

VANCOUVER ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I **NAME AND INCORPORATION**

Section 1 The name of this organization shall be the Vancouver Association of Educational Support Professionals hereinafter referred to as the Association.

The principal mailing address of the organization shall be at: PO Box 1980,
Vancouver, WA 98668-1980

Section 2 The Association shall be incorporated as a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of Washington.

ARTICLE II **PURPOSE**

Section 1 The purpose of the Association shall be to represent all members in negotiations, grievances, and in all matters relating to terms and conditions of employment with the Vancouver School District #37.

ARTICLE III **AFFILIATION**

Section 1 The Association shall affiliate with the Washington Education Association/National Education Association.

ARTICLE IV **MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1 All persons engaged in secretarial, technology support, clerical, and para-educator work who meet the active membership requirements of the Washington Education Association may, upon payment of dues hereinafter provided, become active members of this Association with full rights and privileges of membership.

Section 2 Active members of this Association shall also be members of the Educational Support Professionals/Washington Education Associations and the National Education Association.

Section 3 No members shall be fined, censured, suspended, expelled or otherwise disciplined, except as provided in the WEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 4 No member shall be eligible to hold office unless dues have been paid at least one month prior to nomination. All committee chairperson must be bona-fide members of the Association within thirty (30) days of assuming chairmanship.

Section 5 All members of the Association have equal rights and privileges within the Association which include:

- a. To nominate candidates
- b. To vote in elections or on referenda of the Association
- c. To hold office
- d. To participate in the deliberation of the Association and to vote on contract ratification
- e. To attend membership meetings

ARTICLE V **DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS**

- Section 1 Association members shall pay dues/fees as established in the Bylaws. WEA, NEA and UniServ dues shall be as determined by those governing bodies. The dues shall be payable through monthly payroll deductions.
- Section 2 The Association may levy special assessments on its membership as provided in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI **OFFICERS**

- Section 1 The officers shall consist of the following: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Section 2 The term of office for the officers shall be as established in the Bylaws.
- Section 3 In the event of vacancy of the office of President, the Vice President shall become President for the balance of the term.
- Section 4 In the event a vacancy occurs among the remaining elected officers, a special election shall be held within 30 days of the vacancy (or within 30 days after the opening of school, if the vacancy occurs during the summer) if more than six (6) months remain in the unexpired term. If less than six (6) months remain in the unexpired term, Presidential appointment and Executive Board confirmation shall fill the vacancy for remainder of the term.
- Section 5 No person will hold more than one (1) elected board position.
- Section 6 The duties of the officers shall be as provided in the Bylaws.
- Section 7 An elected officer may be removed from office for cause by a recall election, which may be initiated by the Executive Board or the general membership in one of the following manners:
- a. The Executive Board may request a recall election after a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of its members, or

- b. The general membership may request a recall election by petition containing signatures of thirty percent (30%) of the ~~active~~ members of the Association.

The Executive Board shall notify in writing any officer who has been recommended for recall.

A general membership meeting will be scheduled for the recall election within thirty (30) days after receipt of either the Executive Board's recall motion or the membership recall petition. This election shall be determined by a majority of those casting valid ballots.

ARTICLE VII EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 The Executive Board, comprised of the elected officers, shall be the agency through which the general administrative and executive functions of the Association shall be carried out.

Section 2 The specific duties of the Executive Board shall be provided in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII POLICY AUTHORITY

Section 1 A majority vote of the membership present and voting at any duly authorized meeting shall determine the policies and actions of the Association except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1 The current edition of Sturgis' Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure governs this organization in all parliamentary situations that are not provided for in the law or in its charter, constitution, bylaws or adopted rules.

ARTICLE X AMMENDMENTS

Section 1 The proposals to amend this Constitution (except those governed by WEA/NEA) may be made by the Executive Board or by a petition of ten percent (10%) of the membership. This Constitution shall be amended by a majority vote of the members attending a general meeting. Notice of this election and the proposed amendment(s) shall have been delivered to each member at least twenty (20) days in advance. Voting at the discretion of the Executive Board, may be part of an annual or special meeting or through other established election procedures. Amendments shall become effective immediately unless otherwise provided.