



APM Youth Council Leadership Kit

Youth-led. Service-driven. Patriot-built.

Honoring our past by empowering the next generation
of Patriots.

“Youth must be served.”

Learn • Lead • Serve • Create



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Honoring our past by empowering the next generation of Patriots.

Learn Constitution & civic learning	Lead Youth leadership & teamwork	Serve Service projects & direction	Create Storytelling & monument input
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Opening Statement

This educational project is dedicated to the youth of America understanding the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights — their fundamental rights and civic responsibilities — empowering them to be involved, informed citizens.

Our Approach

Interactive: Lessons, games, quizzes, and discussions
Liberty Maxx, mascot makes complex ideas accessible & memorable.
Outlines: Materials & real-life examples of the Constitution & Bill of Rights
Youth Councils: Encouraging peer learning & leadership.
Resource Materials: Printable & digital tools for parents & teachers
Culminating with designing and building the APM “Youth Must Be Served” Monument

Our Promise

By connecting an understanding of the U.S. Constitution & the Bill of Rights to our children’s lives, it gives an opportunity for them to take part meaningfully in civic life, have a voice in community, & advocate for themselves & others.

- Foundational Understanding
- Empowerment
- Lifelong Impact

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Council Structure & Age-Band Representation

12 seats total • 4 seats per age band • Balanced youth representation

Recommended Council Size

12 seats total

4 seats per age band

Band A: Ages 9-12

Band B: Ages 13-15

Band C: Ages 16-18

Selection Process

School partner nomination + youth interest form

Basic eligibility: attendance, behavior expectations, and commitment to service

Adult advisor present for safety and compliance

Suggested Roles

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Service Lead
- Communications Lead (Patriot Press)
- Memorial Direction Lead

Meetings

- Weekly meetings
- Adult advisor present for safety and compliance

Terms & Continuity

Term length: 1 school year, renewable
Continuity option: stagger half the seats mid-year to preserve experience & momentum

Why the Structure Matters

Protects younger voices while keeping the council democratic
Builds leadership momentum through clear roles and continuity
Creates a stable structure for service, learning, and memorial direction

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Voting & Decision Rules

A balanced voting model that protects younger voices while keeping the council democratic and fair.

Balanced Power Model

Older students can unintentionally dominate group decisions. This model protects younger voices while keeping the council democratic.

A Motion Passes When

A majority of the full Youth Council votes Yes, and
Each age band has at least one Yes vote

What Requires a Vote

- Approving service projects and project leaders
- Approving event plans and presentations
- Approving Patriot Press topics
- Recommending memorial concept input

What Does Not Require a Vote

- Safety decisions
- Legal or compliance decisions
- Final budget approvals, which remain an adult Board responsibility

Why the Model Works

- Keeps decisions collaborative
- Prevents one age group from taking over
- Keeps safety, money, and compliance under adult responsibility

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Adult Oversight & Youth Protection

Youth-led does not mean unprotected. Adults provide guardrails so youth can lead safely.

The Principle

Youth-led does not mean unprotected. Adults provide guardrails so students can lead safely.

Adult Board Responsibilities

Legal and fiduciary responsibility

Contracting and vendor approvals

Final approval of budgets and spending

Compliance with institution policies and law

Adult Review Triggers

- Student safety, transportation, or supervision
- Money, fundraising, donations, or purchases
- Public events, media, or public statements
- Partnerships with outside organizations

Student Safeguards

- Two-adult rule when appropriate
- Clear communication rules, including no private adult-youth messaging
- Parent or guardian permissions for off-campus activities
- Clear reporting path for concerns

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Program Pillars in Action

The four pillars become real through lessons, leadership, service, and creative action.

Learn

Constitution study, Articles I–VII
Rights and responsibilities discussions
Reflection prompts and short presentations

Lead

Youth-run meetings with agendas
Rotating leadership roles
Team leadership on projects

Serve

Community service projects selected and led by youth
Veteran-support and memorial stewardship activities

Create

Youth input on memorial concept and community storytelling
Patriot Press: youth-written stories, interviews, and civic spotlights
Designing and building the APM monument

These pillars guide the council from learning into action.

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Pilot Plan (Tucson)

Start in Tucson, prove the model, and document what works before expanding.

Goal of the Pilot

Prove the model, refine the process, and document outcomes for expansion.

Pilot Components

- Recruit a partner institution
- Select the first 12-seat Youth Council using the age-band model
- Run meetings and complete at least 1–2 service projects
- Produce at least one Patriot Press output
- Capture metrics and feedback

Simple Timeline

- Month 1: Recruitment + selection
- Months 2–4: Meetings + service project delivery
- Month 5: Presentations + evaluation + next-step plan

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Success Metrics & Outcomes

Measure what matters so the pilot can improve and expand with confidence.

Participation

Enrollment and retention by age band
Attendance rates

Leadership Growth

Roles completed
Peer feedback and self-reflection

Service Impact

Projects delivered
Hours served
Community partners engaged

Civic Learning

Short quizzes and reflections
Student presentations
Community engagement

Community engagement and reflection turn the pilot into a repeatable model.

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Partner, Mentor, and Sponsor Information

The pilot grows through trusted partners, mentors, and sponsors who believe in youth leadership.

Who We Are Seeking

- Institutions to host the pilot council
- Mentors, including veterans, civic leaders, and educators, to guide youth leadership
- Sponsors to support materials, events, and service projects

What Partners Receive

- A clear youth-led governance model with adult safeguards
- Measurable outcomes and reporting
- Positive community visibility and student development

Contact

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