

Bylaws

OF THE

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (VACTE)

ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Classification of Membership. All career and technical education teachers and administrators, individuals, firms, and organizations interested in the purpose of this Association shall be eligible for membership in one of the following classifications:

- a. Affiliated Membership. Open to persons actively engaged in career and technical education.
- b. Life Membership. Open to any affiliated member of VACTE who pays lifetime membership dues. The lifetime membership dues are set by the Board of Directors.
- c. Student Membership. Open to those persons enrolled as graduate or undergraduate students interested in career and technical education.
- d. Associate/Corporate Membership. Open to individuals, companies, corporations, groups, and organizations that are interested in career and technical education.
- e. Loyalty/Retired Membership. Open to individuals who have retired from full-time activities in the field of career and technical education.

Section 2. Payment of Dues. Application for membership shall be submitted to the VACTE Treasurer, the Vice President for Membership, or through any division.

Section 3. Voting Privileges. The following membership classifications shall have voting privileges:

- a. Affiliated Members.
- b. Life Members.

Section 4. Association Publications. All membership classifications are entitled to receive all VACTE publications.

Section 5. Membership Year. The membership year for VACTE shall be from July 1 to June 30, which is also the VACTE fiscal year.

Section 6. Disposition of Surplus Funds. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to appropriate any part of any surpluses to the Scholarship Fund each year.

Section 7. Communication with the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). The Association shall maintain contact with the officers and staff of ACTE, including the transmission of membership dues, donations, and other contributions designated for ACTE.

Section 8. Multiple Division Memberships. A VACTE member may be a member of more than one Division as described in Article II. However, for purposes of VACTE membership reporting, a VACTE member shall be identified with only one Division.

Section 9. Local Chapters. Local chapters may be established to render services to local communities by implementing and augmenting the activities of the professional associations for career and technical educators. Procedures for organizing and maintaining a local chapter are contained in the Virginia Career and Technical Association Guidelines for Establishing Local Chapters.

ARTICLE II: DIVISIONS

Section 1. Divisional Classifications. The Divisions of the Association shall be:

- a. Administrators – Virginia Association for Career and Technical Education Administrators (VACTEA).
- b. Agriculture – Virginia Associations of Agriculture Educators (VAAE).
- c. Business and Information Technology – Virginia Business Education Association (VBEA).
- d. Health Occupations & Medical Services – Virginia Health Occupations Education Association (VHOEA).
- e. Family and Consumer Sciences - Virginia Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences (VATFACS).
- f. Marketing – Virginia Association of Marketing Educators (VAME).
- g. Special Needs Division – Virginia Special Needs Division (VACTE-SND).
- h. Technology Education – Virginia Technology Education Association (VTEA).
- i. Trade and Industry – Virginia Association of Trade and Industry Educators (VATIE).

Section 2. Formation of a New Division. When a group of career and technical educators meet the following criteria, they may petition the Board of Directors to become a division with a representative on the VACTE Board of Directors as specified in Section 3 below.

- a. The interest of the group is clearly defined as being directly involved in, or closely related to career and technical education.
- b. The group represents an interest that is statewide.
- c. The proposed new division shall be organized in the interest of expanding and/or improving career and technical education.
- d. The group must petition in writing to the Board of Directors for divisional status.
- e. The group must have at least fifty (50) affiliated members of the proposed division and VACTE.

Section 3. Division Representatives. Each division shall elect a representative to the VACTE Board of Directors as specified in Article VI, Section 1 of these bylaws. The duties of the division representatives are as follows:

- a. To represent the division on the Board of Directors. The term of office shall be three (3) years.
- b. To promote membership in VACTE and ACTE by contacting persons who are directly or indirectly affiliated with the division.
- c. To serve as a chairman, as appointed by the president, of one of the standing committees of VACTE.
- d. To make arrangements for the selection of a successor before the expiration of term of office, the results to be submitted in writing to the president.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS AND METHOD OF ELECTION

Section 1. President. The president-elect shall assume the office of president on July 1, one year following the beginning of his/her term as president-elect.

Section 2. President-Elect. A president-elect shall be elected annually. After serving a year as president-elect, this officer shall assume the duties of president.

Section 3. Vice President for Membership. A vice president for membership shall be elected for a two (2) year term.

Section 4. Vice President for Public Policy. A vice president for public policy shall be elected for a two (2) year term.

Section 5. Secretary. A secretary shall be elected for a two (2) year term.

Section 6. Treasurer. A treasurer shall be elected for a two (2) year term.

Section 7. Immediate Past President. The president shall assume the office of immediate past president upon completion of his/her term as president. The immediate past president shall serve in that office for a one (1) year term.

