

# **TRI-VALLEY DISTRICT BYLAWS**

## **Article I - Name and Purpose**

### Section 1.

The Nebraska State Education Association Tri-Valley District shall hereinafter be referred to as the Tri-Valley District.

### Section 2.

The purpose of the Tri-Valley District shall be to promote the welfare and educational interests of the District, the State, the Nation, and other members of the public education family.

## **Article II - Boundaries and Membership**

### Section 1.

The Tri-Valley District shall consist of the following counties as provided for in Article VI, Section I, of the Bylaws of NSEA: Adams, Buffalo, Chase, Dawson, Dundy, Franklin, Frontier, Furnas, Gosper, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Kearney, Lincoln, Phelps, Red Willow, Webster.

Three Sub-Districts shall be organized for the purpose of representation consisting of East Sub-District, West Sub-District, and Central Sub-District.

### Section 2.

Any person actively engaged in this profession of teaching or in an educational support position shall be eligible for membership. Any person joining the Association shall agree to its purposes and objectives, shall maintain membership in the affiliated local association and the national association where eligible, and shall agree to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association.

### Section 3.

The membership requirements of the Tri-Valley District shall be those of the Nebraska State Education Association as determined by the Board of Directors and the Delegate Assembly in their establishment and revisions of the Nebraska State Education Association Constitution and Bylaws.

### Section 4.

Every member of this District Association shall, upon presentation of credentials, be admitted to all meetings of the Nebraska State Education Association for the membership year, which shall coincide with the NEA membership year. Membership shall be continuous unless terminated for cause. The right to vote and to hold elective office or appointive position shall be limited to Active members except as otherwise provided.

### Section 5.

Membership dues shall be those as determined by the Delegate Assembly of the Nebraska State Education Association.

### **Article III - Meetings and Association Year**

#### Section 1.

The time and place of the meetings shall be determined by the Tri-Valley District Executive Committee in cooperation with the State Association and, if any, cooperating District Associations.

#### Section 2.

The District Association year shall coincide with the State Association year.

#### Section 3.

A Quorum shall be the majority of the elected members of the Tri-Valley Executive Committee.

### **Article IV -- Executive Committee and Terms of Office**

#### Section 1.

The Tri-Valley executive committee shall consist of the District Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer; all Sub-District Representatives; and all District NSEA Board of Directors. Any member of the Tri-Valley District serving as a State Officer in the NSEA, or as a Board of Directors member in the NEA, shall serve as a non-voting member of the Tri-Valley Executive Committee. No person shall hold more than one of these offices simultaneously.

#### Section 2.

(a) The offices of President and Vice-President will be for two three year terms. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer will be for unlimited two year terms.

(b) Six Sub-District Representatives, two from each Sub-District, shall be elected by a plurality of votes cast in the respective sub-district. One representative from each Sub-District shall be elected annually to serve a two-year term. They may be elected to no more than two complete consecutive terms.

(c) Three representatives to the NSEA Board of Directors shall be elected for no more than two consecutive terms of three years each. One representative shall be elected annually. No person shall hold simultaneously more than one seat on the Board of directors, either as a general officer or as a Tri-Valley District Association Representative or President. Absence from two consecutive meetings of the NSEA Board, except for approved reasons, shall constitute grounds for declaring the position vacant. Vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the bylaws of the district.

(d) Executive Board members shall assume office on August 1 following their election.

#### Section 3.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall become President and shall assume the duties and authority of that office for the remainder of that term. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sub-District Representatives, or District NSEA Board of Directors, the Tri-Valley District Executive Committee shall elect a successor to serve until the next election.

## **Article V -- Nomination and Election Procedures**

### **Section 1.**

A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the District President and shall consist of three members of the District Executive Committee who are not candidates for election. They shall serve in that capacity for the Association year immediately following their appointment.

### **Section 2.**

The Nominating Committee shall publish the list of positions to be elected in the NSEA VOICE as stipulated in the NSEA Bylaws.

