



MADRAS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the professional educators of the Jefferson County Schools 509-J, believing that the professional staff must institute its own self-government and secure proper recognition and responsibility for the professional well-being of its members, adopt this Constitution.

I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be Madras Education Association (MEA), an affiliated unit of the Oregon Education Association (OEA) and National Education Association (NEA). The Association shall be a non-profit corporation organized in accordance with the laws of Oregon.

II. PURPOSE

The objectives of this Association shall be the improvement of education, the advancement of the interests of education and the promotion of the professional growth of its members.

III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active membership in the Association shall be open to all certificated personnel employed in School District 509-J who are OEA, NEA members. Active membership shall be continuous until the member leaves the school system, resigns from the Association, or fails to pay membership dues.

Section 2. Associate membership in the Association shall be open to all persons who meet the qualifications of associate membership as defined by OEA Bylaws. Associate members shall be without vote.

Section 3. Retired membership in the Association shall be open to all persons who meet the qualification of retired membership as defined by OEA Bylaws. Retired members shall be without vote.

Section 4. To withdraw from continuing membership, active members shall revoke their membership between August 1 and October 1 of any year.

Section 5. No member shall be censured, suspended, or expelled without a hearing before the Board of Directors. An appeal may be made to the OEA.

IV. GOVERNANCE

Section 1. The officers of the organization shall consist of a co-presidency, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. Terms of office shall be for one year and shall commence on July 1. In order to insure uninterrupted service to members, retiring officers shall, for a period of four months, make themselves available, on a consulting basis, to new office holders for the purpose of assisting them in acquiring the knowledge, training, and experience necessary to fulfill their responsibilities and duties.

Section 2. GOVERNING BODY: There shall be an elected governing body known as the Representative Council which shall consist of officers,

association building representatives, delegates to state and national assemblies, and chairpersons of standing committees.

Section 3. OEA-RA and NEA-RA delegates shall be elected and serve according to OEA and NEA policies, ____ delegates shall be elected according to EOUC policies.

DIRECT LEGISLATION

Section 1. INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM: The rights of popular initiative and referendum shall rest with the active membership of the Association. Upon receipt of a petition signed by 15% of the active membership of the Association, the secretary shall announce a general meeting or ballot as indicated on the petition within fifteen calendar days for the purpose presented in the petition. A majority of the total active membership shall be required for its adoption, which shall take effect thirty days later.

Section 2. RECALL: The right of recall shall rest with the electing body. Upon receipt of a petition signed by 20% of the membership of the electing body, the secretary (or delegate appointed by executive committee) shall announce a general meeting or ballot by the electing body as indicated on the petition within fifteen calendar days for the purposes presented in the petition. A majority of the total active membership of the electing body shall be required for its adoption, which shall take effect thirty days later.

V. MEMBERSHIP AND FISCAL YEAR

The membership and fiscal years shall be September 1 through August 31.

VI. AUTHORITY

Any part of this Constitution which is in conflict with OEA and/or NEA Constitution and/or Bylaws will be declared null and void.

VII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be introduced by the membership at any regular meeting of the Representative Council and by petition signed by 15% of the total active membership and submitted to the secretary and shall be acted upon at the subsequent meeting of the membership or by ballot within thirty days of submission. Amendments to the Constitution may also be introduced at any regular meeting of the Representative Council and handled in the fashion above. A copy of the proposed amendment together with the recommendations of the Representative Council shall be sent to each member of the Association. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the active membership voting is required to adopt the proposed amendment which shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless otherwise specified.

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