

ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. ASSOCIATION REGIONS.

The Association Regions shall correspond to the ESC region boundaries.

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS, NOMINATION, ENDORSEMENT, AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

A. Each voting Director shall be a trustee of the governing board of a school district that is an Active Member, except as provided below:

- (1) The President and the Immediate Past President.
- (2) The ESC *ex officio* Director, in accordance with Article VI, Section 4F.

B. No Active Member shall have more than one candidate running for a Director position before the Delegate Assembly, even if more than one Director position is subject to an expiring term or vacancy within the Active Member's Region. No person shall be a candidate for more than one Director position in an election before the Delegate Assembly.

C. For purposes of this section, an Active Member school district with an average daily attendance (ADA) meeting the requirements of Article VI, Section 4C(1), shall be treated as an Association Region and referred to in these Bylaws as a Large District.

D. Nominations and endorsements shall be accepted in accordance with the following requirements, in chronological order within the time frames and deadlines set out in Board policy:

(1) Active Members in any Association Region in which there are expiring terms or vacancies in Director positions shall be notified by the date established through Board policy that the Active Member may nominate one of its trustees as a candidate for a Director position in which the term is expiring or a vacancy exists within the Active Member's Region.

(2) The Nominations Committee's chair, or designee, shall have received the following in writing in the Austin office of the Association by the deadline established through Board policy:

(a) The Active Member's nomination, in such form as required by the Association, which shall include a verification by the Active Member's board president or other board officer as to the date of board action.

(b) Candidate information required by the Association, which shall include (i) the candidate's written confirmation of his or her intent to be nominated as a candidate and willingness to serve if elected, (ii) biographical information, and (iii) responses to the questionnaire(s) developed by the Association.

(3) A listing of all candidates running for Director positions shall be sent to the superintendent and board president of each Active Member in each Association Region in which there are any expiring terms or vacancies in Director positions by the date established through Board policy. The candidate listing also shall be posted on the Association's website. Candidates, Directors, Delegates, and Active Members shall be subject to any campaign protocols or regulations established through Board policy.

(4) Active Member endorsements of candidates shall be received in the Austin office of the Association by the deadline established through Board policy in order for such endorsements to be considered. An Active Member may endorse only one candidate for each open Director position within its Association Region. Only candidates who have complied with the requirements of Article VI, Section 2D(2), may be endorsed. Endorsements adopted by an Active Member before the Association sends the list of candidates pursuant to Article VI, Section 2D(3), or endorsements that are not on the endorsement form provided by the Association in a given year shall not be accepted. An Active Member's nomination of one of its trustees [Article VI, Section 2D(2)] shall be considered the Active Member's endorsement for that Director position.

(5) If a majority of the Active Members in an Association Region endorses the same candidate, that candidate shall be elected to the Director position and shall take office at the completion of the final official session of the annual convention during the year in which the Director was elected.

(6) If no candidate receives endorsements from a majority of the Active Members in the candidate's Association Region [Article VI, Section 2D(4)], the official annual Delegate Assembly list of nominees shall include the following:

(a) Candidates nominated by the Nominations Committee [Article VIII, Section 2H].

(b) Candidates receiving endorsements from at least 25 percent but less than a majority of the Active Members in an Association Region.

(7) Thereafter nominations may be made by the candidate's Delegate, provided the following conditions are met:

(a) The candidate's nomination was submitted in compliance with Article VI, Section 2D(2).

(b) The candidate interviewed with the Nominations Committee, unless the Committee waived the need for an interview based on criteria set out in Board policy.

(c) The candidate's intent and consent to run for the position by this alternate means is received in the Austin office of the Association five days prior to the annual Delegate Assembly.

E. Except for a Director position filled in accordance with Article VI, Section 2D(5), the official annual Delegate Assembly list of nominees shall be prepared by the Nominations Committee as provided in these Bylaws [Article VIII, Section 2I]. The election shall comply with these Bylaws

and any rules and procedures adopted for the Delegate Assembly at the start of the meeting. Such rules and procedures may allow uncontested nominees to be deemed elected without a vote.

F. If there is more than one nominee for a Director position, the nominee receiving the majority of the votes of the Delegates shall be elected. If no nominee receives a majority vote of the Delegates, a runoff election shall be conducted between the two nominees receiving the greater numbers of votes, and the election shall be repeated for that position as many times as necessary to obtain a majority.

SECTION 3. DUTIES. The Board shall supervise, control, and direct affairs of the Association in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, beliefs, and Advocacy Agenda approved by the Delegate Assembly. The Board shall:

- A. Actively promote the mission, beliefs, and purposes of the Association.
- B. Adopt the Association's budget and have discretion in the disbursement of the Association's funds.
- C. Receive any devise, bequest, donation, or gift — either for real or personal property — and hold the same in absolute title or in trust; and invest, reinvest, and manage such property consistently with the mission and purposes of the Association.
- D. Establish such Board policies as it deems appropriate in fulfilling its responsibilities under these Bylaws.
- E. Appoint such agents as it may consider necessary.

SECTION 4. COMPOSITION.

- A. The Association's governing body shall be composed of Directors from Large Districts or Association Regions. No Active Member shall have more than one individual serving on the Board.
- B. All Directors shall represent their respective Association Regions, except the President, President-Elect, and Immediate Past President.
- C. By virtue of student enrollment, individual Active Members or Association Regions may be eligible for a Director position as follows:

(1) (a) Not more than 14 Active Members shall be entitled to Large District Director positions. To qualify for a Large District Director position, the Active Member shall have had at least 1.25 percent of the total state ADA for two consecutive school years. If more than 14 Active Members qualify for Large District Director positions under this provision, the 14 Active Members with the largest ADA shall qualify.

