

# Constitution of the Texas Association of School Psychologists

## ARTICLE I. NAME

### *Section 1. Name*

The name of the organization shall be the Texas Association of School Psychologists (TASP).

## ARTICLE II. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

### *Section 1. Purposes*

- a. To advance school psychology as both a science and a profession with the ultimate goal of providing and promoting learning, emotional and/or social development, and mental health of all children in Texas.
- b. To stimulate and advance quality education for all children through the integration of theory into practice.
- c. To encourage and provide opportunities for the professional growth of school psychologists and related professions.
- d. To inform the public and professional organizations about the services and practice of psychology in the schools.
- e. To promote and advance interests and concerns of the membership through a statewide organization.
- f. To advance the standards of the profession of school psychology.

TASP is organized exclusively for educational and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

### *Section 2. Limitations*

The Association shall be a nonprofit, nonstock corporation, having members only for the purposes stated in Article II, Section 1.

### *Section 3. Dissolution*

The Association shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in the Constitution and no part of said funds shall inure to, or be distributed, to the members of the Association. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II (Section 1) hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt

purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

## **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

### ***Section 1. Membership***

#### **a. Individual Membership**

1. A regular member is one who is:
  - a. currently functioning or credentialed to practice school psychology in Texas ;  
or
  - b. trained to practice school psychology and functioning as a consultant or supervisor of psychological services in Texas; or
  - c. primarily engaged in training of school psychologists at a college or university in Texas.
2. An honorary member is one who, in the opinion of a majority of the Executive Board, has made significant contributions to the field of school psychology.
3. A student member is one who is actively engaged in training leading to an advanced degree or a post-master's certificate in school psychology in Texas.
4. A trainee is one who has trainee status with the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.
5. A Retired member is one who was a Regular Member in good standing and has retired from the field of school psychology or is inactive.
6. An affiliate member is one who is trained or employed in a closely related field or profession to school psychology, or does not meet the requirements for regular membership.
7. A life member is one who has served a full term as President of the Association upon the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the new membership year.

### ***Section 2. Voting Privilege***

- a. Only Regular, Life, Student, and Trainee members shall have the right to vote.

### ***Section 3. Dues***

Members shall pay dues according to their membership status. Dues shall be established for each membership category upon recommendation of the Treasurer and approval of the Executive Board.

### ***Section 4. Severance of Membership***

- a. Membership may be terminated for nonpayment of dues.
- b. A member may be expelled from the Association for violation of the NASP code of ethics and standards or for unprofessional conduct.

## **ARTICLE IV. Executive Board Officers**

### ***Section 1. Officers***

- a. The officers of the Association shall be the President, Immediate Past-President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect, Area Representatives, and Graduate Student Representative. All officers shall be regular or life members of the Association with the exception of the Graduate Student Representative who shall be a Student Member.
- b. Names of candidates for offices shall be submitted by the Nominating Committee or by petition. Candidates shall be elected to office by ballot of the membership.
- c. The President, President-Elect, and Immediate Past President, shall serve in each consecutive office for two years for a cumulative six year term.
- d. The Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect, and Graduate Student Representative shall serve in office for one year. The Secretary shall serve in office for two years. These officers shall not succeed themselves.
- e. A minimum of six Area Representatives of the Association shall be elected by the membership. At least one Area Representative shall be elected from each region as defined and approved by the Executive Board. Area Representatives will be elected to serve a two year term and may be elected to succeed themselves for one term.
- f. In the event that the President and/or Treasurer shall not serve out his or her full term, the appropriate Officer-Elect shall succeed to the unexpired term thereof and continue in that office through the following year. If the President-Elect is unable to succeed to the Presidency, the Executive Board shall nominate candidates to be voted on by the general membership in a special ballot election.
- g. The Executive Board, by majority vote, shall fill any vacancy in an elected, unexpired office except for the office of President-Elect. Any regular or life member so chosen shall serve until the term of the vacated office has expired and a successor duly elected.
- h. Removal of officers from their elected posts for due cause shall be the responsibility of the general membership. A two-thirds vote by the general membership shall be required for removal.

