



Texas Caucus of Black School Board Members

OUR BYLAWS

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Texas Caucus of Black School Board Members (Hereinafter referred to as the “Caucus”)

Article II – Purposes

The purpose of the Caucus shall be to

- Provide a forum for the unique issues faced by African American school board members and African American students throughout the state;
- Serve as an official advisory body on matters relating to issues of concern to African American on local school boards; positions on the Texas Association of School Board; and the National School Boards Association;
- Promote better relationships and understanding between African American school board members, their local communities and local school boards, the Texas Association of School Board; and the National School Boards Association;
- Provide a means whereby African American school board members can actively participate in the state and national dialogue on educational problems, issues and concerns as well as opportunities, within the Texas Association of School Board, National School Boards Association and other national organizations, committed to the full growth and development of African American and other minority children.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

- Any member of a duly constituted school board may become a regular voting member of the Caucus upon payment of the membership dues.

Section 2. Types of Membership

- Regular membership shall consist of any elected or appointed member of any local board of education within the State of Texas. Regular membership is available on a continuing basis and entitles the holder to a vote on all matters before the Caucus and the right to hold any office or committee position.
- Associate membership shall consist of any persons or individuals interested in promoting the purposes of the Caucus. Associate members shall not be entitled to vote nor hold an office in the Caucus, but may serve on committees.
- Corporate/Organizational/Sponsorship shall consist of any corporation, organization, association, firm, business, school district and/or other entity that is interested in promoting the purposes of the Caucus. Sponsorships shall be approved by the Executive Board. A sponsor shall not be entitled to vote nor hold an office in the Caucus, but may serve on committees.

Section 3. Meetings

- The Executive Board shall hold meetings prior to the annual conference of the TASA/TASB Convention (September), and Summer Leadership Conference of the Texas Association of School Boards (SLI) in San Antonio, Texas.
- All other meetings of the Executive Board shall be called at the discretion of the President, with at least two-week written notice being given to all members.



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OUR GUIDELINES

Article IV – Fiscal Procedures and Dues

Section 1. Dues Payments and Fiscal Year

- Dues for Regular Members shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year and dues for Associate Members shall be thirty-five dollars (\$25.00) per year. The Corporate/Organizational/Sponsorship fee shall be five hundred dollars \$500 per year. Said dues are payable on/or by the beginning of the fiscal year to July 1, and expire on June 31 the following year.
- An operational budget shall be established by the Executive Board each year, and approved by the membership during the Annual Meeting. It shall be available to any Caucus member, upon request, for information.
- After approval, as described in the bullet above, the Treasurer shall make disbursements as provided for in the approved Operating Budget.
- The Treasurer or the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain records of all financial transactions and shall make written reports to the Executive Board at each Board meeting. An annual financial report shall be published and distributed each year at the Annual Meeting for the information of the Caucus membership.

Article V – Elected Officers and Ex-Officio Advisors

Section 1. Titles

- The elected officers of the Caucus shall be a President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Immediate Past President, and five (5) Regional Vice-Presidents, constituting the Executive Board.

Section 2. Election, Qualifications and Term of Office

- The elected officers of President, President-Elect, Secretary and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the regular membership held at the TASA/TASB Convention at the Annual Meeting of the Caucus for a one-year term. Treasurer shall be elected by the regular membership held at the TASA/TASB Convention at the Annual Meeting of the Caucus for a two year term. Upon completion of a term as President, the person holding that officio becomes Immediate Past President. The term of office of each elected officer shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which the election took place, and the officer shall serve the term to which he/she was elected or until a successor is elected. An elected officer may serve no more than two one-year terms in the same office.
- Regional Vice Presidents shall be elected in the same fashion and can serve no more than two consecutive terms.
- An elected officer, at the time of election, shall be a member of a school board and a regular member of the Caucus.

Section 3. Removal

- Any person holding an elected office may be removed for good cause by a two-thirds vote of the regular membership when, in its judgment, the best interest of the Caucus would be served thereby. The Executive Board shall receive and immediately investigate complaints of malfeasance or misfeasance by an officer and shall have the power to suspend that officer from his/her official duties pending an investigation and vote by the membership next scheduled membership meeting.

Section 4. Vacancies

- If there is a vacancy for any reason in the office of the President, the President-Elect shall succeed to the office immediately and shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the office. The President-Elect's opportunity for serving two full terms shall not be encumbered by a succession to the office of President when a vacancy occurs.
- If there is a vacancy for any reason in an office that cannot be filled by these provisions for succession to office, the Executive Board shall appoint, from the Caucus regular membership, an officer pro tempore to perform the duties of the vacated office until the office is filled pursuant to an election by the regular members at the Annual Meeting of the Caucus.



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Section 5. President

- The President shall serve as the chief elected officer of the Caucus. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Caucus and to perform all duties incident to the Office of the President and such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board and the Caucus.
- Nothing contained in these bylaws shall be construed to restrict the duly elected President of the Caucus from acting in the best interest of this organization should circumstances arise demanding that the President act immediately to protect the interest of the organization. All such actions by the President shall be reported within ten (10) days to the Executive Board.

