

CONSTITUTION OF THE LOUISIANA STAFF DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

ARTICLE I - NAME

SECTION 1: This organization shall be known as the Louisiana Staff Development Council (LSDC).

ARTICLE II- MISSION AND VISION

OUR MISSION

The Louisiana Staff Development Council (LSDC) is committed to ensuring success for all students through continuous learning for individuals and organizations.

OUR VISION

The Louisiana Staff Development Council, a learning community,

- is committed to and engaged in seeking and creating learning experiences centered around shared values and beliefs
- relies on research-based models of teaching and learning while fostering risk-taking and innovation
- fosters open and inclusionary organizational norms
- is characterized by group consensus and synergy
- is based on professional, purposeful, and ethical behavior
- is committed to quality professional learning which results in individual and organizational efficacy
- serves as an advocate for continuous growth and lifelong learning
- serves as an advocate for professional growth

ARTICLE III – AFFILIATION

The Louisiana Staff Development Council is an affiliate of the National Staff Development Council.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY

Membership is open to anyone actively engaged, or planning to become engaged in education, training, or professional development. The Council does not discriminate based on age, race, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, gender, sexual preference or physical or mental handicaps.

SECTION 2: GOOD STANDING

Each member in good standing shall have a vote and full membership rights. A member in good standing shall be one whose dues are fully paid for the current year.

SECTION 3: MEMBERSHIP YEAR

The membership year shall be from October to October.

SECTION 4: MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual membership dues are recommended by the Board and approved by a majority of the membership quorum at a Council meeting. All money collected is entirely for the use of the Council.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

SECTION 1: The officers of the LSDC shall be President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor. Each officer shall be an active member of LSDC 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 committees not otherwise provided for in the Constitution, see that all provisions of the Constitution are fulfilled by appropriate officers and committee chairpersons, serve as liaison for any business involving an external agency, and serve as ex-officio member of all committees.
- b) The president-elect shall preside in the absence of the president and serve as chairperson of the Program Committee. 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 meetings of the Council and the Board of Directors, be responsible for all correspondence, issue notices of meetings, and perform other duties as specified by the president. The secretary shall keep a current mailing list of all members' names and addresses.
- d) The board-appointed treasurer shall keep a record of membership, receive monies 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, and make reports at the annual business meeting and at other times as requested by the President.
- e) The newsletter editor shall coordinate the production of Council newsletters and brochures. At least two newsletters shall be produced annually.

SECTION 3: The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the Council: the immediate past-president, a liaison to the Louisiana State Department of Education, and members-at-large (each representing a different geographic area of the state). A majority of members of the board shall constitute a quorum. The board shall act as the governing body of the Council. In the event an office (other than the presidency) is vacated, the board shall select a replacement for the unexpired term. The board shall meet as necessary to conduct the business of the council.

SECTION 4: The election of officers and term of office for each shall be as follows:

- a) The officers and the members-at-large shall be elected to serve two year terms.
- b) The secretary and members-at-large may not serve more than two consecutive terms.
- c) The officers and members-at-large shall be elected during the Fall business meeting of the Council and shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the meeting.
- d) Each member of the Board of Directors shall be a member of both the National Staff Development Council and the Louisiana Staff Development Council.

SECTION 5: 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 V.
- b) excessive absence from board meetings (more than 50 percent).

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 shall consist of three members and the immediate past president who shall serve as chairperson of the committee. At least one month prior to the Fall business meeting of the election year, the committee shall publish the proposed slate of officers in the Fall newsletter.
- b) the program committee shall consist of three members and the president-elect who shall serve as chairperson of the committee. The committee shall be responsible for planning Council programs and conferences.
- c) the membership committee shall consist of four members and members-at-large, one of which shall be appointed chairperson by the President. The committee shall be responsible for:
 - 1) recruiting new national and affiliate members.
 - 2) developing and implementing an affiliate handbook.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

SECTION 1: The LSDC shall hold an annual business meeting and such other meetings and conferences as will promote the purposes of the organization. A minimum of two meetings (one spring and one fall shall be held). The annual business meeting shall be in conjunction with the fall conference.

ARTICLE VIII- DISSOLUTION

If at any time the LSDC shall cease to carry out the purposes 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

Any members may propose changes to this Constitution by sending the proposed changes to the president at least 90 days prior to an annual business meeting. The proposed changes must be mailed to all members one month prior to the annual business meeting. The proposed changes must be approved by two-thirds of the members in good standing present at the annual business meeting.

ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern LSDC in all cases to which they apply and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any special rules of order LSDC may adopt.

ARTICLE XI- INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

The purpose for which the Association is organized is exclusively educational as defined in the Internal Revenue law, and notwithstanding any other provisions 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 Revenue Code (1954) or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law.