

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF THE
MARYLAND SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION**
(Revised October 2008)

**ARTICLE 1
NAME**

- (1) The name of this association shall be the Maryland School Nutrition Association. The Maryland School Nutrition Association is an incorporated Association. It shall be affiliated with the School Nutrition Association.

**ARTICLE II
PURPOSES**

In accordance with the purposes of the American School Nutrition Association, this association shall strive:

- (1) To maintain and improve the health and nutrition education of the school children through nutritionally adequate and educationally sound nonprofit school food service.
- (2) To work for high standards of nutrition education and school food service programs.
- (3) To create and promote public interest and support of the work including pertinent legislation.
- (4) To encourage and develop the highest standards for school food service personnel by providing appropriate educational programs.
- (5) To improve the well-being of Association members.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Association shall consist of active, retired, life, honorary, and sustaining members. Members shall apply for membership and pay dues through an affiliate association or directly as hereinafter provided.

- (1) Active members shall be any person engaged in nutritionally adequate, educationally-sound, nonprofit school food service work or related activities.

All active members whose dues, if any, are currently paid, shall be entitled to vote for the election of officers for the coming year and to vote upon any matter submitted to the voting membership.

A person once qualified as an active member, but who ceases to be actively engaged in nonprofit school food service work, may continue as an active member provided he or she does not accept employment in a non-eligible field.

- (2) Retired members: Any person who retired from eligible employment may become a retired member, as long as he or she does not become employed in a non-eligible field. Retired members shall have all the rights and privileges of any active member.
- (3) Life members: Past presidents, upon their retirement, shall be granted a Life membership in the Maryland School Nutrition Association. A life member shall have all the rights and privileges of an active member provided that he or she is not employed in a non-eligible field.
- (4) Honorary members: Individuals not members of the Association, who have contributed greatly to its benefit, shall upon recommendations by the Executive Board, be granted honorary membership in the Association. Honorary members shall not have the right to vote, to serve as delegates, or to hold elected or appointed offices. They shall receive the official publication of the Association.
- (5) Sustaining members shall be individuals or organizations who do not qualify for other types of membership and who are interested in furthering the programs of the Association. Sustaining members shall have the right to identify their membership in their advertising or at exhibits at the Annual Convention of the Association. Sustaining members shall not have the right to vote or to serve as delegates, or to hold elective office, but may be appointed as a Committee member of the Industry Advisory Committee but not as Committee Chairperson.
- (6) Student Members: Student members shall consist of persons enrolled in post-secondary institutions who are interested in advancing the goals of the Association.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF AREAS

- (1) The State of Maryland shall be divided into six areas for regional activities as follows:

Area I:	Garrett, Allegany and Washington
Area II:	Frederick, Carroll, Montgomery and Howard
Area III:	Baltimore, Baltimore City, Harford and Cecil
Area IV:	Prince George's, Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's and Anne Arundel
Area V:	Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot and Caroline
Area VI:	Somerset, Worcester, Dorchester and Wicomico
- (2) Affiliate local school food service associations shall be assigned to an area by the Executive Board. Affiliated local school food authorities are assigned as follows:

Area I:	Garrett, Allegany and Washington
Area II:	Frederick, Carroll, Montgomery and Howard
Area III:	Baltimore, Baltimore City, Harford, Cecil and Archdiocese of Baltimore
Area IV:	Prince George's, Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's and Anne Arundel
Area V:	Talbot and Caroline
Area VI:	Somerset, Dorchester and Wicomico

ARTICLE V AFFILIATED LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Any local school food service association may become a local chapter on the following basis:

- (1) The local association must have ten (10) or more members.
- (2) The local school food service association in any political subdivision of the State of Maryland as identified in Article IV.
- (3) A local association whose members are employed in food and nutrition programs by nonprofit private sponsoring agencies participating in the Child Nutrition Programs.
- (4) As association of retired persons who were previously employed in an eligible field in nonprofit food and nutrition programs. Any member of the retiree's affiliate association may continue to be a member of a local school food service association.

Any local school food service association shall be eligible for affiliation with the State Association provided the following conditions are met:

- (1) **Membership:** At least 10 persons classified as active members in the Maryland School Nutrition Association.
- (2) **Constitution and Bylaws:** A constitution and/or bylaws in harmony with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Maryland School Nutrition Association shall be adopted. A copy of the current constitution and/or bylaws of each chapter shall be forwarded to the State Bylaws Chairperson at least sixty (60) days prior to receiving charter at the House of Delegates meeting. (See chapter requirements.)
- (3) **Program of Work:** The Program of Work of the affiliate association shall be in harmony with the program of work of the State Association.
- (4) **House of Delegates:** Affiliate associations shall be represented in the House of Delegates as provided herein.
- (5) **Local Chapter Officer's Requirement:** Only active members of the State Association shall serve as officers and delegates of affiliated associations. A list

of the newly elected officers shall be sent by the local association to the State Executive Secretary within 15 days of each election.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEES

The affairs of the Association shall be managed and conducted by the Executive Board, House of Delegates, and Standing Committees. All officers must be National members.

