

***The Northeast District
of the Illinois Association of Student Councils***

Constitution

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Northeast District (NED) of the Illinois Association of Student Councils.

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to further participation and develop leadership through the many activities of the NED, its member schools and the IASC.

Article III: Membership

Section 1. Membership in the NED shall consist of all Illinois High School Association (IHSA) member schools which pay the membership fee to NED and which lie within the district boundaries as established by the IASC in accordance with its constitution.

Section 2. Membership fees shall be defined in the by-laws.

Article IV: Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall conduct the business of the NED between annual conventions. The Executive Board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Chair, Convention Chairperson, Northern Area Representative, Central Area Representative, Southern Area Representative, President's advisor, Vice-President's advisor, Secretary's advisor, Treasurer's advisor, Communications Chair's advisor, Convention Chairperson's advisor, Northern Area Representative's

advisor, Central Area Representative's advisor, and Southern Area Representative's advisor.

Section 2. The elected members of the Executive Board shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Chair, Northern Area Representative, Central Area Representative, and Southern Area Representative. These members shall be elected for a one-year term by the voting delegates from the member schools at the annual convention.

A. The voting members of the Executive Board shall be the Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Chair, Convention Chair, President's Advisor, Vice President's Advisor, Secretary's Advisor, Treasurer's Advisor, Communications Chair's Advisor, and Convention Chair's Advisor.

B. The President votes only in case of a tie.

Section 3. At its final regular board meeting before the annual convention, the Convention Chairperson and Advisor shall be chosen for a one year term by the school which is selected by the NED Executive Board.

Section 4. Area Representatives will be elected at the NED Convention in accordance with the same format as other elected NED officers, and will serve as non-voting members of the NED Executive Board.

Section 5. The Executive Director candidate must have the written permission of the building principal to apply for the position.

A. The Executive Director must have had previous experience on the Executive Board.

B. The Executive Director shall be elected to a term of three years by those advisors present at the annual convention.

C. There is no limit to the number of terms a director may serve.

D. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Board.

E. The Executive Director shall receive an annual honorarium in the amount determined by the Executive Board.

Section 8. No school shall be represented or hold more than one voting student position and one voting adult position on the Executive Board.

Section 9. In the event that an Executive Board member is unable to complete a term, the Executive Board shall appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy.

A. Announcement of such a vacancy shall be made by the President in a letter to all member schools in the district.

B. Qualified candidates with advisors shall present their credentials to the Executive Board at the next regular monthly meeting.

C. Appointment by the Executive Board to the vacated office shall be made no longer than the second meeting following the vacancy.

Section 10. The duties and powers of all Executive Board members shall be defined in the current edition of the NED handbook. Any additional duties or powers shall be established by the Executive Board.

Article V: Convention

Section 1. There shall be an annual district convention for all member schools.

Section 2. Upon agreement of a convention date by the Executive Board and the host school, the school shall make a formal announcement of the date to the Executive Director of the IHSA.

Section 3. Each member school represented at the convention must be accompanied by a faculty advisor.

Section 4. Convention registration fees shall be created by the Convention Secretary, approved by the Executive Board, and paid directly to the host school.

A. The Convention Chairperson shall make all necessary disbursements of funds with the remaining funds being sent to the treasurer.

B. Each delegate and faculty member attending the convention shall pay a registration fee.

C. A convention budget shall be developed by the host school and approved by the executive board.

Article VI: Committees

Section 1. There shall be a Credentials Committee which shall meet to review the credentials of the potential candidates and report to the delegation prior to the candidate's speech at the annual Convention.

A. This committee shall be composed of seven students chosen by the Executive Board.

B. The Credentials Committee shall have the power to remove from candidacy any students not fulfilling the qualifications of Article VII of this constitution.

1. In the event that the Credentials Committee does not approve a student's candidacy, a statement including the reasons for disapproval shall be included in the report to the delegation.

2. Reasons for disapproval shall be found in the By-laws.

Section 2. The President shall have the power to establish *ad hoc* committees when deemed necessary. The delegation at the annual convention shall also have this power.

Article VII: Qualifications of Officers

Section 1. A student must be a freshman, sophomore, or junior to be a candidate for office. During the term of office, the officer must be a regularly enrolled student in a member school.

Section 2. To be eligible for any office, student candidates must submit written consent from their principal and their advisor to the Communications Chair.

Section 3. Each candidate for office must submit to the Communications Chair an itemized list of the true value of all campaign materials.

- A. This list must be signed by the principle and advisor of the candidate.
- B. The cost limitation shall be defined by the Executive Board.
- C. If this limitation is exceeded, the candidate will be disqualified.

Section 4. Prospective candidates cannot become accredited candidates for office until they have met with the Credentials Committee.

Article VIII: Quorum for Voting Authority

Section 1. The schools represented at the business session of the annual convention shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, each school having one vote.

Section 2. Each school attending the annual convention shall designate one delegate as its business delegate. This delegate shall be the school's representative at the business sessions of the annual convention and shall cast their school's vote.

Section 3. In that some NED high schools have a split campus, that is Freshman-Sophomore campus and Junior-Senior campus, the NED Executive Board recognizes them as only one 4-year high school.

Article IX: Election of Officers

Section 1. Officers shall be elected at the annual convention and shall serve from the time of their election until the election of their successors. In case a candidate does not receive a majority of all votes cast, the names of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be placed on a second ballot and shall be voted on immediately.

Section 2. The credentials of the officer candidates shall be checked by the Credentials Committee. The rules for campaign procedures shall be determined by the Executive Board and included in the election procedure mailing.

Section 3. The Credentials Committee shall nominate any potential candidate who meets the requirements set forth in the Constitution and By-laws, for each office as it seems fit.

Section 4. A nomination from the floor shall receive the same consideration accorded to selections by the Credentials Committee, provided that the nominee meets the qualifications set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Article X: Removal of Officers

Section 1. In the event that an Executive Board member is not fulfilling his/her duties, another officer must present a written letter of complaint to the rest of the Executive Board at one of the monthly board meetings. At that meeting, the Executive Board must agree on a date within the next two weeks on which to hold a special Executive session.

Section 2. At the Executive session, the only order of business shall be the impeachment of the officer under complaint. The officer presenting the complaint shall have an opportunity to explain the reasons for impeachment. The officer under scrutiny shall have an

opportunity for rebuttal. Discussion may follow.

Section 3. A vote on impeachment must be held at that meeting. Each voting Executive Board member, as well as the President, shall have one vote. The officer will be removed from office in the event that nine or more Board members vote for impeachment.

Article XI: Organization

Section 1. Headquarters of this organization shall be the school of the President during the term in office.

Section 2. The Executive Director shall maintain the files and records of the NED.

Section 3. Inquiries related to the work and methods of the NED should be addressed to the Executive Director.

Article XII: Amendments

Section 1. Amendments to this constitution must be submitted in writing to the NED President at least one month prior to the annual convention. The President, in turn, will submit all amendments to each member school at least two weeks prior to the convention.

Section 2. Amendments may be passed at the annual convention by a vote of two-thirds of the member schools present at the business session. By-laws may be amended by a simple majority vote.

Article XIII: Gender Specific Language

Section 1. All Northeast District policy and literature shall be free of gender specific language.

Section 2. Any amendments to the NED Constitution, By-Laws, policies, and other literature shall be made in strict accordance with this amendment.

Approved by convention delegates on November 16, 1974.

Amended by convention delegates in 1980, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1997, 1998, 2003, 2004, 2006.

Last amended by the convention delegates on February 17, 2019