

BYLAWS
of the
Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.
Adopted October 15, 2007

ARTICLE I
NAME

The name of this association shall be the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this association shall be the advancement, stimulation, extension, improvement and coordination of science education for all students in all fields of science at all educational levels.

Section 2. Finances. To carry out these purposes, the organization shall solicit, collect and otherwise raise money; may accept and own, manage and/or shall sell and dispose of funds either directly or by contributions to other organizations or agencies formed for same or similar purposes; may cooperate or assist in the work of such organizations and agencies; but no monies earned or received shall inure to the mastery benefit of any private member of this organization or individual and no substantial part of the activities of this organization shall be to promote propaganda or attempt to influence legislation.

Section 3. Tax status. The association is a 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit corporation organized under the Statutes of the State of Indiana.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERS

Section 1. Membership Eligibility. Membership is available to individuals interested in science education.

Section 2. Classes of membership. Upon acceptance of application and payment of dues, each individual or group will be a member of the association within one of the following classes:

a. Active membership shall be open to all active Indiana science educators. Active members shall have the right to vote, hold office and serve on or chair committees.

b. Retired membership shall be open to all retired Indiana science educators interested in science education and have retired from teaching in Indiana. Retired members shall have the right to vote, hold office and serve on or chair committees.

c. Associate membership shall be open to all non-educators and non-Indiana educators interested in science education in Indiana. Associate members shall have the right to vote and serve on committees.

d. Student membership shall be open to college students interested in pursuit of a career in science or science education. Student members shall have the right to vote and serve on committees.

Section 3 Special Classes of membership

a. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Board of Directors upon any person who has rendered distinguished service to Indiana science education. Honorary members shall have the right to vote, hold office and serve on or chair committees.

c. Patron membership may be conferred upon any person, organization, foundation or other groups interested in the objectives of this organization. The patron or patron group may designate one person as representative and this person shall enjoy the rights of an associate member.

d. Charter members are those members, the founders of this organization, who paid dues during the first fiscal year of this association's existence.

Section 4. Membership dues. Annual dues for each membership category shall be determined by the Board of Directors after a period of advisement. The Board of Directors shall announce intentions to change these rates at least six months prior to dues adjustment.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1. The Elected Officers. The elected officers of this association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and the Immediate Past President. These elected officers shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Duties of the Officers. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws and assigned by the Board of Directors, the duties of the various officers shall be those which are customary for such office.

Section 3. President. The President shall preside at all business sessions and all meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint standing and special committees subject to ratification of the Executive Committee with the exception of those special committees pertaining to the conference. The President under the direction of the Board of Directors shall have general charge of the affairs of the association. The President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

Section 4. Vice President. The Vice-President shall serve on the Conference Committee and in the absence of the President and the Immediate Past President shall assume the duties of the President.

Section 5. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the organization, including the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee.

Section 6. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have charge of all monies of this association and prepare the usual reports. The financial records will be audited annually by an external auditor nominated by the Treasurer and approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall serve as chairman of the Conference Committee, shall appoint those special committees pertaining to the conference, in the absence of the President shall assume the duties of the President and shall serve in a liaison capacity with other organizations

Section 8. Resident Agent. The Resident Agent of the association shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. The address of the Resident Agent shall be the post office address of the principal office of this association. The Resident Agent shall transmit all government forms necessary for the continued existence of the association to the proper officers

Section 9. Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a three year term. The person may be reappointed. The Executive Director shall assist the officers, Board of Directors, committees and members of the association as needed He/She shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee; and shall serve as an ex-officio member, without vote, of all committees except the nominating committee.

Section 10. Eligibility for Office. Only those actively engaged in formal education, retired or former teachers, who are members in good standing, shall be eligible for office or for the chairmanship of standing committees. Candidates for President and Vice-President must have served at least one year on the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Conference. There shall be an annual science education conference of the association.

Section 2. Regular meetings. There shall be at least three meetings of the Board of Directors each year. An annual meeting of the Board of Directors will be held prior to the end of each fiscal year, for the purpose of budget, audit and other business functions.

Section 3. Special meetings. The President may call special meetings and other meetings as the need arises.

Section 4. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors and a majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum of these bodies. With a quorum being present, a majority of those present and voting shall constitute effective action. Those present at a regular or properly called meeting of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5. Electronic meetings. The Board of Directors, Executive Committee and all other committees are authorized to meet by electronics communications media so long as all the members may simultaneously hear and participate during the meeting.

ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Composition of Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be made up of the elected officers, six Directors-at-Large and nine District Directors. Four Directors-at-Large each shall represent one of the four levels of education: elementary, middle school, high school and higher education. Two Directors-at-large shall represent the general membership of the association. The nine District Directors shall each be elected by the members of their respective districts. The Science Consultants in the Indiana Department of Education and any officers or members of the Board of Directors or Council of the National Science Teachers Association who are residents of Indiana and are members of this organization shall act as ex-officio Members-at-Large without vote.

