

BYLAWS OF THE MISSOURI RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL – PROPOSED CHANGES

Preface

The name of the Association shall be Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel abbreviated MRTA. MRTA is a 501(c)4 tax exempt corporation and is non-partisan. MRTA does not endorse candidates.

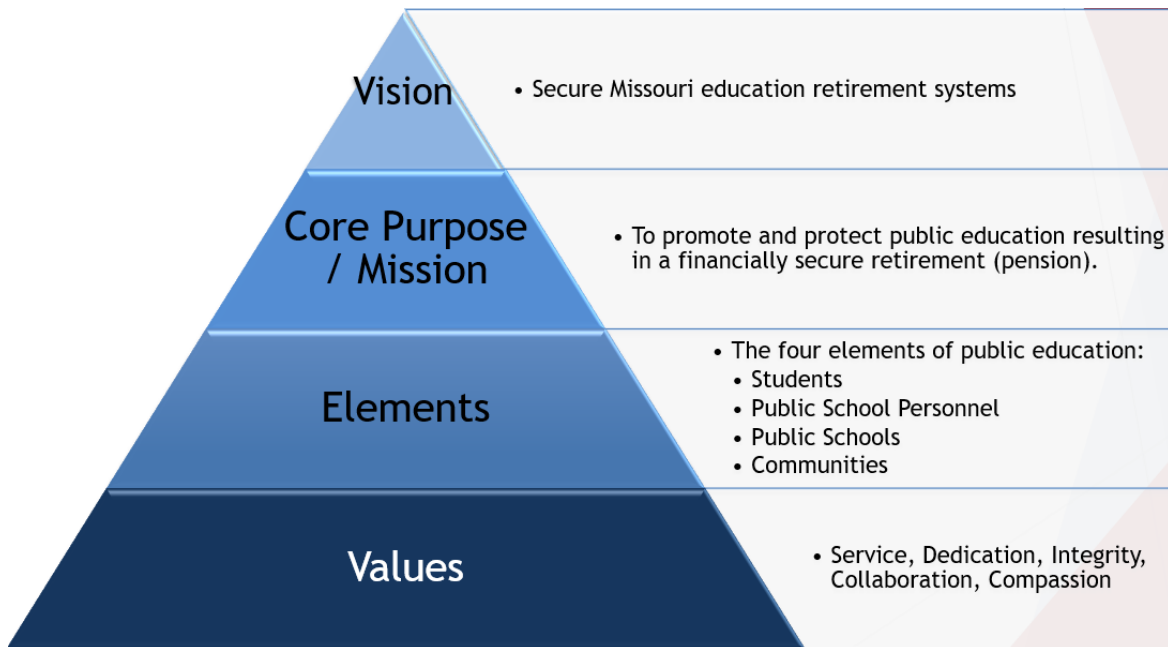
Vision

~~The vision of Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel (MRTA) is to promote and protect pensions, programs, and benefits of all public school personnel in retirement.~~

Mission

~~The mission of Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel (MRTA) is to grow membership and work actively with government and its entities so that all public school personnel will be secure economically, socially, and professionally in retirement.~~

~~Our motto is “To Serve, Not To Be Served.”~~



To promote and protect our children, public schools, public school personnel, and communities which will result in a financially secure retirement (pension).

Through advocacy, members, collaboration, philanthropy and compassion we can elevate public education and careers in education for strong retirement/pensions.



FINANCIALLY SECURE RETIREMENT (PENSION).

ARTICLE I NAME:

The name of the Association shall be the Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel and is abbreviated as MRTA.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE:

- {Section 1.} ~~(a)~~ To promote continued interest in the teaching profession and the issues of education.
- {Section 2.} ~~(b)~~ To promote economic, social, and professional status of retired teachers and other school personnel.
- {Section 3.} ~~(c)~~ To promote passage of legislation of benefit to retired teachers and other school personnel.
- {Section 4.} ~~(d)~~ To promote involvement of retired teachers and other school personnel in community affairs.
- {Section 5.} ~~(e)~~ To foster good fellowship among retired teachers and other school personnel and concern for their well-being.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP:

{Section 1.} (a) Membership shall be open to retired teachers of public, ~~private, and parochial~~ schools {including community colleges}; ~~colleges and universities~~; administrators; supervisors; and other retired ~~school~~ {education} employees.