- (1) Officers: The elected officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a President-Elect (who is automatically President for the following year), a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Education Committee Chair, a Membership & Affiliation Chair, a Federal Legislative Chair, A State Legislative Chair and a Nutrition Committee Chair. Their duties shall be those usually ascribed to such offices.
- (2) The Executive Board shall consist of the following:
 - The nine elected officers.
 - The presidents and presidents-elect of affiliate chapters shall become members of the Executive Board with voting privileges.
 - The chairperson of committees, Chief of School and Community Nutrition Programs, the Executive Secretary, and the immediate Past President serve on the Executive Board in an advisory capacity, but without voting privileges.
- (3) There shall be a House of Delegates consisting of the elected members of the Executive Board, standing committee chairpersons or co-chairpersons, presidents and presidents-elect of the affiliate chapters, and past state presidents for the preceding five (5) years.
- (4) The Standing Committees appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Board shall be:
 - Awards
 - Heart of the Program
 - Louise Sublette
 - Rhonda Motley Gold Success
 - Budget
 - Bylaws & Handbook
 - Certification
 - Convention
 - House of Delegates
 - Industry Advisory
 - Marketing
 - Newsletter

- Nominating
 - Public Information
 - Scholarship
- (5) The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, the Immediate Past President, the Newsletter Editor, and one other person or persons selected by the President. The Chief of School and Community Nutrition Programs serves on the committee in an advisory capacity.
- (6) The term of office for the President and the President-Elect shall be one year. The term of office for the Secretary, Treasurer, Education Committee Chair, Federal Legislative Committee Chair, State Legislative Committee Chair, Membership & Affiliation Committee Chair, and Nutrition Committee Chair shall be two years. They will take office at the May/June Executive Board meeting following their installation at that meeting.

If any office becomes vacant, the Executive Board shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term.

The chairpersons for Awards, Bylaws and Handbook, Certification, House of Delegates, Industry Advisory, Marketing, Newsletter, Public Information, and Scholarship shall serve at the discretion of the President.

- (7) An Executive Secretary shall be employed to assist the President and Executive Board in carrying out the duties and responsibilities necessary in the conduct of Association business.
- (8) Ad Hoc Committees, or special committees, shall be named by the President.

ARTICLE VII ELECTIONS

- (1) All officers of the Association shall be elected at the Annual Convention Meeting and will assume office the following June. The slate of officers prepared by the Nominating Committee will be presented at the 1st General Session. All officers of the Association shall be elected by voice vote at the 2nd General Session. Members will be asked to stand. The vote will be decided by the majority vote of members present and voting.
- (2) The nominating committee shall consist of the immediate past president of the State Association and other members of the State Association.
- (3) The nominating committee shall submit a slate to the Executive Board at the September Executive Board Meeting. The office of Secretary, Treasurer, Education Committee Chair, Federal Legislative Committee Chair, State Legislative Committee Chair, Membership & Affiliation Committee Chair, and Nutrition Committee Chair shall appear on the slate for two-year terms on alternate years. On even years, the Treasurer, Membership & Affiliation

Committee Chair, and Nutrition Committee Chair would be elected. On odd years, the Secretary, Federal Legislative Committee Chair, State Legislative Committee Chair, and the Education Committee Chair would be elected.

- (4) If a person is unable to fulfill an elected position for whatever reason, an appointment to the vacant position will be made by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS

- (1) General Membership: There shall be one meeting a year, which shall be held at such time and place as shall be designated by the Executive Board.
- (2) House of Delegates: A House of Delegates meeting shall be held during the annual meeting of the general membership. The House may be called into emergency session by the Executive Board.
- (3) Executive Board: Meetings of the Executive Board shall be held four times a year. Additional meetings may be called at the discretion of the President.
- (4) Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall meet on call of the President or at the request of four members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall convene prior to any Board meeting to review matters and make recommendations.
- (5) Elected members of the Executive Board, committee chairpersons, and affiliate Chapter Presidents attending the Executive Board meetings shall be reimbursed for travel mileage at the rate prescribed by the Executive Board, dependent on the location of the meeting being held.

ARTICLE IX FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall be consistent with that of the School Nutrition Association: July 1 to June 30.

ARTICLE X NONPROFIT

Any school food and nutrition program or other Child Nutrition Program maintained by a sponsoring agency for the benefit of children, all of the income from which is used solely for the operation or improvement of such service is exempt from income tax under 501(c)(3) Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

- (1) Method of Proposal: Amendments and resolutions to these Bylaws may be proposed in writing to the Chairperson of the Resolution Committee no later than 90 days before Annual meeting by any member of the State Association Executive Board, Executive Committee, an affiliated chapter, or the State Association. The State Association Executive Board may be the sponsor or co-sponsor of the proposed resolution or amendment.

All amendments and resolutions to be considered in the House of Delegates shall be mailed to all members of the House of Delegates no later than 30 days before the Annual Meeting.

- (2) Procedure – Amendments to Bylaws: These articles may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present, at any duly constituted meeting of the House of Delegates.
- (3) Procedure – Resolutions: Adoption of proposed resolutions shall require a simple majority vote.

Proposed resolutions which are in conflict with the Bylaws will not be presented to the House. Proposed resolutions may be submitted from the floor upon unanimous consent of the delegates.

ARTICLE XII PUBLICATIONS

The Association shall publish a newsletter, *The Serving Spoon*, and distribute it to the Maryland School Nutrition Association members.

ARTICLE XIII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Subject to the final ruling of the Presiding Officer, the Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, meetings shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order, latest revised edition.

ARTICLE XIV EFFECTIVE DATE

This constitution and bylaws as revised and amended shall become effective immediately following the Annual House of Delegates Meeting of the Maryland School Nutrition Association.