Section 2. Responsibilities of Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall transact the business; adopt the budget; establish membership dues, conference registration fee and exhibitor fees; establish the Association Districts; establish standing and special committees; approve the overall program for the year; make recommendations regarding proposed amendments to the Bylaws and approve measures for the growth and welfare of the association.

Section 3. Affiliation. This association may affiliate with other organizations as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Section 4. Responsibilities of Directors-at-Large. The Directors-at-Large shall provide advisory council to the President and the Vice-President in developing association programs and activities.

Section 5. Responsibilities of District Directors. The District Representatives shall coordinate association activities in their respective Association Districts, provide liaison between their district and the Board of Directors and advise and assist the Executive Committee in the conduct of association programs and activities. They may conduct meetings within their districts that promote science education.

Section 6. Term of office. The term of the various offices shall be:

- a. All elected officers shall hold office for one year with the exception of the Secretary and the Treasurer who shall serve three years.
- b. The Directors-at-Large shall serve three year terms and may serve no more than two consecutive terms
- c. The District Directors shall serve three year terms and may serve no more than two consecutive terms
- d. The Board of Directors shall establish a standing rule governing the election rotation among the officers, Directors-at-large and the District Directors.
- e. Term of office of elected officers, Directors-at-Large and the District Directors, with the exception of the office of Treasurer, shall be on June first of the year elected. The term of Treasurer shall coincide with the fiscal year.

Section 7. Resignation from Office. Any officer or member of the Board of Directors unable to perform duties of the office for any reason for a period of ninety days shall submit a resignation in writing to the Board of Directors.

Section 8. Removal from Office. In the event the Board of Directors determines in its judgment that any officer or member has failed to perform the duties of the respective office for a period of at least ninety days immediately prior to such determination, then the Board of Directors shall request the resignation of such officer or board member from the respective office. If such resignation is not received by the Board of Directors within thirty days after such resignation has been requested, the Board of Directors is empowered to declare such office vacant and such office shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Article VII, Section 6.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees. The standing committees shall be: Awards, Conference, Executive, Membership, Nominations and Elections and Publications and others may be established by the Board of Directors to be permanent and on-going committees.

Section 2. Special Committees. Special Committees may be established by the Board of Directors. Special Committees shall not be created to perform a task that falls within the assigned function of an existing standing committee. The special committee shall cease to exist when its task is completed

Section 3. Awards Committee. It shall be the duty of the Awards Committee to identify new awards, screen applicants and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Conference Committee. It shall be the duty of the Conference Committee to initiate and implement well-coordinated programs in line with the purposes of the association. The Immediate Past President shall serve as chairman of the Conference Committee.

Section 5. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected officers of the association. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to carry out the directives of the Board of Directors; fill all vacancies in the elected positions, with the exception of the presidency, for the unexpired terms and ratify all committee appointments except those committees pertaining to the annual conference.

Section 6. Membership Committee. It shall be the duty of the Membership Committee to promote, expand and stabilize the membership of the association. There shall be one member of the Membership Committee appointed from each of the Association Districts.

Section 7. Nominations and Elections. It shall be the duty of the Nominations and Election Committee to:

- a. prepare a slate of officers of at least two nominees for each office and board position, excluding the office of president, to be filled,
- b. present this slate to the Board of Directors,
- c. prepare and mail ballots to the membership,
- d. provide for the tabulation of the ballots and
- e. report results to the Board of Directors

Section 8. Publications. It shall be the duties of the Publication Committee to advise and assist the editors of the association publications in keeping the membership, science educators and public informed as to the activities of the association and the progress of science education.

ARTICLE VIII FISCAL YEAR

For the purposes of budget and audit, the fiscal year of this association shall be considered to end as of the thirty-first of August each year.

ARTICLE IX PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules Newly Revised shall govern this association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with these bylaws and any special rules the association may adopt.

ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Requirements. A proposed amendment, if approved by the Board of Directors of this association, shall be submitted to the membership for adoption or rejection. These Bylaws

may be amended by two-thirds vote of the members voting provided a copy of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to every member at least thirty days prior to the call for vote.

Section 2. Method. Voting will be done by mail. A copy of the proposed amendment and a ballot for voting will be sent to every member eligible to vote and the ballot will be returned to the Secretary no later than the date indicated on the ballot.

ARTICLE XI DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In the event the directors and members of the association decide they are going to dissolve, then all of the assets of the association, over and above those needed to pay off any debts and liabilities of the association, shall be distributed to associations or organizations which are tax exempt under the Internal Revenue Code in effect at the time (except any association organized and operated for testing for public safety), provided the distributees have purposes similar to those for which this association is founded.

Section 2. After the property has been substantially disposed of in such a manner, the association shall then take such legal steps as may be necessary to dissolve and after dissolution has been accomplished, any money or property remaining shall escheat to the State of Indiana.