



CEA- Retired Constitution

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

The CEA-Retired, a program of the Connecticut Education Association, shall advance and promote the CEA programs for retired teachers.

ARTICLE II - GOVERNING AUTHORITY

The CEA-Retired shall be governed by this Constitution and such other policies as the CEA Representative Assembly and CEA Board of Directors may establish.

ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVES

The CEA-Retired shall provide an opportunity:

- A.** for CEA members to continue their membership and involvement in the CEA following retirement from active educational employment;
- B.** for teachers not previously CEA members to become involved in the CEA following retirement from active educational employment;
- C.** for CEA-Retired members to participate in certain CEA sponsored programs;
- D.** for CEA-Retired members to address and pursue issues of common concern, create avenues to safeguard and strengthen retirement benefits, and provide forums for information sharing and social interaction;
- E.** for CEA-Retired members to join with the CEA in efforts to bring about positive support for public education and the achievement of CEA objectives;
- F.** for CEA-Retired members to become involved in the election of pro-education candidates to public office and lobby for educational measures in conjunction with policy decisions made by the CEA and its affiliates;
- G.** for CEA-Retired to assist the CEA in the improvement of instruction, and the advancement of the image of teaching in Connecticut.

ARTICLE IV - CEA-RETIRED MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility

- A.** The CEA-Retired shall be composed of retired teachers [as the term "teacher" is defined by the Connecticut State Teachers Retirement Board] who are receiving benefits from the Connecticut Teachers Retirement Board or members retired from CEA staff positions at CEA who at one time held a certified teaching position in Connecticut.
- B.** Membership in CEA-Retired shall be dependent upon current payment of CEA-Retired dues and upon membership in NEA-Retired.
- C.** Should a CEA-Retired member enter into an agreement by which such member's retirement benefits are temporarily suspended due to such member's teaching income, such member shall be temporarily suspended from the status as a CEA-Retired member.

Section 2. Rights & Responsibilities

- A.** CEA-Retired members in good standing shall have the right to vote, to hold elective or appointive positions in the CEA-Retired and to be counted for purposes of representation on the CEA Board of Directors at the CEA Representative Assembly as provided in the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.
- B.** CEA-Retired members shall be eligible to hold office and receive benefits and services of the CEA as authorized by the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE V - PRE-RETIRED SUBSCRIBERS

Section 1. Eligibility. Members of the CEA shall be eligible to become Pre-Retired Subscribers as stipulated in the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Rights and Responsibilities. Pre-Retired Subscribers shall be eligible to receive benefits and services of the CEA as authorized by the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI - DUES

Section 1. Dues. Dues of CEA-Retired members shall be determined by the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII - CEA-RETIRED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Section 1. Executive Officers. The CEA-Retired Executive Officers shall include the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The terms of office shall be three years. An executive officer shall serve no more than two three-year terms in the office to which elected.

Section 2. Election. The executive officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting through open nominations and secret ballot. Terms of office shall commence on July 15th.

Section 3. President.

A. Duties. The President of CEA-Retired shall: (a) chair all meetings of the CEA-Retired Advisory Council, the Annual Meeting and all general membership meetings; (b) be responsible for the preparation of the agendas with the assistance of CEA-Retired Executive Committee; (c) establish meeting calendar with the advice of the CEA-Retired Advisory Council by September 15th of each year and cause such calendar to be published; and (d) serve on the CEA Board of Directors.

B. Vacancy. A vacancy in the office of CEA-Retired President shall be filled by the CEA-Retired Vice President only until the next Annual Meeting, at which time a duly called election shall be held in order to fill the unexpired term of office.

Section 4. Vice President

A. Duties. The Vice President of CEA-Retired shall: (a) chair all meetings of the CEA-Retired Advisory Council, the Annual Meetings and all general membership meetings in the absence of the CEA-Retired President; (b) assist the CEA-Retired President in representing member interests; (c) carry out such duties as the CEA-Retired President may delegate; and (d) serve on the CEA Board of Directors.

B. Vacancy. A vacancy in the office shall be filled by the CEA-Retired Advisory Council only until the next CEA-Retired Annual Meeting, at which time a duly called election shall be held in order to fill the unexpired term of office.

Section 5. Secretary

A. Duties. The Secretary of CEA-Retired shall: (a) be responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the CEA-Retired Advisory Council and the Annual and general membership meetings; (b) present for adoption, at the subsequent meeting of each of these two governing bodies, the respective minutes of the previous meetings; (c) be responsible for submitting the historical records of the organization which will be kept at CEA; and (d) serve as the alternate (Vice Chair) to the CEA Board of Directors in the absence of either the CEA-Retired President or the CEA-Retired Vice-President.

B. Vacancy. A vacancy in the office of Secretary shall be filled by the CEA-Retired Advisory Council only until the next Annual membership meeting, at which time a duly-called election shall be held in order to fill the unexpired term of office.

Section 6. Treasurer

A. Duties. The Treasurer of CEA-Retired shall: (a) chair the CEA-Retired Finance Committee; and (b) assist in the development of a proposed budget in accordance with the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.

B. Vacancy. A vacancy in the office of Treasurer shall be filled by the CEA-Retired Advisory Council only until the next Annual membership meeting, at which time a duly-called election shall be held in order to fill the unexpired term of office.

ARTICLE VIII - CEA-RETIRED MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Membership Meeting. There shall be an Annual Meeting in May. In addition to the Annual Meeting, there will be one general meeting per year to be held in the fall.