(b) If the Active Member's ADA falls below 1.25 percent of the total state ADA for two consecutive school years or if an Active Member has qualified for a Large District Director position and that Active Member is no longer one of the 14 school districts with the ADA required under Article VI, Section 4C(1)(a), the Active Member's entitlement to a Large District Director position shall end with the expiration of the current representative's term.

(2) (a) An Association Region shall be entitled to Regional Director positions for each 4.25 percent or fraction thereof of the total state ADA contained within the Association Region for two consecutive school years and after the ADA of each Active Member qualifying for a position by virtue of Article VI, Section 4 C(1), has been subtracted. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Association Region shall be entitled to no more than three Regional Director positions.

(b) If an Association Region becomes entitled to multiple positions by this provision and then fails to sustain sufficient ADA for the entitlement over two consecutive school years, a Regional Director position shall be eliminated as follows:

- i. If a vacancy exists in the Regional Director position, that position shall be eliminated.
- ii. If there is more than one vacancy in the Regional Director positions, the vacant position with the first expiring term shall be eliminated.
- iii. If there is no vacancy in the Regional Director positions, the existing position with the first expiring term within the Region shall be eliminated at the end of that term.
- iv. If there is no vacancy and more than one Regional Director position having the first expiring term in the same year, the position being held by the individual with the least tenure as a Regional Director shall be eliminated at the end of that term.
- v. If there is no vacancy and more than one Regional Director position having the first expiring term in the same year and being held by individuals with the same tenure, there shall be a drawing of lots to determine which Regional Director position shall be eliminated at the end of the term.

D. All calculations under this section shall be based on ADA data furnished by the Texas Education Agency available as of April 1 preceding the annual Delegate Assembly.

E. The Executive Director shall be a nonvoting *ex officio* Director and shall not be counted in the quorum of the Board.

F. The ESC boards shall be represented by one voting *ex officio* Director selected by a process and for a term prescribed by guidelines established by the ESC boards, but shall not be counted in the quorum of the Board.

SECTION 5. DURATION OF OFFICE.

A. Unless stated in these Bylaws otherwise, a Board year or annual period relating to a Director or the business of the Board commences at the official close of the annual convention and ends after the same event in the next year.

B. The term of office of each Director shall be three years and shall begin at the completion of the final official session of the annual convention during which the Director was elected by the annual Delegate Assembly.

C. Terms of Directors shall be staggered to allow, to the extent possible, for the election of one-third of the Directors each year. New Director positions shall be assigned to terms to retain this balance; however, if this is not possible, the assignment of terms shall be decided by drawing of lots.

D. Upon election to a three-year term, a Director may be reelected to no more than three additional terms. For purposes of determining a Director term limit, service time attaches to the individual and not the Association Region with which the Director is associated.

E. Upon election or succession to the office of President-Elect, the Director position previously held shall be declared vacant and a successor elected, except as provided in Article VI, Section 4A. Once elected President-Elect, the term limit that applies to a Director position shall no longer apply and shall not prevent the individual from completing the term of one year as President-Elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate Past President.

SECTION 6. RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL.

A. A Director may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the President. The resignation shall become effective upon receipt by the President.

B. A Director who is absent from three consecutive regularly scheduled Board meetings or from three consecutive regularly scheduled Standing Committee meetings may be removed from the Director position by a majority vote of all Directors. A Large District Director removed pursuant to this section shall be ineligible to serve for the remainder of the term to which the Director was elected.

C. Any Director may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board when, in the Board's judgment, the best interests of the Association would be served by removal.

SECTION 7. MEETINGS.

A. The Board shall hold at least four regular meetings that shall be spread throughout the year, with one taking place during the summer and the last meeting taking place during the week of the annual Delegate Assembly. The Executive Committee of the Board shall determine the dates and locations of the meetings for the upcoming Board year and report the meeting schedule to the Board before the Board year commences. The Board also shall be given 30 days' notice before each regular meeting by electronic means or by any other means accessible to the Directors.

B. Additional meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by the written request of a majority of the Board, provided that a written notice is sent to each Director at least 10 days before the meeting.

C. A meeting of the Board or a committee may be conducted in person or by alternate means, such as teleconference, videoconference, virtual, or any other means by which each participant can communicate with all other participants.

SECTION 8. QUORUM AND VOTING.

A. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Board.

B. Unless required otherwise by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws, a vote required or permitted to be taken shall be based on the "present and voting" parliamentary standard. No proxy voting shall be permitted.

C. Any action required to be taken at a meeting of Directors, or any action which may be taken at a meeting of the Directors or any committee, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action to be taken, shall have been signed or executed by the number of Directors or committee members as would be necessary to take that action at a meeting at which Directors or members of the committee were present and voted. The Board, by policy or resolution, may increase the number of votes required for an action taken by written consent. A written consent shall be signed or executed and dated by each Director or committee member, and consent may be provided in multiple counterparts. Directors or committee members may provide written consent by facsimile, email (from the email address of record), or any other form of written action from the Director or committee member.

SECTION 9. VACANCIES. The Board may fill vacancies that occur in Director positions by electing an individual, by majority vote, to fill the vacancy until the next annual Delegate Assembly, in accordance with Board policy. At that time, a candidate shall be elected by the annual Delegate Assembly to fill the unexpired term in accordance with Article VI, Section 2D.