

SPEECH COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH DAKOTA CONSTITUTION

Preamble

Believing that freedom of speech is fundamental to our way of living and that training in effective oral communication is a prerequisite for good citizenship it shall be the policy of this organization to promote effective speech instruction and speech programming in South Dakota.

Article I – Name

The name of this association shall be the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of this association shall be to support the speech arts in the grade schools, high schools, and colleges of South Dakota; to coordinate speech programs; and to improve standards in the areas of teacher certification and curriculum.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. Anyone who is a member of an affiliated association, anyone who is interested in the promotion of speech training in an educational system, or any institution or library may become a member of this association by paying the annual membership dues. The annual dues shall be paid to the Secretary-Treasurer before November 1 of each year. Annual dues shall be determined by action of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Two categories of membership exist in the Association.

- a. individual professional membership (voting)
- b. student (voting)

Article IV – Officers, Executive Committee, Appointees, Committees

Section 1. Officers

The elected officers of the association shall be a president, a president-elect, and a secretary-treasurer. Each of the officers shall serve as members of the executive committee.

a. Duties

1)The president shall

- a) Preside over the meetings of the association and the executive committee.
- b) Be responsible for serving as the chairperson in preparing the annual convention.
- c) Where appropriate, suggest to the executive committee persons to chair committees and to represent the SCASD
- d) Perform all other duties usually attributed to the office of president.

2)The president-elect shall

- a) Act for the president when the president is unable to do so.
- b) Serve as a voting ex-officio member of curriculum development, teacher certification, and public relations committees.
- c) Become president when the president resigns or is permanently unable to serve.
- d) Become president after the regular elections are held.

3)The secretary-treasurer shall

- a) Keep the minutes of the business meetings.
- b) Collect the annual dues.
- c) Pay association expenses.
- d) Keep the official membership list of SCASD.
- e) Perform all other functions usually attributed to this office.

b. Elections

- 1) Regular elections shall be held at the annual business meetings during even-numbered years. Elections will be held for the offices of president, president-elect, and secretary-treasurer. All current members of the association shall be eligible to vote. Election shall be determined by plurality.
- 2) Special elections shall be held at the annual business meeting in odd-numbered years when a vacancy exists.

c. Terms of Office.

Officers elected in regular elections shall be elected for two-year terms, with the president-elect also serving a two-year term as president. Officers elected in special elections shall be elected for a one-year term only (except for a person elected to fill a vacancy in the office of president-elect that occurs when the current president-elect resigns, is unable to serve, or becomes president due to the president's resignation or incapacity. A person thus elected to a one-year term as president-elect shall also serve a two-year term as president.

Section 2. Executive Committee

The executive committee shall be composed of the elected officers and four members appointed by the elected officers.

a. Appointees

The executive committee shall appoint two persons each year to serve a two-year appointment on the executive committee. Appointees will represent varied interests within the speech field. The appointees shall assist in the governance of the association and shall be responsible in preparing the annual convention.

b. Duties

The executive committee shall operate the association. They shall be responsible for authorization of payment of association expenses. They shall appoint the historian, and where appropriate, committee chairpersons.

Section 3. Appointees

- a. The historian shall be appointed by the executive committee. The historian shall be responsible for recording the history of speech in South Dakota. The historian shall serve as a voting, ex-officio member of the executive committee.

Section 4. Committees

a. Standing Committees

Standing committees of this association shall be that of curriculum development, teacher certification, and public relations.

1) Curriculum Development

The chairperson of the curriculum development committee shall be appointed by the executive committee. The chairperson shall select the other members to serve on the committee. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to promote development of speech curriculum for the association.

2) Teacher Certification

The chairperson of the teacher certification committee shall be appointed by the executive committee. The chairperson shall select the other members to serve on the committee. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to develop and promote teacher certification standards for the South Dakota teachers of speech.

3) Public Relations

The chairperson of the public relations committee shall be appointed by the executive committee. The chairperson shall select the other members to serve on the committee. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to promote speech in South Dakota.

Section 5. Awards

The president of SCASD shall appoint one chairperson to be responsible for all of the awards. This person is responsible for sending out nominating forms for all of the words, contracting and decimating a ballot to all members, ordering the awards, and arranging for delivery of plaques to the banquet. This person shall also coordinate efforts to collect information about each recipient

(letters and emails about the person). Finally, this person shall appoint individuals to present the awards or present them themselves.

a. Distinguished Service Awards

The chairperson shall solicit nominations from all members of the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota. All nominations are required to have a short, written justification to be considered. After nominations are secured, the chairperson shall submit a final list of all persons with two or more nominations to the last five recipients of the Distinguished Service Award and the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota Executive Committee. After these ballots have been tabulated by the chairperson, the top rated nominee will be declared recipient of the award—unless no nominee emerges with a plurality over anyone else. In such a case the chairperson can resubmit the top candidates for a second vote or declare that no award will be given for the year.

The Distinguished Service Award is offered yearly by the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota. The criteria for the award include years of teaching service in South Dakota, leadership in speech communication on the local, state, and national level, coaching of speech activities, service to speech activities by judging and administering contests, and the respect of the speech communication profession.

The final selection should be completed by three weeks prior to the annual fall convention, and the president of the SCASD should be notified that the assignment has been completed.

b. Outstanding Young Teacher Award

The chairperson shall solicit nominations from all members of the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota. All nominations are required to have a short, written justification to be considered. After nominations are secured, the chairperson shall submit a final list of all persons with two or more nominations to the last five recipients of the Outstanding Young Teacher Award and the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota Executive Committee. After these ballots have been tabulated by the chairperson, the top ranked nominee will be declared the recipient of the award—unless no nominee emerges with a plurality over anyone else. In such a case the chairperson can resubmit the top candidates for a second vote or declare that no award will be given for the year.

The Outstanding Young Teacher Award is offered yearly by the Speech Communication Association of South Dakota. The criteria for the award include teaching speech communications and/or coaching a speech event. Nominees must be within their first seven formal years of the teaching or coaching career, the majority of which must be in South Dakota. Other criteria include leadership initiative on the local and state level and the respect of the speech communication profession.

The final selection should be completed by three weeks prior to the annual fall convention, and the president of the SCASD should be notified that the assignment has been completed.

Article V – Annual Convention

Section 1. An annual convention shall be held in the fall of the year. Arrangements for the annual convention shall be the responsibility of the executive committee.

Section 2. An annual business meeting of the association shall be held each year at the convention. The agenda for the business meeting shall be prepared by the executive committee. When election of officers is necessary, it shall be held at the annual business meeting. Each SCASD member shall be entitled to one vote.

Article VI – Amendments

This constitution may be amended only at the annual business meeting. Proposed amendments must be sent to the secretary-treasurer at least fifteen days before a scheduled meeting of the association. Proposed amendments will be made available to all convention members at the time of their registration. Proposed amendments may be amended at the annual business meeting. An amendment to this constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of members present at the annual business meeting.

Article VII – Rules of Order

The most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order shall be the authority of the association in matters of parliamentary procedure.

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