

The Constitution of the Delran Education Association

Adopted April 1987 (Revised: April 1990, April 1998, April 2009)

Article I Name and Incorporation

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Delran Education Association.

Section 2: It is incorporated as a non-profit corporation under Title 15, Section 1-12 of Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Article II Affiliation

The Association shall be an affiliate of the Burlington County Education Association, the New Jersey Education Association, and the National Education Association.

Article III Purposes

Section 1: To work for the welfare of the educational process, the advancement of education, and the improvement of instructional opportunities for all.

Section 2: To develop and promote the adoption of such personnel policies and standards of preparation and participation as mark a profession.

Section 3: To advance professional rights and status and responsibilities of its members in the educational process.

Section 4: To represent its members and other employees in negotiations and grievances with the Board of Education on all matters of compensation, and all other terms and conditions of employment.

Section 5: To form a representative body to speak with authority for its members.

Section 6: To establish cooperation between the members of the educational process and the community.

Article IV Membership

Section 1: Active Members

- a. Active membership in the Association shall be open to any appropriately certified teacher, all persons employed as a school service personnel, all persons engaged in clerical, secretarial, and instructional aide work, who are not engaged in

administration, and who are under the employment of the Delran Board of Education.

- b. Active members of the Association, where eligible, shall also be members of the Burlington County Education Association, the New Jersey Education Association, and the National Education Association.

Section 2: Honorary Members

Honorary membership may be conferred upon members or other persons for distinguished service to education. Honorary members shall enjoy all the privileges of the Association except those of voting and holding office and shall be exempt from payment of dues.

Section 3: Retired Members

Active members upon retirement may continue to enjoy all rights and services of active members except to vote and the right to be elected to office.

Section 4: Rights of Membership

- a. Every active member shall have equal rights and privileges within the organization.
- b. Every member shall have the right to meet and assemble fully with other members; to express any views, arguments, or opinions; to express views at meetings upon candidates in an election of the Association, or upon any business properly brought before the meeting.
- c. No member shall be fined, suspended, expelled, or otherwise disciplined except for non-payment of dues without being served with specific written charges and given a reasonable time in which to prepare a defense which may be asserted at a full and fair meeting.

Section 5: Duration of Membership

Membership shall be continuous until the member leaves the school district, resigns from the Association, or fails to pay the annual dues.

Article V Officers

Section 1: The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2:

- a. The officers shall be elected according to Article VII. The newly-elected officers will serve for two years beginning June 1st.
- b. Upon their election, the secretary shall file the names and addresses of all officers with the Burlington County Education Association and with the New Jersey Education Association. The names of all officers and committee members shall be kept in the permanent file of the Delran Education Association.

Section 3:

Officers of the Association shall serve their terms so long as they satisfactorily perform the duties of their office. Where an officer is guilty of misconduct, such officer may be removed for cause (shown after notice and a hearing) and by a majority vote of the members of the Association.

- a. Recommendation for recall can be made by the submission of a petition containing the signatures of 10% of the membership to the Executive Committee.
- b. The Executive Committee shall notify in writing any officer who has been recommended for recall.
- c. Any officer may appeal in writing to the Executive Committee.
- d. The Executive Committee shall schedule hearings, whenever necessary, to review the recommendation of recall of an officer.
- e. The Report of those meetings shall be made available to the membership.
- f. A general membership meeting shall be called two weeks after the issuance of the report.
- g. Such recall shall be determined by a majority vote of the entire membership.

Section 4:

Nothing in this Article shall be construed as precluding officers from succeeding themselves in officer, if duly elected.

Section 5:

In the event of vacancy in the office of President, the First Vice President shall become president and serve until the next annual election. In the event of vacancy in the office of First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall become first vice president.

Article VI Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- a. The officers of the Association
- b. The immediate past president
- c. Head association representatives or designated alternates
- d. The Membership Chairperson
- e. The Grievance Chairperson
- f. Chairs of all standing committees
- g. Head Representatives-at-large as needed for unit representation. There shall be a representative from each unit. Where such representation is not provided through election, one or more shall be designated as Head Representative(s)-at-large.

Article VII Representative Council

Section 1: The policy-forming body of the Association shall be the Representative Council.

Section 2: The Representative Council shall consist of:

- a. The Executive Committee.
- b. One or more elected representatives from each building.
- c. Chairpersons of standing committees.
- d. Members of standing committees.
- e. County representatives.

Section 3:

- a. In each school building in the Delran Public School District, those persons who are members of the Association shall elect for a term of 2 years, at least one Representative Council for every 10 members or major fraction thereof.

- b. The Association shall endeavor to achieve minority representation on its Representative Council at least proportionate to its active ethnic minority membership.
- c. There shall be at least one representative from each building. Where more than one such representative is elected, one shall be designated as head representative.

Section 4: The Head Representative or designee shall call meetings of the Association members within their buildings to discuss Association business, appoint such building committees as the Association may require, and organize and oversee the subsequent elections of representatives, the enrollment of members, and two way communication within the building.

Section 5: Any member of the Association who is not a member of the Representative Council may attend the meetings, shall sit apart from the voting body, but may receive permission to speak.

Article VIII Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be made by a two-thirds majority of the active members of the Association voting in a regular or special election called for this purpose, provided that:

- a. The amendments have been submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Association.
- b. The Secretary of the Association has distributed copies of the amendments to the members of the Representative Council.
- c. The Representative Council, by a majority vote, proposes to recommend said amendments to the general membership.
- d. The Secretary of the Association has distributed copies of the amendments so proposed to all active members of the Association at least two calendar weeks in advance of the election.

