

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

(April, 2017)

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Tuscaloosa County Education Association. It may be referred to by the name of TCEA. (The Tuscaloosa County Education Association will be referred to as the TCEA in the remainder of this constitution.)

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

Section 1. To enable members to speak with a common voice on matters pertaining to the teaching profession and the quality of education provided to students, and to present their individual and collective interests before the Tuscaloosa County Board of Education and other governing bodies.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership will be extended to all certified persons employed by, or on limited leave of absence from the Tuscaloosa County Board of Education. Membership is limited to persons who support the principle and goals of the Association and also maintain membership in the Alabama Education Association and the National Education Association.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS: DUTIES AND TERMS

Section 1. The officers of TCEA shall consist of a President, Vice-President/ President Elect, the immediate Past President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. A Parliamentarian may be appointed by the President, subject to approval of the Executive Board. The Parliamentarian will be a non-voting member of the Executive Board. The President and Vice- President/ President Elect shall serve one year terms. The Secretary and Treasurer shall serve two year terms.

Section 2. The President shall preside over meetings of the Association, Representative Assembly, and Executive Board, appoint all chairperson and members of the committees, with approval of the Executive Board, and serve as ex officio member without vote on all committees. The President or his/her designees shall represent the Association as spokesperson on matters of policy and attend all meetings of the Tuscaloosa County Board of Education.

Section 3. The Vice-President/ President Elect shall act for the President when the President is unable to perform the duties of the office. The Vice-President/ President Elect shall become the President at the expiration of one year or if the Presidency becomes vacant (and shall be entitled to serve his/her full term as President.)

Section 4. The immediate Past President shall advise the Executive Board and assist the President upon request for a term of one year. The immediate Past President shall serve as a voting member of the Executive Board.

Section 5. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board, Representative Assembly, and general membership meeting, and shall maintain official files (including attendance) of the Association. The Secretary shall assist the President with all Association correspondence and provide written reports of each meeting.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall oversee the collection of funds, transmittal of the funds and disbursement of funds upon authorization of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall prepare and present financial statements to the regular meetings of the Association.

Section 7. Should any office other than President become vacant, the Executive Board shall appoint an acting officer to serve until the next election is held.

Section 8. Stipends shall be assessed and offered quarterly by the Executive Board in the following manner:

President- \$1500 (\$6000 yearly) In order to receive the stipend, the President must attend a minimum of 80% of Representative Assembly Meetings, Executive Board Meetings, Tuscaloosa County School System Board Meetings, Superintendent Advisory Meetings, meetings with the Superintendent, and UniServ Council Meetings. The President must prepare agendas for all TCEA meetings, handle all AEA regular elections and run-offs, TCEA local elections, and be a general advocate for teachers. The President shall also respond to any member concerns.

Vice-President/ President Elect- \$500 (\$2000 yearly) In order to receive the stipend the Vice President must attend 80% of Representative Assembly Meetings and Executive Board Meetings and shall assist the President with attendance at all above meetings, giving assistance in all tasks undertaken by the President.

Secretary- \$300 (\$1200 yearly) In order to receive the stipend the Secretary must attend 80% of Representative Assembly Meetings and Executive Board Meetings, take and provide minutes of all TCEA meetings, keep attendance records and assist the President as needed.

Treasurer- \$300 (\$1200 yearly) In order to receive the stipend the Treasurer must attend 80% of Representative Assembly Meetings and Executive Board Meetings, provide Treasurer Reports at meetings, pay TCEA bills, propose yearly budgets, and other financial transactions of TCEA.

Executive Board Members- \$40 (\$160 yearly) In order to receive the stipend the Executive Board Members must attend 80% of Representative Assembly Meetings and Executive Board Meetings.

Section 9. Stipends shall be assessed and offered yearly by the Executive Board in the following manner:

Association Representatives- \$50 + yearly (\$10 per meeting attended) - In order to receive the stipend the Association Representatives must attend a minimum of 5 Representative Assembly meetings and will receive \$10 per meeting attended.

