

# OHIO SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION

## CONSTITUTION

(Revised April 23, 2010)

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**OHIO SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION  
CONSTITUTION  
REVISED APRIL 23, 2010**

**ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

1. The name of this organization shall be the Ohio School Psychologists Association, hereinafter referred to as the Association, not for profit.
2. The mission of the Ohio School Psychologists Association is to serve the citizens of Ohio by working collaboratively with all learners, families, educators, and others to address the learning and mental health needs of children and youth.
3. The purposes of the Association, not for profit, shall be:
  - a. To *advocate* for the educational and mental health needs of children, adults and families;
  - b. To *contribute* to the advancement of ethical, legal, and professional standards for the practice of school psychology;
  - c. To *extend* professional growth and development opportunities to school psychologists;
  - d. To *promote* research relative to the practice of school psychology;
  - e. To *encourage* the publication of information contributing to the advancement and practice of school psychology as a profession.

The foregoing clauses shall be construed both as objects and powers; and it is, hereby, expressly provided that the foregoing enumeration of the specific powers shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers of this Association, and are in furthermore of, and in addition to, and not in limitation of, the general powers conferred by the laws of this state and the Revised Code of Ohio, Chapter 1702.01 through 1702.58 inclusive and any amendments thereto.

**ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP**

1. All membership applications shall be approved by the Executive Board.
2. Annual dues and special assessments shall be established for each membership category, with the exception of honorary life membership. Dues and assessments shall be recommended by the Executive Board subject to approval by the voting membership of the Association.
3. Dues shall be payable at the beginning of the fiscal year and shall entitle the member to membership privileges for that year.
4. Membership categories shall be determined by the Executive Board.
5. Severance of membership:

- a. Membership shall be terminated for non-payment of dues as determined by Executive Board policy;
- b. A member may be expelled for violation of the OSPA Code of Ethics if recommended by the Professional Ethics and Standards Committee and approved by the Executive Board. A member may have the right of appeal.

### **ARTICLE III: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

1. Voting members of the Executive Board shall be the officers of the Association and regional representatives as established by the Operations Manual. Additional Executive Board members may be appointed but shall have no vote. All members of the Executive Board must be voting members of the Association.
2. Duties of the Executive Board:
  - a. While the basic responsibility for the functioning of the Association rests with the total membership, the Executive Board shall exercise general management of the affairs of the Association;
  - b. The Executive Board shall have and exercise the general direction, control and management of the activities and business of the Association. It shall have ample power to purchase, to lease, to pledge and sell any personal or real property of the Association and to make contracts and agreements on behalf of the Association, as it may be deemed needful and convenient for the Association's purposes and operations. In the case of sale or purchase of real property, an affirmative vote by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total Board membership is required. Such transactions shall be publicized to the Association's general membership prior to Board action;
  - c. The Executive Board shall administer any donations, grants or bequests;
  - d. Upon affirmative vote by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting, the Executive Board may establish such administrative offices and the terms, tenure, conditions of employment, and compensation thereof, as may be necessary and advisable for the further accomplishment of the purposes of this Association;
  - e. The Executive Board shall require adequate bonds on the employees of the Association as deemed necessary.

### **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

1. The officers of the Association shall be the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past-President, Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect, and Secretary.
2. The President, the President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Treasurer-Elect, and Secretary shall serve terms of one year. The President-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, and Secretary shall be elected by the voting membership of the Association. The office of President shall be filled by succession; of the President-Elect to the Presidency.
3. The office of Treasurer shall be filled by succession of the Treasurer-Elect to the

Treasurer. The office of Treasurer-Elect will run concurrently with the third year of the existing Treasurer's term for purposes of training. The Treasurer shall serve a term of three years and shall be initially elected as Treasurer-Elect by the voting membership of the Association. An individual may serve as Treasurer for no more than two terms. In the event that an existing Treasurer intends run for a second term, he or she must run again as Treasurer-Elect at the end of the second year of his or her first term. Thus, it will be ensured that the Treasurer-Elect position is filled (either with this existing Treasurer or, in a situation where there is more than one candidate, a new Treasurer-Elect) for the third year of his or her first term.

## **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

1. The Executive Board shall meet at the discretion of the President or by written petition of twenty-five (25) percent of the voting members of the Executive Board. In order to conduct business, a quorum of a simple majority of the voting members of the Executive Board shall be present. The results of meetings of the Executive Board shall be reported to the membership.
2. The general membership of the Association shall meet at least once each fiscal year for an Annual Business Meeting at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Board. Members shall receive timely notice of the time and place of these meetings. In order to conduct business, a quorum of ten (10) percent of the voting membership shall be required. The results of meetings of the Association shall be reported to the membership.

## **ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES**

1. There shall be standing and other committees appointed to fulfill the functions of the Association. The duties of the standing committees shall be described in the Operations Manual.
2. The President, subject to a two-thirds vote in the affirmative by the Executive Board, shall have the power to recommend the addition, deletion or change of a standing committee with the exception of the nominations and elections and fiscal advisory committees and the Executive Board.
3. Other committees may be appointed by the President at any time.
4. Chairs of standing and other committees will serve terms of one-year, unless reappointed again by the President.

## **ARTICLE VII: LIAISON WITH OTHER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES**

With approval of two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board, liaison positions may be established to facilitate communication and cooperation between this Association and other non-profit organizations and agencies of similar purpose.

## **ARTICLE VIII: REGIONAL AFFILIATION AND REPRESENTATION**

Regional organizations of school psychologists in Ohio may affiliate with this Association. Association members within each region shall be entitled to representation on the Executive Board.

1. In order to affiliate with this Association, regional organizations of school psychologists in Ohio must meet the following criteria:
  - a. Membership in the regional organization must include at least ten (10) voting members of the Ohio School Psychologists Association, and;
  - b. The regional organization shall have adopted a constitution and elected officers as provided in that Constitution.
2. Regional organizations seeking affiliation shall submit a Constitution to the Executive Board of this Association. Requests for affiliation must be approved by two thirds (2/3) of the total voting membership of the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE IX: VOTING**

1. Unless otherwise specified within the Constitution, all business shall be based on a simple majority of the votes cast. Results of elections of officers and representatives shall be determined on the basis of plurality.
2. Election of officers and representatives shall be conducted by mail or electronic ballot.
3. Other business requiring action by the membership:
  - a. May be conducted at a meeting of the Association or by mail or electronic ballot;
  - b. Ballots shall contain relevant information pertaining to the issue(s);
  - c. Ballots shall be mailed at least thirty (30) days before the closing date for their return;
  - d. The outcome of the balloting shall be included in the minutes of the Association.

## **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS**

1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast at a Annual Business meeting of the Association or by mail or electronic ballot. Proposed amendments must be presented to the membership in writing in advance of the meeting at which they will be considered or in the same mailing that contains the mail ballot.
2. Amendments to the Constitution and the by-laws may be proposed by the Executive Board or written petition by ten (10) percent of the voting membership of the Association. Such petitions shall be submitted to the Executive Board for verification of

validity, following which the Executive Board shall present the proposed amendment to the membership as provided in this Article.

3. The Constitution, Operations Manual, and Code of Ethics shall be reviewed at least every five (5) years. Amendments shall be proposed as necessary to ensure the continued effective and efficient functioning of the Association. Such proposed amendments shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board and shall be adopted in accordance with the specifications of this Article.

#### **ARTICLE XI: RULES OF ORDER**

The rules contained in the latest revision of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution, the Operations Manual, special rules of the Association, or the statutes of the state of Ohio applicable to corporations not for profit and any amendments thereto.