### ***Section 3. Election of Officers***

Nomination of candidates for officers and the balloting process shall be completed annually according to procedures set forth in the By-Laws.

### ***Section 4. Duties of Officers***

The duties of the officers shall be those prescribed in the By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE V. GOVERNMENT**

### ***Section 1. By-Laws***

The Association shall be governed by policies set forth in the By-Laws; these policies shall be adopted and amended by a simple majority vote of the membership returning a mail ballot. Amendments shall be as provided in Article X.

### ***Section 2. Executive Board***

- a. The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of the Association, the NASP Delegate and the chairperson of each standing committee.
- b. The Executive Board shall be charged with conducting the continuing affairs of the Association including such areas as overseeing business matters, administering policy, and making recommendations to the membership.

## **ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES**

### ***Section 1. Administration***

- a. There shall be committees appointed to fulfill the functions of the Association. The duties of the committees shall be described in the By-Laws.
- b. The President, subject to approval of the Executive Board, shall have the power to recommend the addition, deletion, or change of committees. A simple majority vote of the Executive Board would constitute approval of such actions.

### ***Section 2. Appointments***

- a. The President shall appoint chairpersons of committees subject to the approval of a simple majority of the Executive Board members.
- b. The chairpersons will select members to serve on their committees with the advice of the Executive Board.
- c. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. Other members of the Executive Board may also be assigned the responsibility of committee service as ex-officio members.

## **ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS**

### ***Section 1. Time and Place***

The annual meeting of the Association shall be held at such time and place as determined by the Executive Board in accordance with policy of the Association. Other meetings shall be determined by policy of the Association.

### ***Section 2. Quorum***

Executive Board: A quorum shall consist of one-half of the duly constituted body. When necessary, the Executive Board members may be polled by telephone or electronic means instead of calling together the body to conduct a special meeting. Minutes of such meetings shall be kept in the same manner as all other minutes of the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE VIII. FINANCES**

### ***Section 1. Dues***

Dues shall be payable upon initial application or upon receipt of an annual dues statement from the Association. Dues shall be established for each membership category upon recommendation of the Treasurer and approval of the Executive Board.

### ***Section 2. Budget and Fiscal Year***

The Treasurer, upon recommendation from the Financial Advisory Committee, shall present an annual budget to the Executive Board for adoption. The fiscal year shall be determined by the Executive Board.

***Section 3. Expenditures***

Upon adoption of the budget, all accounts payable being duly approved by the Treasurer or Treasurer-Elect, or in their absence by the President, shall be paid by those authorized in policy to disburse funds.

***Section 4. Debt***

No member of this Association shall contract, or cause to be made in the name of the Association, any debt for any nature whatsoever without the specific and proper authorization of the Executive Board.

***Section 5. Examination of Records***

The Executive Board may cause the account of an officer or any person handling funds of the Association to be examined annually or as needed by a qualified committee or person.

***Section 6. Salaried Personnel***

Officers shall not be salaried employees of the Association.

***Section 7. Dedication of Funds and Dissolution***

All assets of this Association shall be permanently dedicated to the purposes set forth in Article II and in case of dissolution of the Association, all assets will be distributed to a public or tax-exempt cause as provided in Article II of this Constitution.

**ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORIZATION**

***Section 1. Rules***

The rules contained in the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with the special rules of this Association.

***Section 2. Parliamentarian***

The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board.

**ARTICLE X. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION**

***Section 1. Ballot***

- a. The Constitution of the Association shall be amended by ballot of the general membership.
- b. A simple majority vote of those returning ballots shall be required for an amendment to pass.
- c. The ballots must be returned within thirty days.

**ARTICLE XI. EFFECTIVE DATE**

The original constitution was ratified on May 2, 1993. Subsequent amendments or revisions become effective immediately upon approval by the membership and verification by the Executive Board.