

Maine Association of School Libraries Constitution

Article I Name

The name of this organization shall be the Maine Association of School Libraries.

Article II Purpose

Section A: The goal of the Maine Association of School Libraries is to encourage excellence in the profession by supporting all school library personnel and advocating for effective school library programs.

Section B: This Association shall collect, evaluate and disseminate information pertaining to the development of effective school library programs.

Section C: Members of this Association will engage in an interchange of information by participating in local, state, regional and national conferences and by cooperating with those organizations with which the Association is affiliated.

Article III Members

Section A: Any person who supports the goals of this Association may become a member.

Section B: Temporary or lifetime honorary membership may be given at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section C: Membership shall commence with payment of dues and expire at the end of the fiscal year. The fiscal year shall be September 1 to August 31. Only members who have paid their dues shall be entitled to vote, hold office, and receive all benefits of membership.

Section D: The annual dues shall be determined by the Executive Board.

Article IV Officers

Section A: The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each officer shall serve for two years or until a successor is elected. The President shall have served at least one year on the Executive Board. All officers are eligible for re-election.

Section B: The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall perform the duties pertaining to their respective offices and such other duties as may be approved.

- Section C: The President and Vice-President shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.
- Section D: The President of the Association shall appoint a Nominating Committee at least sixty (60) days before the annual business meeting. The Committee shall nominate no more than two (2) candidates for each elective office and shall present its report at the annual business meeting. New officers shall assume office upon adjournment of the annual business meeting.
- Section E: A simple majority vote by those members present shall constitute election. In case of a tie vote, the members shall ballot until one candidate is successful. In lieu of voting at the annual business meeting the Board may elect to present the slate of officers to membership via an email or mail ballot which must be sent out to membership 60 days in advance of the annual meeting.

Article V: The Executive Board

- Section A: There shall be an Executive Board consisting of the current officers, the immediate past president and the standing committee chairpersons and up to two member-at-large.
- Section B: Chairpersons of special committees, representatives from allied groups, board representatives to allied groups and the Business Manager shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Board without the right to vote.
- Section C: The Executive Board shall serve as the central management agency of the Association.
- Section D: A majority of the Executive Board must be present in order to transact the business of the Association.
- Section E: The Executive Board may adopt and publicize positions on issues and legislation affecting school library programs and the professional interests of Maine's school library personnel.

Article VI Committees and Member-at-Large

- Section A: Standing committees of the Association may include Membership, Legislative, Certification*, Standards**, Intellectual Freedom, Archives***, Public Relations, Information Literacy, Web Manager, Technology Literacy, Reading Literacy, Continuing Education and Facilities.

Section B: Standing committee chairpersons shall be appointed by and serve at the discretion of the President.

Section C: Special committees shall be appointed by and serve at the discretion of the President as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

Section D: Up to two Members-at-Large shall be appointed by the President to represent the interests of Maine's library media community.

Article VII Meetings

Section A: The Maine Association of School Libraries shall hold at least one business meeting each year.

Section B: An annual business meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees and for any other business that may arise. Additional business meetings may be held at any other Association conference or event to receive reports of officers and committees and to inform membership of important Association business.

Section C: Conferences shall be held at a date and time determined by the Executive Board.

Section D: A notice for each regular or special meeting of the Association shall be sent thirty (15) days before the time of the meeting. In the case of special meetings, this notice shall specify the object for which the meeting is called.

Section E: A quorum shall consist of the voting members present.

Article VIII Affiliations

This Association shall be affiliated in philosophy with the American Association of School Librarians, a division of the American Library Association, the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, the Maine Education Association, the New England School Library Association, and the Maine Library Association.

Article IX Parliamentary Authority

Parliamentary authority at all meetings of this Association shall be the current edition of **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised** and shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

Article X Disposition of Asset upon Dissolution

Section A: In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the property and assets thereof, after providing for all obligations and liabilities, shall then be disposed of exclusively for the purposes voted upon by a majority of the Executive Board.

Section B: No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit, or be distributed to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the Executive Board shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof.

Section C: The assets must be distributed to such an organization(s) exempt from taxation under Section 501 c of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

Article XI Amendments

Section A: A description of the amendments to be voted on must be sent to members at least thirty (15) days in advance of a vote.

Section B: This constitution may be amended by a 2/3 majority of the voting members present at the Annual Meeting or if the vote is done electronically by two-thirds of eligible members who vote.

Revision Approved: November 2, 2013