

TESTA Constitution

Article I (Name)

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Texas Earth Science Teachers Association, hereafter to be known as TESTA.

Article II (Purpose)

Section 1: The purpose of TESTA shall be the advancement, extension, improvement and coordination of earth science education at all education levels.

Section 2: To operate exclusively as an educational organization as described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 3: In the event of dissolution, all assets, real and personal, shall be distributed to such organizations as are qualified as tax exempt under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of the corresponding provision of a future United States Internal Revenue Code.

Article III (Membership)

Section 1: Membership is available to those actively engaged in teaching earth science and/or to those interested in precollege earth science education in Texas.

Article IV (Meetings)

Section 1: There shall be at least one meeting of TESTA each year. This meeting will be organized and planned by the Program Committee and will coincide with the annual meeting of CAST.

Section 2: Because of the size of the state, regional sections may be formed under the guidance and approval of the Board of Directors of the organization.

Article V (Dues)

Section 1: The annual dues shall be established by the Board of Directors and shall apply for one academic year. - Amend to say: The annual dues shall be established by the Board of Directors and shall apply for two years, from Nov. to Nov.

Section 2: Only members in good standing may hold an office or vote on TESTA matters. - Add section 3: Life Time Membership may be given to Past Presidents and supporters of TESTA as approved by the Board of Directors.

Article VI (Election of Officers)

Section 1: Nomination for officers shall be made by the Nominating Committee. Suggested candidates may be submitted by TESTA members. All nominations must have the approval of the nominee. The slate of officers may be unopposed selections or multiple nominees.

Section 2: Officers shall be elected from members in good standing who are involved in the active teaching of earth science at the precollege level. All elected officers shall hold office for a period of two years. (Amended to one year) - Amend to say: Officers shall be elected from members in good standing for at least two years who are involved in the active teaching of science at the precollege level. All elected officers shall hold office for a period of two years . Term of office shall align with STAT dates.

Section 3: All Elected officers must have e-mail to aide in the communication of the Executive Board.

Article VII (Officers and their Duties)

Section 1: The elected officers of TESTA shall be the President, Vice President/President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. - Amend to say: The elected officers of TESTA shall be the President, Vice President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2: The President shall preside at all business sessions of a planned conference and at all meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint Committee Chairpersons, Regional Representatives and advisors subject to the ratification of the Executive Committee, shall have charge of the affairs of TESTA. - Amend to say: Regional Representatives will align with TEA ESC throughout the State.

Section 3: The Vice President/President-Elect shall preside at all business meetings in the absence of the President. The Vice President/President-Elect shall serve as chair of the Program Committee. - Omit Vice President.

Section 4: The Secretary shall keep the correct record of the proceedings of TESTA, conduct the general correspondence of TESTA and send notices of regular and special meetings of the members.

Section 5: The Treasurer shall have the custody of all Monies, and financial records of TESTA, except for local field trip funds.

Section 6: The appointed officers shall include Regional Representatives, Committee Chairpersons and Consultants. The President shall make these appointments with the approval of Executive Committee. All appointees must be members of TESTA.

Section 7: The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers, the immediate Past President and two appointed officers.

Section 8: The Board of Directors shall consist of all officers, both elected and appointed.

Section 9: Regional Representatives shall be appointed from the various regions of the state. Their duties shall be to support further membership in TESTA, to report on earth science activities in the area they represent. Board of Directors shall designate the areas to be represented. Representatives unable to attend the annual business meeting and the Board of Directors meeting may designate an alternate.

Section 10: Standing and Ad Hoc Committees shall be appointed from time to time as necessary.

Section 11: The Board of Directors shall transact business, plan the overall program for the year, make recommendations, and devise and carry out measures for the growth and welfare of the organization. They shall establish annual dues and authorize publications and functions. - Add Section 8: Vice President shall take over the duty of President if for some reason the President can not complete the term.

Article VIII (Quorum)

Section 1: Two elected officers and the other attending members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee.

Section 2: Two elected officers and two appointed officers shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors.

Section 3: Those members attending any planned TESTA conference shall constitute a quorum of that body.

Article IX (Amendments)

Section 1: Suggestions for amendments of the Constitution may originate in the Executive Committee or may be sent by any member of TESTA to the Executive Committee.

Section 2: A proposed amendment, if approved by the Executive Committee, shall be submitted to the membership by mail for acceptance or rejection. Section 3: Amendments to the Constitution may be made by article modification or addition or be section number addition.

Section 3: The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those members responding to the mail ballot, providing a copy of the proposed amendment shall be available to every member before it is to be voted upon.

Section 4: The Constitution may be amended at any planned meeting by a two-thirds vote of the total membership present, provided a copy of the proposed amendment has been made available to every member before the planned meeting.

Article X (By-laws)

Section 1: The Board of Directors of TESTA may institute and pass by-laws and their amendments by a majority vote. These by-laws may include such matters as dues, standing committees and any other pertinent matters.

Article XI (Affiliation)

Section 1: This organization shall affiliate with the Science Teachers Association of Texas (STAT).

Section 2: For purposes of selecting awards for Earth Science Teachers, this organization may cooperate with other organizations devoted to the betterment of Earth Science instructors.