

AEA-Retired Bylaws

Article I: Name

The name of the Association will be the Arkansas Education Association-Retired, commonly referred to as the "AEA-R".

Article II: Purpose

The AEA-R, an affiliate of the Arkansas Education Association, commonly referred to as the "AEA", and the National Education Association, commonly referred to as the "NEA", shall advance and promote the AEA and NEA programs for Retired members and Pre-retired Subscribers.

Article III: Governing Authority

The AEA-R shall be governed by these Bylaws and such other policies as the AEA Representative Assembly and the Board of Directors may establish.

Article IV: Duration

The period of its duration is perpetual.

Article V: Objectives

The AEA-R shall:

- A. Provide opportunity for AEA members to continue their membership and involvement in the AEA following retirement from active educational employment.
- B. Provide opportunity for educational employees not previously AEA members to become involved in the AEA following retirement from active educational employment.

- C. Enroll members of the AEA as Pre-retired Subscribers and provide opportunities for their involvement in appropriate NEA/AEA programs.
- D. Establish opportunities for AEA-R members to address and pursue issues of common concern and create avenues to safeguard and strengthen retirement benefits.
- E. Create ways and means for AEA-R members to join with the AEA in efforts to bring about positive support for public education and the achievement of AEA objectives.
- F. Become involved in the election of pro-education candidates to public office and lobby for educational measures in conjunction with policy decisions made by the AEA.
- G. Assist the AEA in the improvement of instruction and the advancement of the image of teaching and education in Arkansas.

Article VI: AEA-R Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any retiree who is a member of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System or who has been an active member of the AEA may become a retired member. Persons who enroll for the first time as a retired member after October 11, 1986, shall maintain membership as a retired member in the National Education Association.

Section 2. Rights and Responsibilities.

- A. AEA-R members shall have the right to vote, to hold elective or appointed positions in the AEA-R and the AEA, and to be counted toward representation entitlement for the AEA Board of Directors, the AEA Representative Assembly and the AEA Arkansas Committee for Children and Public Education (ACCPE).

- B. AEA-R members shall be eligible to receive benefits and services of the AEA and NEA.

Article VII: Pre-Retired Subscribers

Section 1. Eligibility. Members of the AEA shall be eligible to become Pre-retired Subscribers.

Section 2. Rights and Responsibilities. Pre-retired Subscribers shall be eligible to receive benefits and services of the AEA as authorized by the AEA Board of Directors.

Article VIII: Dues

Section 1. Retired. Dues of Retired members of the AEA shall be established in accordance with the provisions of the AEA Constitution and Bylaws. Such dues may be payable by a retired individual who joins the AEA-R, (a) on an annual basis, (b) on a continuing (dues deduction) basis, or (c) through a Retired Membership for Life Program.

Section 2. Pre-retired. Dues of Pre-retired members of the AEA shall be established in accordance with the provisions of the AEA Constitution and Bylaws. Such dues may be paid in total and established payments.

Article IX: Retired Advisory Committee

Section 1. Composition. The Retired Advisory Committee shall be comprised of the President, Vice President and Secretary of AEA-Retired and retired members appointed by the AEA President. If the total membership of the Retired Advisory Committee does not include at least one member of an ethnic-minority group, an ethnic-minority member shall be appointed to the Committee in accordance with the provisions of the AEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Terms of Office. No AEA-R Officer or Retired Advisory Committee members shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the position to which elected or appointed.

Section 3. Function. The Retired Advisory Committee shall provide leadership in carrying out the objectives of the organization and shall advise the AEA in the operation of the AEA-R program.

Section 4. Meetings. The Retired Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of two times each year at the AEA building. The AEA President shall determine times. Additional meetings may be called by the President of AEA-R, the President of AEA or upon petition of a majority of the members of the Retired Advisory Committee. A majority of members present shall constitute a quorum. Minutes of each meeting shall be recorded and duly adopted.

Article X: Election

All elections will be held in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the AEA.

Article XI: AEA-R Officers

Section 1. President.

- A. Election. The President of the AEA-R shall be elected in odd years by the

members of the AEA-R for a two-year term of office, beginning August 1 of that year, through an open nomination and secret ballot election consistent with the AEA requirements.

- B. Duties. The President of the AEA-R shall chair all meetings of the Retired Advisory Committee and shall be responsible for the preparation of the agendas. He/she shall chair the AEA-R Annual Meeting and be responsible for the preparation of the agenda. The President is an automatic delegate to the AEA-RA and the NEA-RA. He/she shall serve as an AEA Board Member.
- C. Vacancy. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice-President who will serve until the end of the unexpired term of office.