{Section 2.} (b) Spouses of members, active teachers, {public education employees} and {plus} others interested in education may become associate members without the right to vote, hold office, or represent the Association.

{Section 3.} (c) Non-voting corporate sponsorships are available ~~upon approval of the Board of Directors.~~

{Section 4.} (d) Any member in good standing having attained the age of 90 shall be granted an MRTA Lifetime membership at no cost.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION:

The three levels of Organization of the Association shall be the Unit, Region, and State.

Section 1. The State MRTA shall be the overall Organization. MRTA is the only Association that serves retirees exclusively.

Section 2. The Region shall be a specific area of the State determined by the Board of Directors of MRTA.

Section 3. (a) The local MRTA Unit shall be governed by its own bylaws. Local units should use MRTA recommended bylaws as a guideline for their own bylaws.

(b) A copy of each local MRTA's current unit bylaws must be on file with the MRTA State Office.

(c) The local unit should promote state MRTA membership.

ARTICLE V {MRTA BOARD} MEETINGS:

Section 1. The ~~Association~~ {MRTA Board of Directors} may {shall} hold {at least} two {Board} meetings per year{.}, ~~one in the spring and one in the fall. The fall meeting may be designated as the Annual Meeting.~~

Section 2. ~~Telephonic~~ Virtual Meetings. The MRTA Board of Directors, State Committees, MRTA Appointed Special Committees, and Assembly of Delegates shall {be} permit{ed} ~~any or all directors, state and special committee members, and the Assembly of Delegates~~ to participate in a regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through, use of ~~conference~~ telephone or

any similar communications equipment ~~by means of which all directors, state and special committee members, and Assembly of Delegates participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting.~~ The directors, state and special committee members, and Assembly of Delegates participating in a meeting by this means are deemed to be present in person.

Section 3. Voting; Electronic Voting.

(a) General. Each member of the MRTA Board of Directors, State Committees, MRTA Appointed Special Committees, and Assembly of Delegates in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each matter submitted.

(b) Electronic Voting. Electronic voting may be used in connection with meetings of the MRTA Board of Directors, State Committees, MRTA Appointed Special Committees, and Assembly of Delegates.

(c) Meetings. For purposes of soliciting electronic votes in connection with a meeting of the MRTA Board of Directors, State Committees, MRTA Appointed Special Committees, or Assembly of Delegates at which a quorum must be present, the requisite number of votes that would have been required at such meeting to pass an action shall be required to pass an action via this electronic voting provision. Only those directors, state and special committee members, and Assembly of Delegates in attendance of the meeting shall be permitted to vote with respect to this Section. The deadline for receipt of electronic votes with respect to any such vote shall be submitted within one (1) week from the date of the meeting as announced prior to adjournment of such meeting.

(d) Action Without Meeting. For purposes of taking action without a meeting, solicitation via electronic balloting and voting shall be permitted hereunder.

{Section 4. MRTA Board Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the State Association and of the Board of Directors meetings shall be recorded by MRTA staff. Staff will submit copies of these minutes to the Board of Directors within fifteen business days after such meetings, unless otherwise notified.}

ARTICLE VI DUES:

Dues for active, associate, and life members shall be determined by the Assembly of Delegates upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors. State dues are payable at the beginning of the fiscal year. The fiscal year for MRTA begins January 1 and ends December 31. New members paying dues after May 1 may regard their dues paid through the next fiscal year.

ARTICLE VII EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

MRTA shall employ an Executive Director who shall be appointed and employed by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall operate under the job description found in the MRTA Policy Manual including ex-officio without vote on all committees and the Delegates Assembly. The Executive Director shall not be a member of the Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE VIII OFFICERS:

- Section 1. A Board of Directors Officer shall be a member of the local and state associations.
- Section 2. ~~Elective~~ {Elected} officers shall be President, President Elect, Vice President, ~~Recording Secretary~~, and Treasurer.
- Section 3. Members of the Board of Directors shall be: ~~Elective~~ {Elected} Officers, Past President, ~~Regional Vice Presidents~~, Chairpersons of Standing Committees, and MRTF President.
- Section 4. Members of the Executive Committee shall be President, President Elect, Vice President, ~~Recording Secretary~~, Treasurer, and the Immediate Past President. The Executive Committee shall have the responsibility to make emergency operational decisions between meetings of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

- Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, serve as Chairperson of the Board of Directors and as ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, appoint all {board} committees except as otherwise indicated and fill all vacancies until the next regular election. With the approval of the Board of Directors, the President shall appoint the chairpersons of the Standing Committees who shall serve as members of the Board of Directors.
- Section 2. The President Elect shall assist the President in every way possible, and act as President when the President is absent or incapacitated. The President Elect shall meet with and assist the MRTA Standing Committees.
- Section 3. The Vice President shall assist the President and the President Elect ~~in every way possible~~ and in their absence shall act in their stead. The Vice President shall {chair,} meet with{,} and facilitate the meetings of the MRTA Regional Vice Presidents. {The Vice President shall represent the needs and concerns of Region Vice Presidents at MRTA Board meetings.}
- ~~Section 4. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the State~~

~~Association and of the Board of Directors meetings and shall submit copies of these minutes to the Board of Directors within ten days after such meetings.~~

Section 5{4}. The Treasurer shall serve as chairperson of the MRTA Budget Committee. The Treasurer shall be responsible for signing MRTA checks, monitoring monthly financial reports and reporting to the Board of Directors.

{Section 5. The Immediate Past President shall serve as the chairperson of the MRTA Board of Director's Advisory Council, which consists of MRTA Past Presidents. The Advisory Council will meet at least once a year to discuss the state of MRTA.}

ARTICLE X REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS:

Section 1. A Regional Vice President elected according to Article XII, Section 3 shall be a member of a local unit and the State Association.

Section 2. The Regional Vice Presidents shall organize annual regional meetings to implement the program of the Association, promote regional activities to further the goals of the state standing committees and shall visit each unit in their respective regions at least twice during their term of office.

ARTICLE XI COMMITTEES:

Section 1. Each MRTA State and Regional Committee member shall be a member of a local unit and the State Association.

Section 2. Standing Committees shall be Community Service, Informative and Protective Services, Legislation, Membership, and Retirement Education. The Board of Directors will ~~appoint~~ {establish} the Standing Committees {and approve the members of those committees}. Standing Committees will have a representative from each MRTA region to be appointed for a three-year term. {Committee Chairs may serve up to two consecutive terms and after sitting out one year may be re-elected. In case of long-term, inability to serve, the President can appoint a delegate to take over duties of the chair in event of his/he; absence.}

{Section 3. Special Committee} ~~All other committee~~ chairpersons and committee members shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII { QUALIFICATIONS FOR} NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:

Section 1. Officers, except the Treasurer and {Vice President} ~~Recording-Secretary~~, shall serve for a term of one year. The Treasurer {and

the Vice President} and ~~Recording Secretary~~ shall be elected for a {three} ~~two~~-year term and may be re- elected one time. {The Vice President shall serve at least one term as a Regional Vice President. The Treasurer shall have knowledge and experience in budgeting.} The President Elect shall succeed to the presidency upon ratification by the Delegates Assembly. {The President Elect shall have been an MRTA member for at least five years.} ~~The Vice President shall succeed to President Elect upon ratification by the Delegates Assembly.~~

Section 2. Names of prospective officers may be presented to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee by individuals or local units by June 1. Nomination forms are available from the MRTA office.

Names of proposed ~~elective~~ {elected} officers shall be published in ~~the~~ {an} official MRTA Publication prior to the State Meeting at which elections are to be held. The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall, with the approval of the MRTA Board of Directors, present the slate of officers at the Assembly of Delegates' Meeting in the fall. Nominations may be made from the floor. Nominees for offices, whether presented by the Nominating Committee or from the floor, shall have given their consent before their names are presented. Elections shall be held ~~at~~ {during} the same meeting at which nominations are made. {Officers shall be elected by} a majority of delegates present ~~and voting shall constitute election~~. Installation of officers shall be held at the same meeting. Officers elected at the Assembly of Delegates' Meeting shall assume duties of office at the end of the {fall} Annual Meeting.

