

**By Laws of Texas Science Education Leadership Association
An Affiliate of the Science Teachers Association of Texas and the
National Science Education Leadership Association
January 2009 (update)**

Article I – Administration

Current Document

Name 1.01

The name of the organization shall be the Texas Science Education Leadership Association, referred to as TSELA, an affiliate of the Science Teachers Association of Texas and the National Science Education Leadership Association.

Purposes 1.02

The purposes of TSELA are:

- To provide leadership for the improvement of science instruction.
- To provide means of regular communication among science education leaders.
- To provide support and develop solutions for common issues and interests.
- To provide professional growth opportunities.

Nonprofit Organizational Status 1.03

The Texas Science Education Leadership Association is a nonprofit educational organization.

Article II – Membership

Active Membership 2.01

Membership in this affiliate is open to all personnel in leadership roles who are concerned with, and interested in, the improvement of science education. This will include, but not limited to science coordinators, department heads, team leaders, curriculum coordinators, university professors, and principals.

Membership Affiliation 2.02

Members of this affiliate are expected to be members of the Science Teachers Association of Texas (STAT).

Dues 2.03

Membership dues shall be set at the annual meeting by members present and voting.

Membership Benefits 2.04

Members of the Texas Science Education Leadership Association shall have the usual membership rights, privileges, and services with respect to all organization business and activities. Members shall be entitled to receive all electronic communications. Any member whose dues are not current, SHALL NOT be allowed to participate in affiliate business.

Associate Membership 2.05
A business, corporation or organization may join as an associate member without voting privileges.
Article III – Officers
Officers 3.01
The officers of TSELA shall be President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary, and Treasurer
Duties
3.02
President: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will represent TSELA on the Executive Board of the Science Teachers Association of Texas; • will plan and conduct all meetings; • will appoint Standing Committees; • will appoint Special Committees as required, and shall carry out other business and duties as necessary • will plan programs and meeting agendas in collaboration with the TSELA officers
3.03
President-Elect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will represent TSELA at functions as designated by the President; • will conduct meetings in the absence of the President; • will carry out other duties designated by the president.
3.04
Past-President: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will serve as an advisor to and carry out duties designated by the President
3.05
Secretary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will maintain minutes of meetings and other records of TSELA; • programs and meeting agendas in collaboration with the TSELA officers • will maintain historical documents and transfer them to the incoming secretary
3.06
Treasurer:

- will maintain accurate financial and membership records;
- will be custodian of TSELA monies

Vacancies 3.07

Vacancies occurring between elections shall be filled by appointment of the President and approval of the TSELA Officers.

Financial Decisions 3.08

- TSELA officers will make collaborative decisions related to expenditures of \$1000 or more

Article IV – Elections

Eligibility**4.01**

Any active member of the Texas Science Education Leadership Association is eligible for election to an office provided said member has been a member for ONE year at the time of the annual meeting.

4.02

A slate of candidates for officers shall be determined by the nominating committee and will be posted on the TSELA website prior to the annual meeting. Nominations may be presented from the floor at the annual meeting.

Election of Officers 4.03

Officers shall be elected during the annual meeting.

Term of Office 4.04

The fiscal year for TSELA shall begin on the first day of June and end on the last day of May of each year. All officers shall serve for one fiscal year with the exception of the treasurer being a two year term. The President-Elect shall automatically assume the office of the President for the ensuing year.

Article V – Meetings

Annual Meeting 5.01

The ANNUAL MEETING of the Texas Science Education Leadership Association will be held in conjunction with the Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching.

Periodic and Special Meetings 5.02

Two additional meetings will be held each year.
The date and location will be determined by the TSELA officers.

Other Meetings 5.03

- Other meetings may be called by the President.
- A meeting MUST be called by the President at the petition of a majority of the members.

- The membership must be notified in advance of any called meeting.
 - The notification must include the time, place and purpose of the meeting.
 - The notification must be made via electronic communication
- The notification must be given to members at least three weeks prior to the meeting.

Meetings Eligible for Official Business 5.04

TSELA business may not be conducted at any meeting if less than 15% of the active membership is in attendance.

Position Statements 5.05

From time to time TSELA may wish to develop position statements addressing issues confronting science education.

How position statement may be proposed.

- A motion to create a position statement may come from the membership at any regular scheduled meeting.
- The TSELA officers may, by majority vote, choose to propose a position statement.

Development of statement

- The TSELA president will appoint a committee to draft any proposed position statement. This committee must include one TSELA officer.
- If proposed by a motion of the TSELA membership at a meeting the committee will draft the position statement prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- If proposed by the TSELA officers the president will appoint the committee and the committee will draft the position statement prior to the next meeting.

Presentation to the membership and voting.

- The draft position statement must be made available online and notification be given via electronic communication to the membership, at least one week prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- The position statement will be made available in writing to the members at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

After discussion and opportunities for amendments, the position statement shall require a 2/3 majority of those present for the position statement to be accepted.

Article VI – Committees

Standing Committees 6.01

The Standing Committees are the Membership Committee and the Nominating Committee. The President will appoint the committee members for a one year term.

Special Committee 6.02

Special Committees may be appointed by the President as required.

Article VII – Rules of Order

Rules 7.01

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the conduct of all business meetings. Rules may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the membership present.

Article VIII – Amendments

Proposed Amendments 8.01

Amendments to the Constitution of TSELA may be proposed by the TSELA Officers or any member at any meeting.

Procedures 8.02

Notice of the proposed amendment will be submitted to all members, at least thirty days prior to the next meeting. During that meeting, the amendment is enacted upon by approval of two-thirds of the members present. Enacted amendments will take place immediately unless otherwise stated in the amendment.

Revisions approved by the membership January 30, 2009.