

NORTH CAROLINA SCIENCE LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization shall be the North Carolina Science Leadership Association. (NCSLA)

ARTICLE II - GOAL

Section 1

The goal of the North Carolina Science Leadership Association shall be to provide opportunities for leaders in both formal and informal science education by offering a forum to exchange ideas and information, advancing quality science instruction, and influencing education policies and legislation.

Section 2

This goal will be accomplished through activities such as, but not limited to, the following:

1. Disseminating information on current topics in science education among a network of the science leadership at all levels in North Carolina.
2. Sponsoring meetings and conferences for science leadership professional development to share and address common concerns of members.
3. Expressing areas of concern and potential solutions regarding science education issues to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and other appropriate agencies.
4. Supporting research contributing to the improvement of science instruction and learning in North Carolina.
5. Providing professional development, resources, and peer support for those performing the science leadership role function.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Membership in the North Carolina Science Leadership Association is open to any person in or aspiring to a leadership role whose concern and interest is the improvement of science education and science leadership.

Section 2

Annual dues for membership shall be established by the NCSLA Board of Directors.

Section 3

The membership year shall be defined as one calendar year from the date a member's dues are paid.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS

Section 1

The North Carolina Science Leadership Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of five (5) elected officers, six (6) elected Directors, Committee Chairpersons, and the Executive Director (if so appointed by the Board).

Section 2

The elected members of the North Carolina Science Leadership Association Board of Directors shall be the President, Immediate-Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and six (6) Directors.

Section 3

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Science Leadership Association shall be the President, Immediate-Past President, President-Elect, and Executive Director.

Section 4

Liaisons from other science education organizations may be appointed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors to be non-voting members of the Board of Directors. Liaisons may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the Board.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1

The Board of Directors shall transact business, plan programs for the year, consider proposed amendments to the Bylaws, and carry out measures for the growth and welfare of the organization.

Section 2

1. The voting members of the Board of Directors of the Association shall be the

President, Immediate-Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and the six (6) Directors.

2. The terms of the President-Elect, President, and Immediate-Past President shall be one year each. The terms of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be three (3) years.
3. The terms of the Directors shall be three (3) years.
4. The terms of the Directors shall be staggered in a manner such that each year two new Directors shall be elected.

Section 3

The President-Elect shall succeed to the Presidency of the Board of Directors at the expiration of the President's term of office. The President-Elect shall serve three (3) years on the Board of Directors; i.e., one year as President-Elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate-Past President.

Section 4

In the event of vacancies on the Board of Directors, the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint replacements. If the office of President is vacated before the term expires, the Immediate-Past President shall fulfill the unexpired term and serve as Immediate-Past President the following year.

Section 5

The Association may have an Executive Director who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors for the purpose of providing general guidance and continuity to the Association and for the purpose of serving as a representative of the Association as needed.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall preview and review Association business and support the work of the President.

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS' DUTIES

Section 1

The President shall provide leadership to the Association, shall preside over the meetings of the Association and its Board of Directors, shall create such committees and task forces as necessary to conduct the Association's business and shall serve ex-officio on such committees and task forces, shall conduct the general business of the

Association, and shall represent the Association before the public and other educational bodies.

Section 2

The Immediate-Past President shall act in an advisory capacity to the President, shall coordinate the programming of the membership meetings, and shall perform other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 3

The President-Elect shall act for the President in her/his temporary absence, shall appoint new committee members, and shall perform such duties as assigned by the President.

Section 4

The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Association and its Board of Directors, shall distribute said minutes, and shall maintain all minutes of the Association.

Section 5

The Treasurer shall serve as custodian of Association funds and shall make payments of all debts of the Association, shall keep accurate records of all financial transactions of the Association, and shall report the same as requested by the President.

Section 6

Directors shall represent the interests of the membership at large and shall serve on Association committees and in various leadership roles as needed.

ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCEDURES

Section 1

The Nominations Committee shall prepare a slate of officers. All nominees must be members of the Association.

Section 2

The Nominations Committee shall post the call for nominations on the Association website at least 2 months prior to the scheduled election, shall conduct online voting for at least 3 weeks, and shall have the President announce those nominees who have received a plurality of the votes cast.

Section 3

Elections shall be held before May 1 each year. All elected nominees shall assume their positions on June 1

ARTICLE IX – FISCAL-YEAR FINANCES

Section 1

The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of September and shall end on the last day of August.

Section 2

The Treasurer, working with the Executive Committee, shall develop a draft budget for the Association. The Board of Directors shall then consider the draft budget for approval. The Board of Directors may amend the draft budget prior to its final approval.

Section 3

The funds provided by the dues and other sources shall be disbursed by the Treasurer as approved by the President after he or she has validated that the expense is within the intent and limitations of the existing approved budget.

Section 4

The ledger of all accounts of NCSLA shall be closed on the last day of the fiscal year. The accounts shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for review.

ARTICLE X - MEETINGS

Section 1

The Board of Directors shall meet at least two (2) times annually. Additional meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the President. An emergency meeting may be called at any time by a majority of the Board of Directors.

Section 2

The general membership shall meet at least once a year. Additional meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 3

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all Board meetings.

ARTICLE XI - QUORUM

A majority of the current elected members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum of that body.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1

Amendments to the Bylaws of the North Carolina Science Leadership Association may be proposed in writing to the President by any three (3) members of the Board of Directors or by any ten (10) members of the Association.

Section 2

The President shall submit proposed amendments in writing to all members in good standing for discussion. The discussion period shall be no less than 30 days but no more than 60 days prior to the vote.

Section 3

The amendment shall be passed if more than two-thirds of the total votes are favorable.

ARTICLE XIII - AFFILIATION

The Association shall maintain affiliation with the National Science Education Leadership Association and the North Carolina Science Teachers Association. The Association shall be an Associated Group of the National Science Teachers Association.

ARTICLE XIV – LIABILITY

No board member shall be liable for any debt, obligation, or liability of the organization.

ARTICLE XV - DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the North Carolina Science Leadership Association, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Association, designate a similar organization organized and operated for science educational purposes that qualifies as an exempt entity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) as recipient of the assets of the Association.