Section 8. Method of Electing Officers.

- a. No division or candidate may have successive terms in the same officer position unless no other candidate is available.
- b. The Board of Directors will solicit from each division, except the division currently having the corresponding office, nominations for the offices of president-elect, vice president for membership, vice president for public policy, secretary, and treasurer.
- c. A prospective Executive Committee officer should have served at least one (1) year on the VACTE Board of Directors prior to running for office.
- d. The Board of Directors shall present a slate of candidate(s) for each office at the annual business meeting.
- e. There shall be a call for nominations from the floor at the annual business meeting. Candidates' eligibility must meet the requirements as certified by the Board of Directors.
- f. Each candidate shall be introduced at the annual business meeting and will be expected to speak 3-5 minutes or to have another member speak on his/her behalf.

Section 9. Election Procedures.

- a. In the event that there is only one candidate for an office, the Board of Directors will hold a special meeting following the annual business meeting, to approve the candidate for each such office.
- b. If there is more than one candidate for any office, each candidate for that office will make available to the immediate past president, within two weeks following the annual business meeting, a digital photograph and a biographical sketch not to exceed three hundred (300) words. Photographs and biographical sketches of all candidates will accompany the ballot.
- c. If there is more than one candidate for an office, ballots will be sent to all members following the annual meeting. Ballots shall be returned to the immediate past president and shall be counted by the Nomination/Election Committee.
- d. The name of the candidates for each office receiving the highest number of votes from the membership at large shall be submitted to the Board of Directors at its spring meeting and be confirmed and declared elected. The results shall be published via the VACTE listserv and/or other publications.
- e. Ballots will be kept on file. If there is no appeal within thirty (30) days following the announcement of the elections, the ballots will be destroyed.

Section 10. Election of ACTE Region II Policy Committee Representative.

- a. The Board of Directors will elect the ACTE Region II Policy Committee Representative for a three (3) year term. Nominations shall be received by the president prior to the VACTE annual meeting in the year of election. The representative shall be voted on at the Board of Directors meeting immediately prior to the annual meeting.
- b. The candidates should be current or previous voting members of the VACTE Board of Directors.
- c. No division or candidate may have successive terms in this office unless there are no other candidates available.

Section 11. Effective Date of Office. New officers and divisional representatives shall take office as of July 1.

Section 12. Filling of Vacancies. When an Officer is Unable to Complete Term.

- a. If the president is unable to complete his/her term, the president-elect will assume the office of president and continue in that office until the completion of his/her regular term.
- b. If any officer other than the president is unable to serve, or if the president-elect assumes the office of president as specified in Section 12a above, the Board of Directors shall appoint a replacement. This member shall meet the requirements as set forth in Article III, Section 8a.

ARTICLE IV: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. President.

- a. The president shall preside at all meetings; shall call special meetings when the need arises; shall appoint all special committees and, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint the standing committees.
- b. The president shall fill vacancies in the committee assignments and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2. President-Elect.

- a. The president-elect shall in the absence of the president perform the duties of the president.
- b. The president-elect shall work closely with the president and will be a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

Section 3. Vice President for Public Policy.

- a. The vice president for public policy, assisted by the Public Policy Committee, shall chair the committee to develop a public policy platform and implementation strategy, and shall

act as a liaison for VACTE and ACTE public policy matters affecting the organization and its divisions.

Section 4. Secretary.

- a. The secretary shall keep accurate records of all meetings of the Association, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee meetings, serve as custodian of the records of VACTE, and shall perform other such duties as assigned by the president.

Section 5. Treasurer.

- a. The treasurer shall be in charge of all receipts for the organization and make disbursements as authorized by the president, Executive Board, and Executive Committee; submit financial reports to the Executive Board; prepare and submit records for an annual audit; and file, all necessary financial forms for state and federal agencies.

Section 6. Vice President for Membership.

- a. The vice president for membership, assisted by the membership committee, shall develop and implement an annual membership recruitment and retention plan working with VACTE divisions throughout the year.
- b. The vice president for membership shall report regularly to the VACTE Executive Committee and the VACTE Board of Directors, regarding progress of membership recruitment and retention efforts.

Section 7. Immediate Past President.

- a. The immediate past president shall be a member of the Executive Board and the Executive Committee and serve as an advisor to the president.
- b. The immediate past president shall serve as chair for the Nominating and Constitution committee.
- c. The immediate past president shall serve as chair for Constitution and Bylaws committee.

Section 8. ACTE Region II Policy Representative.

- a. The ACTE Region II Policy Committee Representative shall serve as the Virginia Representative to the ACTE Region II Policy Committee and serve as a voting member of the VACTE Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section 1. The Annual Meeting.

