

**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.

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 October 1 through September 30.
- Section 3: Dues shall be levied in accordance with the Constitution.

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.
- 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 and the Board of Directors; be responsible for correspondence; and perform other duties as specified by the president.
 - (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.
- 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, nine members-at-large to be elected from six geographical areas with areas IV, V and VI each having two representatives due to either large population or geographic size, and two member-at-large respectively, the Department of Education staff development section and higher education. 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.
- 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 the annual business meeting. All newly elected board members shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the annual conference.
 - (b) The President and President-Elect shall be elected to serve terms of **two** years.
 - (c) Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-Large shall be elected to serve terms of two years.
 - (d) Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-Large may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

- 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 SECRETARY

- Section 1: The Executive Secretary 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:
- (a) the nominating committee which 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) the program committee shall consist of three members, one of which shall be the president-elect and another the past-president who will serve as chairman. This committee shall be responsible for planning the spring and annual conferences.
 - (c) the constitution and guidelines committee shall consist of three members, one of which 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) the 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) the Staff Development Academy Committee shall consist 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) the 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 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 conferences at the discretion of the president or the board.

Section 2: Additional meetings of GSDC may be called by the Board of Directors 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 an annual business meeting. The proposed changes must be communicated to all members one month prior to the annual business meeting. The proposed changes must be approved by two-thirds of the active members present at the annual 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.

Revised/amended: March 2001