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. TCEA shall have an eleven member Executive Board whose duty it shall be to supervise and manage the affairs of the Association according to policies and regulations established by the Association membership through the Representative Assembly. Every Executive Board member shall chair a committee as determined by the President and approved by the Executive Board.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President/ President Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and six members at-large, three of which will be secondary members, and three of which shall be elementary members.

Section 3. The members at-large of the Executive Board shall serve three year terms of office. Executive Board positions shall be known as Secondary Place One, Secondary Place Two, Secondary Place Three, Elementary Place One, Elementary Place Two, and elementary Place Three. Only one secondary and one elementary position shall be up for election each year.

Section 4. Following the general election, should there be a deficiency on the Executive Board in representation from either racial group of the association's membership, the number of voting members on the Board may be expanded by increasing at-large membership. The Executive Board (with a recommendation from the President) may appoint this at-large position for a term of one year.

Section 5. The actions of the Executive Board shall be subject to review by the Representative Assembly, which shall retain the power to sustain or overrule the actions of the board.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTION PROCEDURES

Section 1. The Elections Committee shall develop election procedures for approval by the Executive Board. These procedures shall apply the one-person-one-vote principle for representation on all governing bodies except that the Association shall guarantee ethnic-minority representation at least proportionate to the ethnic-minority membership.

ARTICLE VII. REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Section 1. The legislative body of the Association shall be the Representative Assembly composed of one teacher representative per fifteen members or major fraction thereof from each school faculty or central office staff, elected for a term of one year by May 1st of the prior school year. Faculty Representatives shall be elected by TCEA membership within their own school or in the case of the central office, only by TCEA members on that staff.

Section 2. Elected officers, Parliamentarian (if one has been appointed,) and Chairpersons of each standing committee shall be designated voting members of the Representative Assembly if they are not otherwise qualified to vote.

ARTICLE VIII. QUORUM

Section 1. Members present at any regularly scheduled meeting or called meeting of the general membership or Representative Assembly meeting advertised at least three days in advance shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. A majority of the members of the Executive Board present shall constitute a quorum for all meetings of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IX. DUES AND EXPENDITURES

Section 1. The annual dues for active members shall be on a unified basis, which includes dues for TCEA, the Alabama Education Association, and the National Education Association.

Section 2. Annual dues for TCEA shall cover the period from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

Section 3. The budget for TCEA shall cover the period from October 1 to September 30 of each year and be approved by the Executive Board and the Representative Assembly by September 30 of each year.

Section 4. Changes in the adopted budget shall be authorized and approved by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE X. DELEGATES

Section 1. The number of delegates or representatives to local, state, district, regional and national meetings shall reflect the composition of the entire active membership on an equitable basis each year.

Section 2. Alabama Education Association Delegate Assembly (AEA Delegate Assembly) – TCEA Officers may serve as a delegate to the AEA Delegate Assembly provided the ballot on which they were elected clearly states the candidates will serve in both positions and be elected by a vote of the total membership.

Section 3. National Education Association Delegate Assembly (NEA Delegate Assembly) – The President of the Association may serve as a delegate to the NEA Convention provided the ballot on which they were elected clearly states the candidates will serve in both positions and be elected by a vote of the total membership.

Section 4. An officer of the Association cannot serve as a delegate to the AEA or NEA if the officer holds a position which is not entitled to delegate representation.

ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President shall appoint, subject to approval of the Executive Board, certain standing committees such as: Elections, Education Policy, and Professional Practice, Legislative, Membership, Professional Rights and Responsibilities, and Public Relations.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The Representative Assembly and /or general membership shall have the power to adopt amendments to this Constitution by a two-thirds majority of those voting at any Representative Assembly or general membership meeting provided that a quorum is present and provided that the amendment(s) have been introduced at the preceding regular meeting of the Representative Assembly.

ARTICLES XIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. All questions of parliamentary procedure not specifically covered by this Constitution shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Revised April, 2017