- a. The annual meeting of VACTE shall be held at such time and place as the Board of Directors may decide. The Board of Directors shall designate a conference fee to be paid by persons attending the conference.
- b. The Board of Directors will be responsible for the program of activities, and each member will be notified of the conference date, location, and other pertinent details electronically and/or by mail.
- c. The number of members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. ACTE Delegates.

- a. The Association shall be represented at the annual meeting of ACTE, and the number of delegates will be in accordance with the ACTE Bylaws.

The president shall appoint and instruct the delegates, in consultation with the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD of DIRECTORS

Section 1. Composition. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the president, president-elect, vice president for membership, vice president for public policy, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president, the division representatives, and the ACTE Region II representative. A representative of the Virginia Department of Education will serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board.

Section 2. Consultants. The Board of Directors may employ appropriate individuals to serve as Board consultants if the majority of the Board concurs.

Section 3. Observers. Division officers and other VACTE members are encouraged to attend Board of Director meetings as observers. Observers may participate in discussion at the discretion of the presiding officer, but are not allowed to vote.

Section 4. Division Representative Alternates. If a division representative is absent from a Board meeting, the division president may serve as an alternate. Otherwise, written authorization from the division representative or division president is required for an alternate to be official. Official alternates will have voting privileges.

Section 5. Call of Board Meeting/Quorum. The Board of Directors shall meet at least three (3) times during each membership year or at the request of the president or at the written request of five (5) members of the Board. Should a majority of Board Members not be present, a vote may go to executive committee. Should a quorum of the executive committee not be present, the vote must be tabled until a quorum is in attendance. Votes may be taken by electronic means.

Section 6. Members' Expenses. The Association in accordance with the adopted budget shall pay travel expenses incurred by members of the Board of Directors in the performance of their duties.

Section 7. Budget. The Board of Directors shall adopt an annual budget for the Association.

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Composition. The Executive Committee shall consist of the president, president-elect, vice president for membership, vice president for public policy, secretary, treasurer, and immediate past president.

Section 2. Authority. The Executive Committee of the Association shall coordinate the activities of the Association with the Executive Director of ACTE in accordance with policies and directives established by the Board of Directors. This Committee is to take appropriate action on emergency matters that cannot wait until the next Board Meeting. Action(s) of the Executive Committee shall be reported to Board of Directors.

Section 3. Quorum. A quorum is four (4) members

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees. Chairmen of the following standing committees shall come from the Board of Directors and may be appointed by the president of the Association as needed. Additional committees may be appointed, as necessary.

- a. A Nomination/Election Committee shall meet prior to the spring meeting of the Board of Directors and shall count the ballots for the election. The chairman shall report to the Board of Directors at its spring meeting.
- b. An Auditing Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of auditing the records of the Association. The Committee shall report its findings at the annual meeting.
- c. A Program Committee shall develop and implement the program for the annual meeting.
- d. A Scholarship Committee shall publicize the VACTE Scholarship, receive and review applications, and recommend recipients to the Board of Directors.
- e. A Membership Committee, working under the direction of the vice president for membership, shall have the responsibility for developing and implementing an annual membership recruitment and retention plan with VACTE Divisions throughout the year.
- f. A Public Policy Committee shall develop the VACTE legislative program of action and career and technical education policy positions for use at the local, state, and national levels. The Committee shall develop strategies for the implementation of the VACTE legislative program of action.
- g. A Constitution and Bylaws Committee, chaired by the immediate past-president, shall receive and propose amendments to the Executive Board for approval. Approved changes are then presented to the membership at the annual business meeting for passage.

- h. An Awards Committee, appointed by the president, shall receive nominations for VACTE awards and select the recipients of these awards.

ARTICLE IX: PUBLICATIONS

The official publications of VACTE shall be the VACTE Newsletter which shall be published at least two (2) times annually at the discretion of the Executive Committee. In addition, a document outlining public policy shall be published annually and distributed to stakeholders. A listserv will be utilized as a means of communication with membership.

ARTICLE X: SCHOLARSHIP FUND

An Annual scholarship, as budgeted, shall be awarded as follows: To a graduating high school student to be used in furthering or entering his/her studies in a field of career and technical education. (See guidelines on scholarship application.)

ARTICLE XI: PARLIAMENT AUTHORITY

All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order – Newly Revised*.

The President shall appoint a parliamentarian for the annual business meeting.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at the annual business meeting, provided that amendments are offered in writing to the president thirty (30) days prior to the date of the annual meeting, and further that the amendments are made available to the membership through an official release at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the annual meeting.