

## **Texas Rural Education Association**

## **Bylaws**

## ARTICLE I NAME

#### **1.1 NAME**

The name of this non-profit organization shall be the **Texas Rural Education Association (TREA).** Affiliate organization is the **National Rural Education Association (NREA).** 

## ARTICLE II MISSION and GOALS

#### 2.1 MISSION

**TREA** promotes quality educational opportunities and experiences for all children from rural public schools which will enable our students to enhance their local community, build a vibrant state and grow a stronger nation. **TREA** is a Texas statewide organization with an official affiliation with the **NREA**.

#### **2.2 GOALS**

TREA exists to...build a supportive and collaborative organization for Texas rural school districts by: providing a variety of services/benefits to advocate for rural schools, be a valuable resource and support for superintendents and their school districts; and provide leadership and growth opportunities for rural schools superintendents, school boards, and district staff, by focusing on priority areas of leadership, advocacy, sustainability of rural education in the state of Texas.

## 2.2.1

To pursue the quality of excellence in education; to give identity, voice and exposure to the particular quality of rural schools; to enhance the quality of life unique in the rural community.

#### 2.2.2

To inform the state legislature, state board of education, and other such groups or agencies of the concerns, needs, and research of the rural school education association so as to effectively guide and positively impact legislation, rules, regulations, and policy makers at the state and national levels.

## 2.2.3

To formulate and promote plans, proposals, subsidies, in service, and curricula which will be in best interests of the membership.

## 2.2.4

To inform and solicit the support of the membership in promoting the goals of the organization.

## 2.2.5

To develop partnerships with other professional organizations, state leaders, community leaders, business, school administrators and board members.

To support, enhance, and grow the quality of education in rural school districts.

#### 2.2.7

To support students of Texas public schools which have an active District Membership in the association by providing scholarships and other benefits.

# ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

#### 3.1 CATEGORIES AND MEMBERSHIP

#### 3.1.1 District Membership

Membership is open to Texas public school districts who consider themselves to be a rural school district. Regional Education Service Centers shall be eligible for membership in the TREA Foundation. Each District Membership will receive One (1) NREA Membership for the District Superintendent or his/her designee. [Additional NREA Memberships may be purchased by choice.]

## 3.1.2 Sponsor Membership

Any individual or business interested in the betterment of rural education and who is not eligible for any other **TREA** Membership. [i.e. legislator, state representative, vendor, sponsor, etc.] There are four levels of sponsorship in addition to Scholarship Sponsors: Diamond, Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

### 3.1.3 Honorary Membership

**TREA** may from time to time award honorary membership without payment of dues to individuals or entities who have performed outstanding services to the cause of rural education or **TREA**. Honorary memberships can include "Friends" of TREA, Past Presidents, and Retired members.

### 3.1.4 Lifetime Membership

**TREA** may from time to time award lifetime membership for performing outstanding service to rural education or **TREA** or may establish a one-time fee for such lifetime membership.

#### 3.2 MEMBERSHIP DUES

## 3.2.1 **DUES**

Membership dues shall be a condition for acceptance into the organization and officer or director position nomination. The membership dues will be recommended annually by the Executive Committee (Officers) and approved by the Board of Directors [See **TREA** Membership Dues attached].

### 3.2.2 ADDENDUM TO MEMBERSHIP DUES

All membership dues received from Education Service Centers shall be deposited into the **TREA** Foundation account and those funds shall be used exclusively for the operation of The Foundation and its activities.

### **3.3 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER**

The organization shall keep a current roster of the member districts posted on the TREA website.

## **3.4 REPRESENTATIVE**

The representative of the member district will be the superintendent or superintendent's designee.

#### 3.5 MEMBERSHIP YEAR

For organizational purposes, the membership and fiscal year shall extend from September 1 through August 31 the following year.

# ARTICLE IV GOVERNANCE

#### **4.1 GENERAL POWERS**

Affairs of the organization will be governed by the Board of Directors [which consists of the Executive Committee (Officers) and Directors] in consultation with the Executive Director and advisors. In addition to the powers and authority expressly conferred by these bylaws, the Executive Committee will perform the requests of the total membership. The Executive Committee will have the power to employ and set compensation for the Executive Director.

## **4.2 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

#### 4.2.1 Officers

Officers of the organization shall be known as the **Executive Committee** and will serve one (1) year terms in each position beginning with *Treasurer*. These Officers shall be *President*, *President-Elect*, *Vice President*, *Treasurer*, *Secretary* [appointed and is a multi year position] and Immediate Past President.

## 4.2.2 Directors of the organization shall be elected to (4) year terms as outlined in 4.3.2

#### 4.2.3 President

The President, in consultation with the Executive Director, has the responsibility to see that all orders and resolutions of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors are placed into effect.

### 4.2.4 Executive Director

The **Executive Director** will be selected and employed by the Executive Committee to conduct TREA matters as directed.

### 4.2.5 Advisor

The Advisors will be the **ESC Executive Directors (or designees)** from the **Regional Education Service Centers.** Shall serve in a non-voting capacity for Board of Directors meetings. They will serve as voting members of the TREA Foundation.

## **4.3 ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## 4.3.1 Nominations

Nominations for vacancies in officer or director positions will be made by the Executive Committee. Nominations may also be accepted from the floor during a duly called Board of Directors meeting. To be nominated for an officer position, the candidate must be a current member in good standing; be a current director or member of the Executive Committee and be willing to accept the position.

### 4.3.2 Directors

Directors of the organization shall be elected for four-year terms. Directors must attend at least 2 Board Meetings to continue as director the second year of the two-year term, unless extenuating circumstances are justified to the President.

#### 4.3.3 Vacancy Appointments

Vacancies of an officer or director position may be appointed by the Executive Committee for the unexpired portion of the term.

#### **4.4 MEETINGS**

## 4.4.1 Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of three (3) times per year. Other meetings may be called at the President's discretion. Advisors will be the Executive Directors (or designees) from the Regional Educational Service Centers.

## 4.4.2 Meeting Quorums

A quorum of the Board of Directors present shall consist of a majority of the Board.

## 4.4.3 Nominating Committee

The nominating committee shall consist of the Executive Committee, in consultation with the Executive Director.

#### 4.4.4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Executive Committee Meetings will be called at the discretion of the President in consultation with the Executive Director.

# ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

#### **5.1 COMMITTEES**

Committees shall be established as needed by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Executive Director.

## ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

#### **6.1 AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote at a duly called Board of Directors Meeting.

# ARTICLE VII AUDIT

#### 7.1 AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Directors shall review and approve the auditing of the accounts, reports and records of the association annually.

## Adopted at the General Membership Meeting January 1993 James Hesson, President

- **1**<sup>st</sup> **Revision Adopted** January 1998 Franklin Wray, President
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Revision Adopted January 1999 Ronnie Stanley, President
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Revision Adopted January 2002 Ronnie Stanley, President
- 4<sup>th</sup> Revision Adopted January 2004 Seth Adams, President
- 5<sup>th</sup> Revision Adopted January 2006 James Morton, President
- **6**<sup>th</sup> **Revision Adopted** June 2007 Byron Shelley, President
- **7<sup>th</sup> Revision Adopted** June 2014 Andrew Seigrist, President
- 8<sup>th</sup> Revision Adopted November 2020 Randy Willis, President

## **ATTACHMENTS**

2019-2020 Membership Pricing | District by Enrollment Range | Sponsor by Level

