all Student Government Association Records.

d)  Shall be responsible for all secretarial and clerical duties of the Student Council

e)  Shall be responsible for all approved correspondence.

Representatives:

a)  Will share JLIASC news with their constituents.

b)  Shall bring issues to the general assembly that are of concern to their constituents.

c)  Will notify the alternative and JLIASC advisor is he/she is unable to attend a required

meeting.

d)  Will actively serve in the planning and implementation of at least one JLIASC activity.

**Article 6**

**Elections and Appointments**

Section 1: Election/appointments of the Executive Board shall take place in April/May the spring before the year of service, unless a special election need be help in September/October.

Section 2: Specific election guidelines will be reviewed in February and submitted to administration for approval. Candidates shall receive a copy of all election guidelines.

Section 3: All election will be voted on my the whole of the student body.  Every student has the right to vote once per election cycle.

Section 4: Grade Level representatives will be voted on by only the member of that specific grade. (ie; 5th Grade Representative voted on by the whole of the 5th grade)

Section 5: Any candidate receiving the most votes cast (popular vote) will win the election (all positions)

**Article 7**

**Meetings**

Section 1: All meetings, as deemed appropriate, shall be conducted using Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Section 2: The executive board shall meet a minimum of twice a month.

Section 3: The general assembly shall meet a minimum of once a month.

Section 4: Committees shall meet as needed.

**Article 8**

**Impeachment and Succession**

Section 1: Impeachment

a) All officers (elected/appointed) and representatives shall be subject to impeachment for behavior deemed inappropriate by the administration.

b) Out of School Suspension or expulsion from school requires automatic impeachment from any JLIASC position.

c) A report card with lower than a 2.0 grade point average requires automatic impeachment from any JLIASC position.

d) Missing 3 or more meetings, unexcused, shall be subject to impeachment proceedings.

e) Any officers or representative who fails to carry out their duty in a responsible manner may have impeachment charges brought against him/her.

f) Impeachment proceedings are defined in the bylaws.

Section 2: Succession

a) In case of the president’s permanent inability to serve, the JLIASC Vice President will assume all responsibilities of the office of president. The Vice President will be replaced following clause (b) below.

b) In case of all other elected/appointed officer’s inability to serve, the president shall appoint from general applications or previous candidates, with approval from the executive board, a person to complete the term. The principal must confirm the appointment.

c) When Representative vacancies occur, they will be filled by special election in the homeroom/or grade class where the vacancies exist.

**Article 9**

**Amendments**

This constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) of the legislative body.

**Article 10**

**Ratification**

This Constitution shall be in effect when it is approved by the administration, then receives two-thirds (2/3) vote of the student body.

**Article 11**

**Finance and Fundraising**

An account has been opened in the name of the Student Council with the local bank.  The Student Council Treasurer will keep an up-to-date and accurate account of all money raised by the council and will provide a report to the council at the last council meeting of the year.  All expenses will be paid according to Keansburg District policy.

Bylaws to the Constitution

**Article 1**

**Impeachment**

Section 1: From Article 9, Section 1 in the Constitution, these are the proceedings to be implemented when charges are brought before an elected/appoint JLIASC officer/chairman/representative.

a) Charges should be submitted in writing to the JLIASC advisor and principal.

b) The JLIASC advisor will inform the Executive Board and a committee of students,

faculty,  and administration shall be convened to discuss the charges.

c) If the advisor and principal  finds the charges to be credible, the JLIASC member

      charge with the impeachment shall present his or her defense to the executive

members, advisor and principal (impeachment committee).

d) The committee shall vote by secret ballot to determine the outcome. The principal

must confirm the outcome. If the principal overturns the result, he/she must submit in

writing, within five school days, to the committee their reasons for reversing the

decision. The decision of the principal may be appealed following grievance procedures

**Article 2**

**Adoption and Amendments**

Section 1: This document shall take effect upon its approval by the administration and two-thirds vote of the Executive Board.

Section 2: These bylaws may be amended upon approval by the administration and 3/4 vote of the executive board.

**Article 3**

**Jurisdiction**

Section 1: This document shall be appended to the Constitution for the duration of its authorization, but shall be superseded by the Constitution in any conflicts.