

Amended April 14, 2018

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE NORTHEASTERN REGION
OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the Northeastern Region of the Pennsylvania State Education Association.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of this region shall be:

Section 1. To promote the general welfare of the state and of this region, to protect and advance the interests of its members, to foster professional zeal, to advance educational standards, and to establish and maintain helpful friendly relations among those persons and groups concerned in the service of education.

Section 2. To promote membership in and cooperation with the Pennsylvania State Education Association and the National Education Association in carrying out their avowed objectives.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Membership in the Northeastern Region shall be limited to members, in those membership categories recognized by PSEA, in local associations and coordinating councils which are located within the geographical boundaries of Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

Section 1. The officers of this region shall be a president, a vice president, and a secretary-treasurer.

Section 2. Officers shall serve a term of two (2) years and may be re-elected.

Section 3. All officers shall assume office on September 1, in the year elected. Election shall be held at the appropriate preceding Northeastern Region House of Delegates.

ARTICLE V

Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the officers of the region and at least one (1) representative from each coordinating council, the elected regional PSEA-Retired president and the elected Northeastern ESP Division President. Should the combined membership as of August 31st of any coordinating council exceed 1900, that body shall elect a second executive board representative. The representative serving on the executive board shall be the chairman or president of the council mentioned.

Section 2. The Northeastern Region Field Director will be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Executive Board.

Section 3. Under personnel policies adopted by the Executive Committee and within the annual budget, the Executive Board shall have the power to employ secretarial staff for efficient management of the region.

Section 4. A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by the vice president for the remainder of the term. Should a vacancy occur in any other elected region office, the Executive Board shall make an interim appointment and shall solicit concurrence from the Executive Committee. If the Executive Committee approves the appointment, the person thus appointed will serve until the next regularly scheduled House of Delegates when an election for the position will be conducted.

ARTICLE VI

Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Executive Board, one representative from each local association, the elected and/or appointed regional presidents of each department, the elected and/or appointed regional standing committee chairpersons, the elected regional student PSEA President, the elected regional PSEA-Retired president and the elected Northeastern ESP Division President.

Section 2. The legislative and policy-reviewing and interpreting body of the region shall be the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Local association delegates, the elected region president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer, and the elected members of the IPD Council, Resolutions Committee, and Legislative Committee shall have full voting rights. All other members of the Executive Committee shall have voting rights on all issues except adoption of the budget and approval of appointments to fill vacancies.

ARTICLE VII
House of Delegates

Section 1. Local association delegates shall comprise the voting delegates at the House of Delegates. Executive officers and the student PSEA delegate, or elected alternate, and the region PSEA-Retired president, or elected alternate and the elected Northeastern ESP Division President and his/her designee shall also be entitled to vote at the House of Delegates on all matters except dues and election of region executive officers.

Section 2. Non-voting delegate status at the House of Delegates shall be accorded to a coordinating council officer from each coordinating council and to elected members of the IPD Council, Resolutions Committee, and Legislative Committee. (A council shall be entitled to additional delegates based on membership as stated in Article V, Section 1.)

Section 3. Each local association shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for every 67 active members or major fraction thereof within the association. Irrespective of size, however, local associations shall be entitled to at least one (1) delegate.

Section 4. Student PSEA shall be entitled to one (1) delegate, PSEA-Retired shall be entitled to one (1) delegate. and the elected Northeastern ESP Division President shall be entitled to one (1) delegate.

Section 5. Unless otherwise provided in the region governing documents, voting delegates shall be elected in conformity with the one (1) person - one (1) vote principle through open nominations, by majority vote, and by secret ballot.

Section 6. The region and local associations shall assure ethnic minority representation on their respective governing bodies, including Houses of Delegates, Executive Committee, and representative councils, in proportion to their respective ethnic minority memberships.

Section 7. The House of Delegates shall formulate region policies and conduct the region's general business.

ARTICLE VIII

State and National Committee Chairpersons and Other Meeting Participants

Section 1. Members of the state committees and national committees may be invited to the Executive Board and/or Executive Committee meetings at the discretion of the president of the Northeastern Region. They may have a voice by permission but no voting privileges.

Section 2. The region president shall have the executive authority to invite any members of student organizations interested in education to meetings over which the president or designee presides.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

This constitution may be amended at a regular meeting of the House of Delegates by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present provided that the amendment has been proposed in writing to the region president at least sixty (60) days before the meeting of the House of Delegates. The secretary-treasurer of the Northeastern Region shall send copies of the proposed amendment or amendments to all Executive Committee members thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of the House of Delegates. Amendments approved by the House of Delegates of the Northeastern Region are valid only after approval by the Board of Directors of the PSEA.

BY-LAWS
OF THE NORTHEASTERN REGION
OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

Meetings

Section 1. EXECUTIVE BOARD - The Executive Board may meet monthly during the school term, at the call of the president, or at the mandate of the majority of the members of the board.

Section 2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - The Executive Committee shall meet at least three (3) times during the school year. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be held at the call of the president, or at the call of the president as mandated by twenty different local associations. The business to come before special meetings must be stated in the call, which shall be sent in writing to each Executive Committee member. Only business stated in the call shall be included on the agenda.

