

CONSTITUTION of the GEORGIA STAFF DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

ARTICLE I. NAME AND MISSION

Section 1: This organization shall be known as the Georgia Staff Development Council (GSDC).

Section 2: The mission of the Georgia Staff Development Council is to ensure success for all students by serving as the state network for those who improve schools and by advancing individual and organizational development.

Section 3: Belief Statements:

- The purpose of staff development is to improve student learning.
- Staff Development results in school improvement as measured by the success of every student.
- Staff developers must be leaders in effecting educational change.
- Staff development must involve those most directly affected.
- Effective staff development is based on theory, research, and proven practice.
- Staff development honors the diverse needs of all learners.
- All educators share the responsibility for both individual and organizational growth.
- Collaboration between the school and community is essential for school improvement and accelerated student success.
- Trust is vital for individual and organizational development.
- Support and follow-up are critical to effective development.
- Staff development leaders build capacity for high quality school improvement for themselves and their colleagues.

ARTICLE II. AFFILIATION

Section 1: The Georgia Staff Development Council shall be affiliated with the National Staff Development Council.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1: Membership in the organization shall be open to all individuals who promote the growth of others.

Section 2: The membership year shall be fall conference to fall conference. In the event that a fall conference is not held, the membership year will be September 1 to August 31 the next year.

Section 3: The Board shall establish Dues.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: The offices of the GSDC shall be President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each officer shall be an active member of GSDC and NSDC.

Section 2: The responsibilities of the officers shall be as follows:

- (a) The president shall preside over all meetings of the Council and of the Board of Directors; appoint all members of standing committees and any other committee not otherwise provided for in the Constitution; see that all provisions of the Constitution are fulfilled by appropriate officers and committee chairs; serve as liaison for any business involving an external agency; and serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
- (b) The president-elect shall preside in the absence of the president and serve as chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. The president-elect shall serve as parliamentarian for all meetings of the organization. The president-elect shall assume the office of the president if this office is vacated before the expiration of the term and shall succeed to the office of president at the expiration of the presidential term.

- (c) The secretary shall keep records and minutes of all meeting of the Council, the Strategic Planning Committee, and the Board of Directors; be responsible for correspondence; and perform other duties as specified by the president. Minutes shall be posted on the council website.
- (d) The treasurer shall receive moneys for the Council; pay all bills authorized by the president; keep an accurate and current record of all receipts and expenditures of the Council's funds; make reports at the annual business meeting and at other times as requested by the president and have an audit conducted of the treasurer's books every five years (Spring 2006, Spring 2011, etc.)

Section 3: The Board of Directors of the Council shall consist of the elected officers of the Council, the immediate past-president, who serves as program chair, one director from each regional district and four members-at large, one each from: the Department of Education, a higher education representative, and two with specific responsibilities assigned by the president with the consent of the officers and directors. Fifty-one percent of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum. In the event an office (other than the presidency) or a Board member position is vacated, the board shall select a replacement for the unexpired term. Each director shall be an active member of GSDC and NSDC.

- (a) For the purpose of representation the Board of Directors of the Council shall establish regional districts of the state. Such districts may be modified from time to time by simple agreement of the Board, as it may deem prudent. The Board of Directors of the Council shall appoint such representatives and present them to the membership at large.
- (b) The duties, responsibilities and expectations of the regional district representatives on the Board shall include the following:
 - Be an active educator in a school district, RESA or other public education organization.
 - Be a member in good standing of GSDC and NSDC.
 - Serve as an active member of at least one Council committee or sub-committee.
 - Attend the annual conferences of GSDC.
 - Attend all Board of Directors meetings.
 - Actively promote the mission of GSDC in their district and across the state.
 - Serve as liaison between GSDC and the school systems of their districts.
 - And such other duties as the Board shall request from time to time.

Section 4: The board shall meet as necessary to conduct the business of the Council. At least three meetings must be held, one of which may be in conjunction with the annual business meeting. At least one board meeting shall be held annually where the board comes together. Other board business may be conducted by conference call, email, or GSAMS, as necessary, and at the discretion of the president.

Section 5: The election of officers and terms of office for each shall be as follows:

- (a) The officers and Board of Directors shall be elected during an annual business meeting. All newly elected board members shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the annual fall conference.

Section 6: Any position on the Board of Directors may be declared vacant by a two-thirds vote of the board should it become necessary for cause. Cause shall be defined as either of the following:

- (a) Not performing duties as defined by the Constitution, Article IV;
- (b) Excessive absence from board meetings (more than 50 percent).

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Section 1: The Executive Director shall be an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors and shall serve at the will of the Board on an annual basis; and will carry out duties as assigned.

ARTICLE VI. COMMITTEES

Section 1: The board shall be represented on each committee of the organization.

Section 2: The standing committees shall be the:

- (a) Nominating committee that shall consist of three members and the immediate past president who will serve as chair. At least one month prior to the annual business meeting, the committee shall notify the voting membership the proposed slate of officers.

- (b) Program committee shall consist of three members: the president-elect, the past-president, who will serve as chair, and a GSDC member appointed by the president. This committee shall be responsible for planning the spring and fall annual conferences.
- (c) Constitution and guidelines committee shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be the chair. The committee shall be responsible for receiving proposals on constitutional amendments. The recommended changes shall be presented to the membership at the annual meeting. The chair shall present the guidelines to the board for possible revisions as needed.
- (d) Strategic planning committee shall consist of the president-elect (who shall serve as chair), two members-at-large of the Board, and two other members of the organization. This committee shall be responsible for the annual review and update of the strategic plan. The updated plan shall be submitted to the Board of Directors prior to the annual business meeting and presented to the general membership at the annual business meeting.
- (e) Staff Development Academy Committee shall consist of the Academy Chair, another of at least one board member who serves as chair, one board member who serves as co-chair, and other GSDC members as deemed necessary by the committee chair.
- (f) Legislative committee shall consist of one board member who serves as chair and two other members of the organization. Section 3: The president is authorized to appoint additional committees as needed to carry out the purposes of the Council.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1: The GSDC shall hold at least one annual conference. The annual business meeting shall be conducted at this the fall conference. Other conferences may be held as needed. If there is business, it should be brought before members at the annual conference, but may be brought before the membership at any additional conferences at the discretion of the president or the board.

Section 2: The Board of Directors may call additional meetings of GSDC provided the membership is given notice of at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII. DISSOLUTION

Section 1: If at any time the GSDC shall cease to carry out the mission as herein stated, all assets and property held by the Council, whether in trust or otherwise, shall after the payment of all liabilities, be paid over to an organization which has similar purposes and has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as enacted or as it may hereafter be amended. The designated organization shall be endorsed by a majority vote of the board.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Any member may propose changes to this Constitution by sending the proposed changes to the president at least 60 days prior to a general business meeting, one held at the spring conference and one held at the fall conference. The proposed changes must be communicated to all members one month prior to the general business meeting. The proposed changes must be approved by two-thirds of the active members present at the general business meeting.

ARTICLE X. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1: The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall govern GSDC in all cases to which they apply and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and any special rules of order the GSDC may adopt. The president-elect shall serve as parliamentarian.

ARTICLE XI. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Section 1: The purpose for which the Association is organized is exclusively educational as defined in the Internal Revenue Law, and notwithstanding any other provision of those articles, this organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under the 501(c)(3) of the Internal Code (1954) or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.