

**MARTIN COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION
(Proposed Revision November 2011)**

MISSION STATEMENT

MCEA is a not-for-profit professional teachers' organization designed to advocate the advancement of a free public education for all; to empower and advance professional growth for educators; and to engage our members and our community in order to ensure that our students learn and succeed in a diverse world.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Martin County Education Association, a non-profit unincorporated Association.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

- Section 1. To work for the continuous improvement of instruction in Martin County, toward the end that every child obtains the best education this community can offer.
- Section 2. To promote within the teaching group the highest type of professional practices; to encourage active participation of educators in the solution of school problems; to urge every member of the profession to be a progressive student of education; and to arouse all allegiance to the genuine spirit of professional ethics.
- Section 3. To encourage higher qualifications for entrance into the teaching profession; to promote teacher participation in school management; to aid in securing and maintaining adequate salaries, tenure, professional service contract, sound retirement system, and such other improvements in conditions as will enable teachers to function properly as a vital factor in educational progress.
- Section 4. To represent teachers in collective bargaining and assist them in political action, legislative representation, legal assistance and economic benefit programs.
- Section 5. To hold property and funds and to employ staff.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active Members:

- a) This organization shall consist of certified employees of the Martin County School District who are paid on a teacher salary schedule.
- b) Active membership shall be continuous until a member leaves the school system, resigns from the Association, fails to pay membership dues or has membership revoked.

~~Section 2. Associate Membership:~~

~~Any person interested in advancing the cause of education, but not eligible for active membership, may become an associate member by paying not more than one-half the active membership dues. Associate members shall not be entitled to vote or hold office. They shall receive services as authorized by the Faculty Representative Council.~~

Section 3. Retired Membership:

Any retired member of MCEA may be granted retired membership if he/she has held membership in MCEA preceding application for retired membership through FEA. ~~Retired members shall not be entitled to vote or hold office. They shall receive services as authorized by the Faculty Representative Council.~~

Section 4. Removal from Association:

According to the procedures adopted by the Faculty Representative Council, the Executive Board may suspend from membership, or expel, any member who shall have violated the ethics of the education profession.

Section 5. Discrimination:

No discrimination shall be shown toward members or applicants for membership because of race, creed, color, age, sex, marital status, national origin, or political belief or advocacy.

Section 6. Manner of Admission:

A person may be admitted to membership in the MCEA upon written application and payment of dues.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the Association officers; the Immediate Past President (as applicable, see Section 5 below); one (1) member from each school level -- elementary, middle, and high; and two (2) members elected at large. The Executive Board shall be the executive authority of the Association.
- Section 2. Under personnel policies adopted by the Faculty Representative Council and within the annual budget, the Executive Board shall have power to employ, discipline and/or terminate a staff for the efficient management of the Association.
- Section 3. When a majority of the Executive Board shall agree that an elected officer has been grossly negligent of the duties defined by the Bylaws, the Executive Board shall declare the office vacant and recommend a replacement to the Faculty Representative Council. If the Faculty Representative Council supports this action by a majority vote of those present, the replacement will fill the unexpired term of the officer until the next general election.
- Section 4. Should any elected officer resign or be unable to serve for any reason, the Executive Board shall follow the same procedure outlined in Section 3 above.
- Section 5. The Immediate Past President shall be the last elected member to hold the position as President, who completed the tenure of office. The position of the Immediate Past President shall have a one-year term.

ARTICLE VI - FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

- Section 1. The legislative and policy-forming body of the Association shall be the Faculty Representative Council, which shall transact all business of the Association between the meetings of the general membership.

Section 2. The Faculty Representative Council shall consist of the Executive Board and one or more faculty representatives or designated alternates from each school center.

ARTICLE VII - AFFILIATION

The Martin County Education Association will maintain affiliation with those organizations which best serve the needs of Martin County teachers as determined by the members of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of members voting, provided that:

Section 1. The Amendment is introduced at a meeting of the Faculty Representative Council and approved by the Council.

Section 2. Copies of the proposed Amendments are distributed within two (2) weeks.

ARTICLE IX - DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

Upon dissolution of the organization, all of its assets remaining after payment of all costs and expenses of such dissolution shall be distributed to organizations which have qualified for exemption under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to the Federal Government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose, and none of the assets will be distributed to any member, officer, or trustee of this Association.