Section 3. The Regional Vice Presidents shall be elected at the Assembly of Delegates for a term of three years. {Regional Vice Presidents may serve up to two consecutive terms and after sitting out one year may be re-elected.} ~~The incumbent Regional Vice President shall preside until a new Regional Vice President is elected. One-third of the~~ Regional Vice Presidents will be elected each year {in staggered terms}.

ARTICLE XIII MISSOURI RETIRED TEACHERS FOUNDATION:

The President of the Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation, by virtue of his or her position, will be a member of the MRTA Board of Directors.

{ARTICLE XIV MRTA MEMBER MEETING}

Section 1. The Association will hold at least two meetings per year: one in the spring and one in the fall. The spring Meeting will be designated as the Unit President's Summit, open to all unit presidents, unit vice-presidents and other leadership positions. The fall Meeting will be designated as the Annual Meeting and will be open to all

association members.}

ARTICLE ~~XIV~~ XV ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES:

- Section 1. The Assembly of Delegates shall elect officers of MRTA, approve all dues changes, and amend the Bylaws as needed. It shall meet on the first day of the annual meeting of MRTA at an hour and place designated in the program. In addition, at the meeting of the Assembly of Delegates the regional vice presidents shall be elected by the delegates in attendance from their respective regions.
- Section 2.
- (a) Each local Unit shall be entitled to one delegate for the first one (1) to 100 MRTA and local Unit members and to one additional delegate for each additional 100 MRTA and local Unit members or major fraction thereof as of August 15.
 - (b) Active members whose State and local Unit dues are paid shall be eligible to serve as delegates.
 - (c) MRTA Associate members are not eligible to serve as delegates.
 - (d) The MRTA Board of Directors and Past-Presidents shall be members of the Assembly of Delegates.
- Section 3.
- (a) The delegate(s) shall be elected from and by the local Unit.
 - (b) The local Unit Presidents shall send to MRTA headquarters the name/names of the delegates and alternates elected by their unit by August 15.
- Section 4. Delegates shall be entitled to seats in the {designated area} ~~permanent organization~~ of the Assembly of Delegates when credentials in the form of Certificates of Election have been approved by a Committee on Credentials.
- Section 5. The President of MRTA shall call the Assembly of Delegates to order and shall serve as permanent chairperson. The first order of business shall be the report and adoption of the Committee on Credentials. ~~The Recording Secretary of MRTA~~ {The Immediate Past President of MRTA} shall be the secretary of the Assembly of Delegates and shall be responsible for the recording of the minutes.
- Section 6. A majority of the Assembly of Delegates shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- Section 7. In all voting in the Assembly of Delegates each certified delegate shall be entitled to one vote. When there seems to be no clear

majority on an issue, the chairperson of the Assembly of Delegates may call for a head count vote. This shall be taken according to regions with the Regional Vice President and an assistant from each region acting as tabulators for each region. When the individual region vote has been tabulated, each region shall report to the Vice President who shall then tabulate the vote.

Section 8. Any issue considered by the Assembly of Delegates, other than in Section 1 of this article, must contain the clause, "Provided the unappropriated funds in the treasury of MRTA will justify such expenditures."

ARTICLE ~~XV~~ XVI PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE:

Except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws, all questions of parliamentary procedure relating to this Association shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition and the Missouri Statutes pertaining to an Incorporated Not For Profit Organization. The President may select, as needed, a Parliamentarian who has no vote."

ARTICLE ~~XVI~~ XVII BUDGET:

The Treasurer shall serve as Chairperson of the MRTA Budget Committee and submit a report to the Board of Directors for approval at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE ~~XVII~~ XVIII POWERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing all policies governing the Association and the employment and dismissal of personnel.

ARTICLE ~~XVIII~~ XIX AMENDMENTS:

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at the Annual Meeting by a majority vote of delegates present, provided that the notice of such amendment has been approved by the Board of Directors and then published in the official MRTA Publication at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. In addition, an amendment may be proposed by a majority vote of the MRTA Assembly of Delegates for the consideration of the next assembly.

Approved Revisions: September 2, 2003; September 11, 2006; September 20, 2007; September 30, 2008; September 13, 2011; September 11, 2012; September 13, 2016; September 10, 2019; September 14, 2021.