Section 3. HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETINGS - The House of Delegates shall meet at least once prior to the spring PSEA House of Delegates. Special meetings of the House of Delegates shall be held at the call of the president, or upon the written petition of at least twenty-five (25) delegates representing at least ten (10) different local associations.

Section 4. Any member of the region may attend any of the above-mentioned meetings, shall sit apart from the voting body, but may receive permission to speak.

ARTICLE II

Quorum

Section 1. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of a majority of its members.

Section 2. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of the members present at any such meeting.

Section 3. A quorum of the House of Delegates shall consist of at least 50% of the delegates as certified by the credentials committee.

ARTICLE III

Power of Officers

Section 1. PRESIDENT – The president shall preside at meetings of the Executive Board, the Executive Committee, and the House of Delegates. The president may appoint special committees, is an ex-officio member of all committees, and shall be the executive officer of the region. The president shall appoint a parliamentarian who shall attend Executive Committee and House of Delegates sessions and serve as the parliamentary rules expert in the conducting of business. The president shall represent the region before the public either personally or through delegates, and shall perform all other functions usually attributed to this office. The president shall be a member of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania State Education Association by virtue of this office.

Section 2. VICE PRESIDENT – The vice president shall perform the duties usually attributed to this office. The vice president shall serve as the second representative, where eligible, on the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania State Education Association by virtue of this office. In the absence of the president, the vice president shall assume the duties of that office.

Section 3. SECRETARY-TREASURER – The secretary-treasurer shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board, the Executive Committee,

and the House of Delegates, shall keep accurate files, assist the president with the region correspondence, collect all monies due to the region, keep permanent records of such collections, and pay out monies on the order of the president, the Executive Board or the Executive Committee. The secretary-treasurer shall serve as the third representative, where eligible, on the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania State Education Association by virtue of this office.

ARTICLE IV

Power of the Executive Board

The Executive Board shall be responsible for the management of the region, implement policies established by the House of Delegates, report its transactions and those of the Executive Committee to the members, and suggest policies for consideration by the House of Delegates.

ARTICLE V

Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall approve the budget, act on reports of committees, and review and interpret resolutions and other policy statements. Powers not delegated to the Executive Board or officers shall be vested in the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI

House of Delegates

Section 1. The House of Delegates shall consist of delegates as stated in Article VII of the Constitution of the Northeastern Region.

Section 2. No delegate shall be entitled to a seat in the House of Delegates until a certificate of election signed by the president of the local is presented. The region

president shall appoint a Committee of Credentials whose duties it shall be to approve the membership of the House of Delegates and to see that only official delegates are seated in the voting section of the House of Delegates.

Section 3. The House of Delegates shall meet annually for the purpose of electing officers and carrying on the business of the Northeastern Region. The time and place of the annual meeting shall be fixed by the Convention Committee as approved by the Executive Board.

Section 4. The Northeastern Region delegates shall caucus at every Pennsylvania State Education Association House of Delegates. The caucus shall be presided over by the president of the Northeastern Region or the appointed representative who shall designate the time and place where the caucus shall be held.

Section 5. Whenever possible, local associations shall be expected to send the same delegates to the Northeastern House of Delegates and to the Pennsylvania State Education Association House of Delegates.

Section 6. The president of the region shall be a delegate to the Pennsylvania State Education Association House of Delegates. Such NEA State Delegates as may be allocated to the region shall be elected according to procedure recommended by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII

Elections

Section 1. Nominations - A Committee on Elections, appointed by the president, shall conduct the election of officers at the Northeastern Region House of Delegates. A slate of officers shall be prepared by the Committee on Elections and communicated to the Executive Committee at least 30 days before the election. Nominations from the floor will be accepted with the consent of the person nominated.

Section 2. Term of Office - All terms of office shall be for two (2) years. The president, vice president and one (1) representative on each elected standing

committee shall be elected in even numbered years. The secretary-treasurer and a second representative on each elected standing committee shall be elected in odd numbered years.

Section 3. Procedure - At the House of Delegates, delegates shall vote for officers by ballot, in accordance with procedures developed by the Committee on Elections and approved by the House of Delegates. These procedures shall be in conformity with the one person-one vote principle and through open nominations, by majority vote and by secret ballot. The Committee on Elections shall report results to the president who shall cause them to be published. Elected officers shall assume office September 1st following their election.

Section 4. Recall - An elected official of the region, following an appropriate hearing, may be recalled from office by a 2/3 vote of the registered delegates to a House of Delegates. Recall shall be initiated by a recall motion signed by at least 25 delegates representing at least ten (10) local associations. The Executive Board shall conduct a hearing and report its findings to a House of Delegates.

ARTICLE VIII

Standing Committees

Section 1. Purpose - There shall be elective/appointive standing committees as listed below. Each committee may, with the approval of the region president, organize special sub-committees and task forces for specific activities from the membership of the region.