Section 2. Vice-President.

- A. Election. The Vice-President of the AEA-R shall be elected in odd years by the members of the AEA-R for a two-year term of office, beginning August 1 of that year, through an open nomination and secret ballot election consistent with the AEA requirements.
- B. Duties. The Vice-President shall chair all meetings of the Retired Advisory Committee and the AEA-R Annual Meeting in the absence of the President. He/she shall assist the President in representing members' interests and in carrying out such duties as the President may delegate.
- C. Vacancy. The Retired Advisory Committee shall be authorized to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice-President only until the next AEA-R election.

Section 3. Secretary.

- A. Election. The secretary of the AEA-R shall be elected in even years by the members of the AEA-R for a two-year term of office, beginning August 1 of that year, through an open nomination and secret ballot election consistent with the AEA requirements.
- B. Duties. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Retired Advisory Committee and the AEA-R Annual Meeting. He/she shall present for the adoption at the subsequent meeting of each of these two governing bodies the respective minutes of the previous meetings.
- C. Vacancy. A vacancy in the office of Secretary shall be filled at the next AEA-R election. Until such election is held, the President of the AEA-R shall appoint an interim Secretary to fulfill the duties of the office of Secretary.

Article XII: Representation of the AEA Board of Directors

Section 1. Representation. Members of the AEA-R shall have representation on the AEA Board of Directors as provided in the AEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Number of Directors. The number of retired directors on the AEA Board of Directors shall be determined as provided in the AEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3. Eligibility. Only retired members of the AEA shall be eligible to serve on the AEA Board of Directors.

Section 4. Election. Directors shall be the AEA-R President and others to be elected from the

AEA-R membership consistent with the AEA requirements.

Section 5. Vacancy. The Retired Advisory Committee shall recommend an individual to fill a director's vacancy.

Article XIII: Representation at the AEA Representative Assembly

Section 1. Representation. Members of the AEA-R shall have representation at the AEA Representative Assembly as provided by the AEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Number of Delegates. The number of retired delegates to the AEA Representative Assembly shall be determined as provided in the AEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3. Eligibility. Only retired members of the AEA shall be eligible for delegate positions to the AEA Representative Assembly.

Section 4. Election. The election of the AEA-R delegates shall be in accordance with the AEA election guidelines.

Article XIV: Annual Meeting

Section 1. Agenda. The agenda for the AEA-R Annual Meeting shall be prepared by the President of the AEA-R. The President of the AEA-R shall chair the AEA-R Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Site and Date. The AEA-R Annual Meeting shall be held at the same convention site as the AEA Convention.

Section 3. Attendance. All AEA-R members shall be invited to attend and participate in the proceedings of the AEA-R Annual Meeting. Pre-retired Subscribers may attend as observers. Notification of the site and date shall be made in the *Arkansas Educator*.

Section 4. Voting. Any AEA-R member shall be entitled to full voting rights at the AEA-R Annual Meeting. Pre-retired Subscribers will be treated as observers without the right to vote but may otherwise participate in proceedings.

Article XV: AEA-Arkansas Committee for Children and Public Education (ACCPE) Council

AEA-R shall be entitled to one delegate on the ACCPE Council, for each four-hundred (400) members or major fraction thereof elected at-large from the AEA-R membership.

Article XVI: Representation to the NEA Representative Assembly

Section 1. Representation. Members of the AEA-R shall be represented at the NEA Representative Assembly.

Section 2. Number of Delegates. The number of retired delegates to the NEA-RA shall be determined as provided in the NEA Bylaws.

Section 3. Eligibility. Only retired members of the AEA shall be eligible for retired delegate positions to the NEA-RA.

Section 4. Election. The election of the AEA-R delegates to the NEA-RA shall be for one term through an open nomination and secret ballot in accordance with the AEA and NEA election guidelines.

Article XVII: Amendments

A simple majority vote of the Retired Advisory Committee shall be required to recommend an amendment to the AEA-R Annual Meeting. A proposed amendment to the AEA-R Bylaws may be submitted to the Retired Advisory Committee. Unless otherwise provided, an

amendment shall take effect immediately if the vote at the AEA-R Annual Meeting is favorable.

A simple majority of total in attendance at the AEA-R Annual Meeting is required to approve any amendments.

Article XVIII: Parliamentary Authority

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority. The rules shall govern in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws and any special rules of the AEA-R.