

# **Webberville Education Association Constitution**

(Adopted by the MEA Board of Directors January 21, 1977; amended January 20, 1978, August 22, 1980, February 22, 1985, November 7, 1986 January 16, 1990. March 13, 1998, November 5, 1999, and November 10, 2000)

**Adopted by the Webberville Education Association June 6, 1998; amended April 25, 2002**

## **Preamble**

We, the professional educators, educational support personnel, professional educators and educational support personnel of the Webberville Community Schools, Ingham County Michigan, believing that we must institute our own self-government and secure proper recognition and responsibility for the well-being of our members, adopt this Constitution

## **I. Webberville Education Association**

The name of this organization shall be the Webberville Education Association (WEA) MEA-NEA, an affiliated unit of the Michigan and National Education associations. The association shall be a nonprofit corporation organized in accordance with the laws of Michigan.

## **II. Purpose**

The objectives of this association shall be the improvement of education, the advancement of the interests of education, of educators and of educational support personnel, and the promotion of the professional growth of its members.

## **III. Membership**

- A.** All persons who meet the active membership requirements of the Michigan Educational Association may, upon payment of dues as herein provided, become active members of this association with full rights and privileges of membership.
- B.** Active members of this organization shall also be members of the Michigan Education Association and the National Education Association
- C.** No member shall be censured, suspended or expelled without a hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by the local trial body or by the local governing body if no trial body exists. An appeal may be made to the regional board of reference or MEA Board of Reference if no regional board exists.
- D.** A member is considered to be in good standing if he/she is not delinquent in payment of dues to the Association.

#### IV. Officers and Governing Bodies

- A. Officers.** The officers of the organization shall consist of a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. Terms of officers shall be for one year and shall commence on the first contract day of school. **Elections shall be held prior to March 30.**
- B.** The term of office for MEA representative assembly delegates and alternates shall be two years commencing on September 1. **Elections shall be held prior to June 1.**
- C. Election of NEA delegates shall be held prior to April 1. When there are three (3) or more representative assembly delegates elected, representatives of third world persons shall be elected as required by the MEA Constitution and Bylaws.**
- D. Governing Body**
1. There shall be a governing body which shall consist of officers, association building representatives, and delegate(s) to the MEA representative assembly.
  2. **Third World representation.** The ethnic representation shall be in compliance with the constitutions and bylaws of the National Education Association and the Michigan Education Association. In the event that the ethnic representation is less than required by the constitutions and bylaws of the MEA and NEA, rules, and procedures shall be established for an at-large election to ensure proportionate ethnic minority representation.

#### V. Direct legislation

- A. Initiative.** The rights of popular initiative shall rest with the active membership of the association. Upon receipt of a petition signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the active membership of the association, the secretary shall announce a general meeting or ballot as indicated on the petition within fifteen (15) calendar days for the purposes presented in the petition. A majority of the total active membership shall be required for its adoption, which shall take effect thirty (30) days later.
- B. Referendum.** The rights of referendum shall rest with the active membership of the association. Upon receipt of a petition signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the active membership of the association, the secretary shall announce a general meeting or ballot as indicated on the petition within fifteen (15) calendar days for the purposes presented in the petition. A majority of the total active membership shall be required for its adoption, which shall take effect thirty (30) days later.

- C. **Recall.** The right of recall shall rest with the electing body. Upon receipt of a petition signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the membership of the electing body, the secretary shall announce a general meeting or ballot by the electing body as indicated on the petition within fifteen (15) calendar days for the purposes presented in the petition. A majority of the total active membership shall be required for its adoption, which shall take effect thirty (30) days later.
- D. Petitions shall be filed with the secretary. However if the secretary is the subject of the petition, the petition shall be filed with the most senior member of the governing body not subject to the petition.

### **VI. Membership and fiscal year**

The membership and fiscal years shall be September 1 through August 31.

### **VII. Authority**

Any part of this Constitution and/or Bylaws, which is in conflict with the MEA and/or NEA constitutions, and/or bylaws will be declared null and void.

### **VIII. Amendments**

Amendments to this Constitution may be introduced by the membership by petition signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the total active membership and submitted to the secretary. The governing body may also introduce amendments to the Constitution. These proposed amendments shall be acted upon at a subsequent meeting of the membership or by ballot within at least sixty (60) days of submission. A copy of the proposed amendment, together with the recommendations of the governing body, shall be sent to each member of the association at least fifteen (15) days prior to voting. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the active membership voting is required to adopt the proposed amendment, which shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless otherwise provided.

**DATE RATIFIED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE AMENDED:** \_\_\_\_\_