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Constitution of the Iowa Science Teachers Association

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Constitution of The Iowa Science Teachers Association

PREAMBLE

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote the professional interests of the teachers of science in the state of Iowa:

- (a) by maintaining an Executive Board whose responsibilities shall include doing any necessary research on any policy proposed for the best interests of the organization or its members and to present the results of such research to the membership of the organization for action;
- (b) by jointly sponsoring conferences, workshops, and other meetings of interest to, and of value for, science teachers of Iowa with other interested groups and agencies both in Iowa and other states;
- (c) by acting upon any policies proposed, for the best interests of the organization and its individual members;
- (d) and, by furthering a close articulation with State and National educational organizations.

CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name

This organization shall be known as the Iowa Science Teachers Association.

Article II. Membership

Section 1. Any teacher of science in the state of Iowa, any supervising or administrative officer of any school in the state of Iowa, and any other person interested in or concerned with the teaching of science in Iowa may become an active member of the organization by paying the required annual dues.

Section 2. The membership year and fiscal year shall coincide with the date of the fall business meeting.

Article III. Organization

Section 1. This association shall be composed of three divisions; Elementary, Junior High, and Secondary Divisions. Each shall elect a chairman of their respective divisions at the fall meeting.

Section 2. This association is an affiliate of the Iowa State Education Association. This association is also an affiliate of the Iowa Academy of Science. The association will meet as a section of these two organizations.

Section 3. This association shall affiliate with the National Science Teachers Association as a state chapter of that organization. It will also affiliate with other national societies for science teachers as decided by the Executive Board.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. The officers of this association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, the immediate Past President, and the respective chairman of the Elementary, Junior High, and Senior High divisions, and the nine regional directors. The officers excepting the regional directors shall constitute the official Executive Board of the association. Inclusion of the Regional Directors in official Board meetings is at the discretion of the President.

Section 2. Any active member of the organization is eligible to hold any office.

Section 3. The election of officers shall be held before the fall meeting of the organization with a vote by mail. A majority of affirmative votes of those members

returning the marked ballots shall be necessary for election to any office.

Section 4. The term of office shall be for one year and any officer is eligible for re-election. A duly elected officer shall serve until his successor is elected and assumes office.

Section 5. A simple majority of the membership of the executive board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by that board.

Section 6. All vacancies in the offices of this association where not specifically provided for in this constitution shall be filled temporarily by appointment by the Executive Board, and such duly appointed officers shall hold office until the close of the next regular meeting of the association.

Article V. Duties of the Officers

Section 1. The President

The president shall preside at all meetings of the organization and at all meetings of the executive board. He shall, with the advice and consent of the executive board, appoint a nominating committee whose duties shall be to present a slate of candidates for offices of the organization except those of the divisions which shall elect their own chairman.

He shall represent the association wherein possible at other state, regional, or national meetings.

He shall appoint the chairman and members of all standing committees.

Section 2. The Vice-President

The vice-president shall perform the duties of the president whenever the president is absent or unable to function, and assume the office of president should that office become vacant during the period between annual meetings.

He shall serve as program chairman with the assistance of the executive board.

He shall serve as a member of the executive board.

Section 3. The Secretary

The secretary shall maintain an accurate and correct record of all business of the organization. He shall maintain a correct membership list with the aid of an appointive membership chairman.

He shall be a member of the executive board and serve as a secretary to that board.

Section 4. The Treasurer

The treasurer shall work with the membership chairman in collection of membership dues. He shall keep records of all financial transactions of the association. He will collect payment for advertisements in the Journal.

The treasurer shall pay all legal obligations of the organizations and prepare an annual fiscal report to be presented at state business meetings.

Section 5. Chairman of the Divisions

The chairman of the division, with assistance from the executive board, shall plan the program for his division at the annual meeting.

The chairman of the division shall be a member of the executive board.

Section 6. The Executive Board

The executive board shall plan the annual meetings of the organization; it shall plan and implement all activities sponsored by the organization during the year and those co-sponsored with other organizations.

The executive board shall develop and propose for acceptance by the organization, new policies or changes in existing policies as it sees fit.

Section 7. The Regional Directors

The nine regional directors shall be elected from each of the nine Iowa State Education Association districts. The president is empowered to appoint such directors until the district is organized and can elect its own representatives.

The regional directors shall contact all science teachers in his region. He shall encourage membership in the Association, participation in regional activities, and contribution to the state meetings and the Journal.

The regional directors will provide representation throughout the state and serve as liaisons to the Executive Board. They will serve as official sources for suggestions as to revision of policy and for ideas concerning new projects which the state organization may undertake.

The regional directors shall serve the organization in the dissemination of information and policies of the Association.

Article VI. Additional Divisions

Should the junior college science teachers or the college science teachers of Iowa join in sufficient numbers to form and desire a division within this association, they shall have the privilege and be assigned the same status as divisions already designated in this constitution.

Article VII. By-Laws

By-laws consistent with this constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the active members present at an annual meeting.

Article VIII. Amendments

This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the organization providing the proposed amendment has been submitted to the entire membership of the organization at least one month prior to the annual meeting and providing two thirds or more of those members present at the annual meeting approve the proposed amendment.

The notice of amendment does not apply to proposal of by-laws.

By-Laws

- No. 1.** The annual dues shall be fixed by a majority vote of the members of the association present at the annual meeting upon the recommendation of the executive board or by a mail vote to all members upon the recommendation of the executive board.
- No. 2.** The executive board may authorize remuneration for expenses incurred to its members in transacting association business insofar as funds on hand may warrant and a majority of the board has voted favorably prior to incurring the expense.
- No. 3.** Permanent committees may be established by decision of the president with the consent of the Executive Board. Initial committees include the following: membership, election, and short-course.
- No. 4.** The state membership chairmen of the National Association of Biology Teachers, the American Association of Physics Teachers, the National Science Teachers Association, the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers, and other similar organizations shall become the affiliation representatives with these organizations for the Association. This representation can be either official or unofficial depending upon Executive Board action as well as the desires of the particular representative and the policies of the national group.