

# ILLINOIS SCIENCE TEACHING ASSOCIATION

## BYLAWS

APPROVED BY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP  
OCTOBER 2019



## **ILLINOIS SCIENCE TEACHING ASSOCIATION BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of the organization shall be the Illinois Science Teaching Association. In these bylaws, the shorthand ASSOCIATION shall identify the organization. It shall be the State Chapter of the NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHING ASSOCIATION. It shall be a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois.

### **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The mission of the ASSOCIATION is to promote excellence in science teaching and learning throughout Illinois. The ASSOCIATION is organized exclusively for the advancement of scientific and educational purposes at all educational levels:

- to provide opportunities for science teachers to improve their craft,
- to provide networking opportunities between Illinois science teachers,
- to maintain communication within its membership of important information impacting science teaching, and
- to represent NSTA throughout Illinois.

### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 1. Eligibility for Membership:* The membership of the ASSOCIATION shall be open to all interested in science and/or education.

*Section 2. Categories of Memberships:* There shall be two categories of membership: regular and special. Qualifications for each category and subcategory of membership shall be prescribed in the Operating Policies.

*Section 3. Duration of Memberships:* The membership year of this ASSOCIATION shall be prescribed in the Operating Policies. Continued membership is contingent upon being up-to-date on membership dues.

*Section 4. Resignation and Termination:* Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the secretary. Resignation shall not relieve a member of unpaid dues, or other charges previously accrued. A member can have their membership terminated by a majority vote of the membership.

#### **ARTICLE IV – AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

- Section 1.* Organizations which subscribe to the objectives of the ASSOCIATION shall be eligible for status as an affiliated organization.
- Section 2.* Affiliated organizations shall subscribe to Operating Policies and Bylaws of the ASSOCIATION.
- Section 3.* The delegate to the ISTA Board of an affiliated organization and the presiding officer of the affiliate shall be members of ISTA.

#### **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND GOVERNANCE**

- Section 1.* The Illinois Science Teaching Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the elected Officers and the Regional Directors.
- Section 2.* The Officers of the Illinois Science Teaching Association shall be a President, an Immediate Past-President, a President-Elect, a Vice-President, and a Secretary.
- Section 3.* The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Officers of the ASSOCIATION, the Financial Director, the Assistant Executive Director, and the Executive Director. The Financial Director, the Assistant Executive Director, and Executive Director shall be considered ex-officio members without voting privileges.
- Section 4.* The terms of office and the powers and duties of the Officers, the Regional Directors, and other appointed leaders, together with method of their election or appointments, shall be prescribed in the Operating Policies.
- Section 5.* A majority of the voting members of the Executive Committee, and a majority of the elected members of the Board of Directors, shall constitute a quorum of each body, respectively.

## **ARTICLE VI – GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

- Section 1. Regular Meetings:* There shall be one general business meeting of the membership of the ASSOCIATION each year held in conjunction with the annual conference.
- Section 2. Special Meetings:* Additional meetings of the membership of the ASSOCIATION may be scheduled by the Board of Directors as the need arises or in response to a petition signed by at least 10 percent of the voting membership.
- Section 3. Notice of Meetings:* Notice of each meeting shall be sent to each voting member, by electronic mail, not less than two weeks prior to the meeting
- Section 4. Quorum:* The voting members present at any properly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 5. Voting:* All issues to be voted on shall be decided by a simple majority of those present at the meeting when the vote takes place.

## **ARTICLE VII – GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- Section 1.* Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall prevail unless specifically covered by the Bylaws or Operating Policies. The President-Elect shall serve as the parliamentarian.
- Section 2.* No substantial part of the activities of the ASSOCIATION shall be devoted to any but scientific and/or educational objectives.
- Section 3.* The net earnings and/or assets of the ASSOCIATION shall be used for, and only for, scientific and/or educational purposes and be used to promote the interests of the organization and shall not in any way accrue to any group or private individual.
- Section 4.* The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Officers of the ASSOCIATION, the Financial Director, the Assistant Executive Director, and the Executive Director. The Financial Director, the Assistant Executive Director, and Executive Director shall be considered ex-officio members without voting privileges.

## ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. Substantive Changes:* The ASSOCIATION Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by the majority of members choosing to vote. A proposed amendment to the Bylaws of the ASSOCIATION may originate in the Board of Directors, or a proposed amendment may originate from the membership if accompanied by the signatures of ten voting members. Proposed amendments to these Bylaws must be submitted to the Secretary no less than one month prior to the annual general business meeting of the membership of the ASSOCIATION and sent out electronically with the general membership meeting announcement no later than ten days prior to the meeting.
- Section 2. Voting:* These Bylaws may be amended when necessary by a simple majority of those voting members present at the annual general business meeting of the membership of the ASSOCIATION or by electronic means.
- Section 3. Non-substantive Editorial Changes:* Editorial changes to the Bylaws may be made by a unanimous vote to the Board of Directors. The membership shall be notified at least thirty (30) days before the changes become effective.

## CERTIFICATION

These bylaws were approved at the general membership meeting by a majority vote on October 18, 2019, replacing all previous iterations of this document.

*Nicole Kitzmiller*

*October 18, 2019*

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Secretary

Date

Previous Version of Illinois Science Teaching Association Bylaws was dated November 2009, March 2004.