Section 2. Structure - Each coordinating council should have at least one (1) representative on each standing committee.

Section 3. Meetings - Each standing committee shall meet regularly according to a calendar developed by the committee chairperson and may hold special meetings at the call of the chairman.

Section 4. Reports - Each committee may choose a secretary who shall keep a continuing record of activities. Chairmen are required to report at all Executive

Committee meetings and to report at Executive Board meetings upon request. Chairmen shall prepare an annual written report summarizing objectives, action programs, gains, and unreachd goals, which the Executive Board shall distribute to the delegates and which shall become a part of the continuing committee records in the region files.

Section 5. Standing Committees (elected)

- A. Resolutions Committee
- B. Legislative Committee
- C. Instruction and Professional Development

Section 6. Standing Committees (appointed)

- A. Budget
- B. Collective Bargaining
- C. Communications
- D. Educational Justice
- E. International Affairs
- F. Leadership Development
- G. Member Benefits
- H. Minority Affairs
- I. Professional Rights and Responsibilities
- J. Retirement and Welfare
- K. Special Education
- L. Student Programs

Section 7. Relation to Executive Board - The Executive Board as requested will assist the president in appointing members to the standing committees at the regular meeting in October and fill all unexpired terms as vacancies occur. It shall require and assist all committees to define their immediate and long-range objectives. It shall review committee plans as necessary and shall decide any jurisdictional argument between committees.

Section 8. Relation to State and National Associates - The standing committees shall seek to understand and relate to the objectives and programs of corresponding units of the state and national associations and shall counsel with them.

Section 9. Repeated absences from regional or state meetings can result in declaring the seat vacant by the Executive Board following an appropriate hearing.

ARTICLE IX

Special Committees

Each year the president shall appoint a Committee on Elections, an Audit Committee, a Convention Committee, and such other special committees as may be necessary and shall discharge them upon completion of their duties. These committees shall operate according to rules approved by the House of Delegates. No officer of the association shall serve on either the Committee on Elections or the Audit Committee.

ARTICLE X

Departments

The following departments of the region are authorized:

1. Administration
2. Higher Education
3. Vocational and Practical Arts Education
4. Pupil Services

ARTICLE XI
Coordinating Councils

Section 1. The following coordinating councils are authorized:

COUNCIL I

Benton Area
Berwick Area
Bloomsburg Area
Bloomsburg University
Central Columbia
Columbia-Montour AVTS
CSIU (Psychologists)
CSIU (Teachers)
Danville
Line Mountain
Millville
Milton
Mount Carmel
Northumberland County Career
& Technology Center
Shamokin
Shikellamy
Southern Columbia
Warrior Run

COUNCIL II

Athens Hanover Area
Blue Ridge Hazleton Area
Bradford County AVTS
Canton

COUNCIL III

Abington Heights
Assoc. of Special Ed Teachers
Carbondale Area
Forest City Regional
Lackawanna Jr. College
Lackawanna Trail
Lakeland
Mid-Valley
North-Pocono
Old Forge
Riverside
Scranton
Valley View
Wallenpaupack Area
Wayne Highlands
Western Wayne

COUNCIL IV

Crestwood
Dallas
Greater Nanticoke Area
Lake Lehman

Elk Lake
Montrose
Mountain View
Northeast Bradford
Sayre Area
Sullivan County
Susquehanna Community
Towanda Area Center
Troy Area
Wyalusing Area

Luzerne County Community
College
Luzerne I.U. #18
Northwest Area
Pittston Area
Tunkhannock Area
West Side Area Career &
Technology Center
Wilkes-Barre Area
Wilkes-Barre Area Career &
Technology
Wyoming Area
Wyoming Valley West

COUNCIL V

Delaware Valley
East Stroudsburg Area
Monroe County Career & Technical Institute
Pleasant Valley
Pocono Mountain
Stroudsburg Area

Section 2.

Each coordinating council shall elect a chairman by and from among the council members elected by their local associations.

Section 3.

The five council chairs will serve as alternates to the PSEA Board of Directors. By September 1 of each year, a lottery will be held by the president at an Executive Board meeting to establish the order of placement on the list of alternates. When an alternate is required, the position will be offered to the first council chairman named on the list, and if that chairman is unable to attend, to the next chairman on the list. This process will continue until the position is filled. The next time an alternate is required, the selection will begin with the chairman named after the last chairman who served.

ARTICLE XII

Roberts "Rules of Order" (Revised Edition) shall be the parliamentary authority for the region on all questions not covered by the Constitution and By-Laws and such standing rules as the House of Delegates may adopt.

ARTICLE XIII

Amendments

The by-laws may be amended at a regular meeting of the House of Delegates by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present provided that the amendment has been proposed in writing to the region president at least sixty (60) days before the meeting of the House of Delegates. The secretary-treasurer of the Northeastern Region shall send copies of the proposed amendment or amendments to all Executive Committee members thirty (30) days prior to the meeting of the House of Delegates. Amendments approved by the House of Delegates of the Northeastern Region are valid only after approval by the Board of Directors of the PSEA.