REVISION - Name
March 2020

Constitution of White Bear Lake Area Educators, Local #7286

ARTICLE I: NAME

A. The name of this organization shall be White Bear Lake Area Educators, Local #7286 herein after referred to as WBLAE #7286.

ARTICLE II: PREAMBLE

A. We, the members of White Bear Lake Area Educators, Local #7286 (WBLAE #7286), Education Minnesota, National Education Association, and American Federation of Teachers, believing that the active participation of non-supervisory licensed education personnel in the development of educational policy is essential for sound education in a democratic society, have joined together, as herein defined in this Constitution and Bylaws, for the purpose of exerting a collective and positive influence on education in Independent School District #624, White Bear Lake Area Schools.

B. White Bear Lake Area Educators, Local #7286 shall provide a united voice for families, and an unwavering commitment to the welfare of our members.

C. White Bear Lake Area Educators, Local #7286 shall be a local organization that provides for unstinting professional service to its members by building and maintaining a strong, effective local and by promoting instructional advocacy. WBLAE #7286 shall be committed to democracy in the workplace and within the organization.

D. If any provisions of this constitution and bylaws conflict or violate the constitution and bylaws of Education Minnesota, NEA, AFL/CIO or AFT, the provisions of the state and national organization shall supersede those contained herein.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

A. To effect favorable legislation for the improvement of school conditions and community problems relating to education.

B. To work with the Superintendent, Board of Education, school administration, other district unions, and the White Bear Lake community to best serve the interest of the students, parents, and teachers.

C. To develop and promote the adoption of such ethical practices, personnel policies, and standards of preparation and participation as mark a profession.

D. To unify and strengthen the teaching profession and to secure and maintain the salaries, retirement, continuing contract rights, fringe benefits, and the working conditions necessary to support teaching as a profession.

E. To enable members to speak with a common voice on matters pertaining to the teaching profession, and to present their individual and common interest before the Board of Education and other legal authorities.

ARTICLE IV: AFFILIATIONS

A. WBLAE #7286 is affiliated with Education Minnesota, The American Federation of Teachers', MN. AFL/CIO, the St. Paul Labor Federation, and the National Education Association in accordance with the provisions and bylaws of these bodies.

B. Individuals are members of Education Minnesota, the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

A. Membership in White Bear Lake Area Educators, Local #7286 is in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of Education Minnesota, NEA, and AFT. The membership year is September 1 through August 31. No one will hold office in WBLAE #7286 who is not an active member of Education Minnesota, NEA, and AFT.

B. The teacher, in applying for membership, agrees to pay all dues and assessments required and provided for the Constitution and Bylaws of WBLAE #7286. It is further understood and agreed that the member will cooperate with and support the actions of the WBLAE #7286, as determined by a majority vote of the General Membership and/or the Representative Assembly.

C. State and national dues will be assessed in accordance with the dues categories and policies of Education Minnesota, AFT and NEA.

D. Local membership dues are determined by WBLAE #7286 in the following manner:

1. WBLAE #7286 shall determine annual dues by a simple majority vote at a General Membership meeting when two week's notice has been given for such consideration.

2. Provisions can be made by the Representative Assembly to establish memberships for teachers on a fractional time, sabbatical leaves, a leave of absence, family leave, and other classifications.

3. Fair share fees are determined according to the maximum amount stipulated by the NEA, EdMN, and as governed by state statute.

E. No net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

A. The officers of White Bear Lake Area Educators, Local #7286 are the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the immediate Past President if an active member.

B. These officers constitute an Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. The Executive Board consists of the officers and eight members of the Representative Assembly. In addition, every effort will be made to secure a Parliamentarian.

B. The Executive Board is the executive authority of WBLAE #7286.

C. WBLAE #7286 abides by the one person/one vote principle of representation.

ARTICLE VIII: REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

A. The Representative Assembly consists of the officers of WBLAE #7286 and elected representatives of the general membership. In addition, every effort will be made to secure a Parliamentarian.

B. The Representative Assembly is the legislative and policy-making body of WBLAE #7286.

C. WBLAE #7286 abides by the one person/one vote principle of representation.

ARTICLE IX: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

A. The General Membership consists of all dues-paying members of WBLAE #7286.

B. WBLAE #7286 abides by the one person/one vote principle of representation.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENT

A. This Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the General Membership by a two-thirds vote of those voting, provided that the proposed amendment(s) has been submitted in writing to all members two weeks before action is to be taken.