Section 6. President-Elect

- It shall be the duty of the President-Elect to perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President, or in the event of the President's inability to act. The President-Elect, when thus acting, shall have the powers of and be subject to all responsibilities placed upon the President. The President-Elect shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President from time to time or as directed by the Executive Board.

Section 7. Secretary

- The Secretary shall cause notices of all meetings of the Caucus to be sent out and the minutes of meetings to be kept; shall serve as custodian of organization records and keeper of the seal of the Caucus; and in general, shall perform all duties incident to the office, and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 8. Treasurer

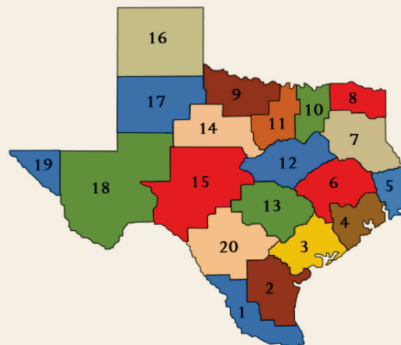
- The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds, securities and financial records of the Caucus and in general, shall perform all duties incident to the office, and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 9. Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

- The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer shall act in the absence of the Secretary or Treasurer and shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Secretary or Treasurer, or the President or the Executive Board.

Section 10. Regional Vice President

- The Regional Vice Presidents shall be elected by the membership from their respective regions at the Annual Meeting. The nine Regional Vice Presidents shall serve as chief elected officers of their respective regions and shall be responsible for calling regional meetings. The Regional Vice Presidents shall assist in recruiting members in their area, maintain communications between their region and the Executive Board and perform other duties as requested by the Executive Board. The Regions shall be known as North (ESC Regions 9, 10, 11, 14), East (ESC Regions 5, 6, 7, 8), West (ESC Regions 16, 17, 18, 19), South (ESC Regions 1, 2, 3, 4), and Central (ESC Regions 12, 13, 15, 20). There will be two Regional Vice Presidents in the South, North, East, and Central regions and one Regional Vice President in the West region.





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Section 11. Local Regional Coordinator

- The Local Region Coordinator shall be elected by the membership from their respective region at the Annual Meeting. The 20 Local Region Coordinators shall serve as chief elected officers of their respective region and shall be responsible for calling local region meetings. The Regions shall be identified similarly as the Education Service Centers, of the Texas Education Agency.

Section 12. General Counsel

- The General Counsel shall be appointed by the President, approved by the Executive Board, and provide legal advice and other consultation to the Executive Board upon request.

Article VI – Executive Board

Section 1. Members

- The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers of the Caucus; President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.
- A quorum shall consist of one-half of the voting members of the Executive Board.

Section 2. Duties

The Executive Board shall be responsible for the business of the Caucus, as well as the implementation of the Caucus programs and activities, consistent with the Caucus purpose.

- It shall and formulate, develop, and interpret the policies for the Caucus, under the directives approved by the regular membership at the Annual Meeting.
- It may study and present specific proposals and recommendations to the regular membership for consideration and adoption.
- It shall also be responsible for carrying out other policies as officially adopted in regular membership meetings.

Article VIII – Governing Authority

All meetings of the Caucus shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition. The President may designate a person to serve as Parliamentarian and another as Sergeant-of-Arms when deemed appropriate.

Article IX – Standing Committees

Section 1. Authorization

- The President of the Caucus shall appoint standing committees and the Chairs of same. Appointees shall serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Caucus when they are either reappointed or replaced.
- The President shall, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board, appoint ad hoc committee(s) for a specific duration to carry out defined responsibilities.

Section 2. Education Committee

- This committee shall identify, solicit, receive and consolidate for review any resolutions, proposals and suggestions that relate to public education issues and make recommendations to the Executive Board on education policies that further the Caucus purposes.

Section 3. Nominating Committee

- At least 30 days before the annual meeting, this committee shall prepare and present a slate of candidates to serve in the offices of the Caucus. The slate of candidates shall consist of nominations from the membership. Nominations also may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting, if no nominations are presented by the committee.

Section 4. Credentials Committee

- This committee shall certify all paid up bona fide members of the Caucus and shall devise methods whereby only those regular members paid up and eligible may vote on matters before the Caucus. The General Counsel shall be appointed by the President, approved by the Executive Board, and provide legal advice and other consultation to the Executive Board upon request.



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Section 5. Election Committee

- The Election Committee shall be responsible for the preparation and conduct of all elections for officers and report election results at the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. Membership Committee

- This committee shall be chaired by an Officer appointed by the President and will consist of at least one person from each region charged with identifying, recruiting and confirming persons eligible for membership in the Caucus. All membership forms and monies shall go directly to the Secretary, who will forward the dues to the Treasurer.

Article X – Assets on Dissolution

Section 6. Membership Committee

- Should this organization be dissolved or terminated in any manner, all real and personal property shall be held for use of its successor organization. In no case shall any real or personal property or the proceeds from the sale thereof, inure to the pecuniary benefit of any member of the Caucus.

Article XI – Amendments

These documents may be repealed, amended or changed by a majority vote of those regular members present and eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting of the Caucus. Omissions from these bylaws shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

Accepted By:

Josie Smith-Wright, Gonzales ISD
President

October 3, 2014
Date

Attest:

James Keeton
Secretary

October 3, 2014
Date

We will sign and send back to you