

MESQUITE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this Association shall be the Mesquite Association of Retired School Employees (MARSE).

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of this Association shall be to promote the welfare, social, and professional interest of its members; to participate in and aid in the civic and educational advancement of our city; and to cooperate with the Texas Retired Teacher Association (TRTA).

Section 2. To encourage all retired public school employees to use their talents, their training, and their experience in furthering the educational, social, and civic growth of the community, the state, and the nation.

Section 3. To afford opportunities for united action in solving problems relative to the needs of retired public school employees.

Section 4. To cooperate with TRTA, District 10, its local units, and similar organizations in solving problems of mutual concern.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Members of this local unit shall be of two classes: Active and Associate.

Section 2. Active Members: Any retired school personnel or beneficiary who is an annuitant from a teacher retirement system may become an Active member of this local unit upon payment of dues to a local retired teacher unit and to the Texas Retired Teachers Association.

Section 3. Associate Members: Any person who is interested in education and who desires to promote the purposes of the local unit as set forth in Article II above may become an Associate member of the local unit upon payment of dues to a local retired teacher unit and to the Texas Retired Teachers Association.

Associate members shall have all the rights of an Active member with the exception of the right to vote and to hold office.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. The officers of this association shall be a President, a First (1st) Vice-President, Second (2nd) Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These elected officers, along with the appointed officers, immediate past president and the chairs of the standing committees, shall form the Executive Board of this local unit. The officers and chairs of MARSE shall be active members of TRTA and MARSE.

Section 2. The president shall preside at all meetings of this local unit and of the Executive Board, authorize payment of bills with the approval of the Executive Board, shall appoint chairs of all committees, and shall be ex-officio member of such committees.

Section 3. The first vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president or at the request of the President and shall serve as the chair of the Membership Committee. S/he shall appoint the members of the Membership Committee and shall maintain a current roster.

Section 4. The second vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president and the first vice-president or at the request of the president and shall serve as the chair of the Program Planning Committee and Public Relations. The second vice-president shall coordinate the work of the Book Project Committee.

Section 5. The secretary shall keep a record of the meetings of the local unit and of the Executive Board. S/he shall conduct the general correspondence of the local unit and shall keep a file of all correspondence.

Section 6. The treasurer shall receive and deposit all monies of the local unit, keep an account of receipts and expenditures, and maintain a list of all paid members. Upon the authorization of the president, s/he shall pay all bills, and sign all checks. To be valid, checks must have two (2) authorized signatures. The treasurer shall make a monthly and an annual report of the local unit and shall serve in an advisory capacity on matters of finance and budget.

Section 7. A parliamentarian shall be appointed by the president. It shall be the duty of the parliamentarian to advise the presiding officer on points of parliamentary law, and also to give similar advice to the Executive Board and to any individual member upon request in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*,

Newly Revised (latest edition). S/he shall serve as Chairman of the Bylaws Committee.

Section 8. A historian shall be appointed by the president. It shall be the duty of the historian to keep a permanent record of the activities and accomplishments of MARSE.

ARTICLE V - ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1. The elected officers of President, First (1st) Vice-President, Second (2nd) Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer may be elected to serve two (2) two-year terms. The term of office for all elected officers shall coincide with the fiscal year. (July 1 through June 30). Elected officers shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office with the exception that the Treasurer may serve additional years. The term of office for appointed officers shall coincide with that of the President and shall not exceed four (4) consecutive years in the same office.

Section 2. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President at the regular business meeting in November. The committee shall consist of the Past-President serving as chair and with four other appointed members. The committee shall present one slate of candidates at the January meeting, after having obtained the consent of the proposed candidates. Nominations may also be made from the floor, provided consent of nominees has been obtained. The election of officers shall take place at the January meeting. The newly elected officers shall be installed at the May meeting and shall assume office on the first day of July.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Executive Board of this local unit shall consist of the elected and appointed officers, the immediate past president, and the chairs of the standing committees.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall direct the programs and formulate the general policies concerning the business of the local unit, approve the proposed budget, fill by appointment all vacancies occurring in the Executive Board between elections, approve committee chairs as appointed by the president, and perform such other duties as designated by the membership.

Section 3. A member of the Executive Board/Executive Committee is not liable to the local unit members for monetary damages for an act of omission in the Board

member's capacity as a Board member, except that this provision does not eliminate or limit the liability of a Board member for: a. A breach of Board member's duty of loyalty to the local unit or its members; b. An act of omission not in good faith or that involves intentional misconduct or knowing violation of the law; c. A transaction from which a Board member received an improper benefit, whether or not the benefit resulted from an action taken within the scope of the Board member's office; d. An act or omission for which the liability of a Board member is expressly provided for by statute; or e. An act related to an unlawful stock repurchase or payment of a dividend

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 1. This local unit shall meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month, September through May, with the exception of November. The November meeting will be held on the date designated in the approved calendar. There will be no meeting in December. The Executive Board shall be responsible for changing the date and/or the location when deemed necessary. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice within the fiscal year.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President or at the request of ten members.

ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees shall be of two kinds: Standing and Special Purpose.

Section 2. Standing committees shall be: Membership, Program and Public Relations, Legislative, Community Volunteer Service, Retirement Education, Member Benefits, Informative and Protective Services, Health Care, Yearbook, Scholarship, Foundation, Sunshine, Newsletter, and Book Project. Each committee chairman shall receive information from the State Association and shall disseminate said information to members. Committee chairman shall receive direction at the District 10 Spring Training.

Section 3. The president shall create Special Purpose committees as needed.

ARTICLE IX – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of MARSE shall begin on July 1 of each year and shall end on June 30 of the following year.

ARTICLE X - QUORUMS

The members present at a regular or called meeting shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or called meeting of this local unit provided that a written notice and a copy of any proposed amendment is furnished to the membership prior to the meeting, a quorum is present, and there is a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and voting.

Section 2. These Bylaws shall automatically change to conform to any changes made in the TRTA Bylaws, if applicable.

STANDING RULES

S. R. 1 - A member of the local unit who becomes unable to pay dues for a reason deemed worthy by at least two members in good standing shall have his/her dues dismissed. The cost of such memberships shall be paid by contributions by other members of the local unit.

S. R. 2 - There shall be an Audit Committee appointed annually by the president. This committee shall make an audit of the financial records of the local unit and shall report the results at a regular meeting.

S. R. 3 - This local unit does not endorse any commercial business or product.

S.R. 4 - A donation of not less than \$25.00 shall be given to the Mesquite ISD Education Foundation in the spring of each year in memory of members who died during the preceding year.

Submitted for Membership Approval by Bylaws Committee, Fall-2019

Janice Houston, Chairman

Betty Haynes

Stephanie Wiley