### **Section 3.**

Any NSEA member of the Tri-Valley District may file for any District office for which there is a vacancy by submitting his/her name in writing to the Nominating Committee no fewer than 45 days prior to the election. The Chairman shall be responsible for validating such nominations. The committee shall seek a minimum of one candidate for each office. Placement of names on all ballots shall be by lottery. Candidates will be advised as to the time and place of the lottery and may have a representative present.

### **Section 4.**

The Tri-Valley District Association shall elect its State Board of Directors, Tri-Valley District Officers, and Tri-Valley Sub-District Representatives by a secret ballot, at a time and in a manner that shall be determined by the District Executive Committee in cooperation with the State Association.

### **Section 5.**

Each Association member providing proper ID shall vote according to procedures and guidelines determined by NSEA.

### **Section 6.**

Each nominee shall be notified of the number of votes cast for each candidate, and the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. Should there be a tie vote, a run-off election shall be held between the candidates. All elections shall be by written or electronic ballot.

## **Article VI -- Duties**

### **Section 1.**

The President shall preside at all general meetings of the Tri-Valley District, organize the Nominating Committee, serve as Chief Delegate for Tri-Valley District at the annual Nebraska State Education Association Delegate Assembly, and take the initiative in any other matters which may appear necessary in the conduct of the office. The President, or in his/her absence the Vice-President, shall serve as an ex-officio member to the State Board of Directors in both regular and executive sessions, with all rights of Board members except the right to vote. In the absence of any Board member, the District President may assume the seat of an absent director, with voting privileges.

Section 2.

The Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the President.

Section 3.

The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Tri-Valley District. The minutes shall be sent to all Tri-Valley Executive Committee members, NSEA District Presidents, each officer, the NSEA Office, NEA/NSEA Directors, the UniServ Directors of Tri-Valley, and Local Presidents and Negotiators of the Tri-Valley District.

Section 4.

The Treasurer shall fulfill all duties normally performed by a Treasurer, and make a complete financial report of the funds, and of the annual audit, to the Tri-Valley District.

Section 5.

Sub-District Representatives shall establish regular contact between the District Executive Committee and the locals within their Sub-District.

Section 6.

The Tri-Valley Representatives to the NSEA Board of Directors shall perform duties prescribed or implied by the bylaws and policies of the Delegate Assembly deemed necessary for the welfare of the Tri-Valley District. The Representatives shall attend District meetings and establish contact between the locals within their district. Election as a district representative on the State Board of Directors also constitutes election as a state delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly for a term coinciding with their term as a state board member.

Section 7.

The Executive Committee shall exercise the managerial powers of the Bylaws and any policies established by the Tri-Valley District. All members of the Executive Committee shall have voting rights in all actions of the Board. The executive Committee shall have the power to fill by appointment, until the next regular election of the Association, all vacancies occurring on this Board.

Section 8.

Any complaint or charge of malfeasance in the office of any District officer shall be made to the NSEA Review Board as specified in Article IX of the NSEA Bylaws.

## **Article VII - Delegates to the Delegate Assembly**

Section 1.

The Tri-Valley District delegates to the Delegate Assembly shall be: the District President and Vice-President, members of the State Board of Directors, and delegates of the local associations of the Tri-Valley District, consistent with the Bylaws of the NSEA.

## **Article VI -- Amendments**

### Section 1.

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast.

### Section 2.

Any individual may propose an amendment to the Tri-Valley District Bylaws. The amendment shall be submitted to the District President in writing at least ninety (90) days prior to voting by the membership. The District President shall in turn submit the amendment(s) to the local Presidents in writing at least sixty (60) days prior to voting by the membership.

## **Article IX - Other Bylaw Provisions**

### Section 1.

All general and specific provisions of the Constitution of the Nebraska State Education Association and its Bylaws are hereby accepted and incorporated as a part of the Tri-Valley District Bylaws.

### Section 2.

These Bylaws are considered to be in compliance with the one-person/one-vote principle. The Bylaws shall be reviewed and changes made, if necessary, to guarantee this principle.

## **Article X - Parliamentary Authority**

### Section 1.

Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the authority for all matters of procedure not covered by the Association's Bylaws.

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