Section 2. Attendance. All CEA-Retired members shall be invited to attend and participate in the proceedings of the Annual Meeting and general membership meetings. Notification of the site and date shall be made in a timely manner.

Section 3. Voting. All CEA-Retired members shall be entitled to full voting rights at CEA-Retired meetings. Pre-Retired Subscribers will have observer status at the Annual and general membership meetings without the right to vote but may otherwise participate in the proceedings according to Roberts Rules of Order Revised.

Section 4. Quorum. Membership from at least five (5) counties must be present to conduct business.

ARTICLE IX - CEA-RETIRED ADVISORY COUNCIL

Section 1. Each CEA-Retired member shall select one county in which to be active. That county may be the county where the member taught, the county where he/she lives, or the county most geographically convenient. No member shall vote in more than one county. If a member wishes to change his/her county affiliation, he/she must notify the CEA-Retired President.

Section 2. Composition and Election. The CEA-Retired Advisory Council shall be composed of the CEA-Retired President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer elected at the Annual Meeting, as well as two members from each county elected at the final County Meeting of the year for three-year staggered terms. All elections shall be conducted through an open nomination and secret ballot. If there are two openings in a county, the county member with the highest number of votes will be elected to a three-year term of office. The county member with the next highest number of votes will be elected for a two-year term of office. The term of office of County Representatives of the Advisory Council shall commence on July 1st. The Immediate Past President shall be a non-voting member of the Advisory Council and Executive Committee. He/she shall serve until the next election for President. Following the election of officers and Advisory Council members, if the total members of the CEA-Retired Advisory Council does not

include at least one member of an ethnic minority group, an ethnic minority member shall be elected to the Council. The election shall be conducted with open nominations and a secret ballot. The term of the ethnic minority member shall be three years. Each county shall elect an Alternate to the Advisory Council at the final County Meeting of the year. The Alternate shall serve in the absence of his/her County Representative. The term of office shall be for one year.

Section 3. Terms of Office. The term of office of each County Representative shall be three years. Beginning with elections held after July 1, 2016, the office of County Representative may be held for two three-year terms, or six years. If an interim position is served, then the office of County Representative may be held for no more than eight years. Following a break of two years from the Advisory Council, subject to the same aforementioned conditions, a member may seek election to the position of County Representative.

Section 4. Function. The CEA-Retired Advisory Council shall provide leadership in carrying out the objectives of the organization. Those members elected to represent each county shall develop and organize a CEA-Retired unit within their county.

Section 5. Meetings. The CEA-Retired Advisory Council shall meet between five (5) and seven (7) times each year at times and locations to be determined by the CEA-Retired President with the advice of the Advisory Council. A majority of members of the Advisory Council shall constitute a quorum. Minutes of each meeting shall be recorded and duly adopted. The Advisory Council shall advise the CEA-Retired President regarding the calendar of meetings for the year by September 15th.

Section 6. Vacancies. If a vacancy occurs on the Advisory Council, the Alternate for that county shall serve as County Representative until an election at the next County Meeting. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Alternate to the Advisory Council, a new Alternate will be elected at the next scheduled County Meeting.

ARTICLE X – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of CEA-Retired will consist of executive officers of the Association, the Immediate Past President, and two members elected by and from the Advisory Council each September or when vacancies occur.

Section 2. Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. He/she shall serve until the next election for President.

ARTICLE XI - REPRESENTATION AT THE CEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Section 1. Eligibility. Only CEA-Retired members shall be eligible to be retired delegates to the CEA Representative Assembly.

Section 2. Number of Delegates. The number of CEA-Retired delegates to the CEA Representative Assembly shall be determined as provided in the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3. The CEA-Retired delegates to the CEA Representative Assembly shall be elected by the CEA-Retired members.

ARTICLE XII - REPRESENTATION ON CEA-RETIRED COMMITTEES AND ON ACTIVE CEA COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Section 1. Representation. Members of the CEA-Retired shall have representation on CEA commissions and committees as provided in the CEA Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Number of Members. The number of CEA-Retired members on the CEA committees and commissions shall be determined as provided in the CEA Constitution and Bylaws. Members shall be chosen by the CEA President.

Section 3. Standing Committees. Standing Committees of the CEA-Retired shall be Membership, Legislative, Finance, Constitution, Election, Planning, Member Benefits, and Newsletter/Communications. Members shall be appointed by the CEA-Retired President with the advice of the Advisory Council.

Section 4. Committee Chairs and committee members shall be appointed by the president after the CEA-Retired Annual Meeting in May. Terms will be for one year commencing on September 1st. Recommendations will be made to the Advisory Council.

Section 5. Ad Hoc Committees may be established by the CEA-Retired President as needed.

ARTICLE XIII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments to Constitution. An amendment to the CEA-Retired Constitution may be submitted by the CEA-Retired Advisory Council to the Annual Meeting. Any CEA-Retired member may submit a proposed amendment to the CEA-Retired Advisory Council no later than February 1st. Said proposal shall include current and proposed language, rationale, estimated cost, and the original signatures of at least twenty (20) CEA-Retired members in good standing. Said proposal shall be forwarded to the Annual Meeting with the recommendations of the Advisory Council. For passage, a proposed amendment to the Constitution must receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote at the Annual Meeting. Unless otherwise provided, an amendment shall take effect at the beginning of the fiscal year following its adoption.

Section 2. Amendments to the By-Laws. An amendment to the CEA-Retired By-laws may be submitted by the CEA-Retired Advisory Council to the Annual Meeting. Any CEA-Retired member may submit a proposed amendment to the CEA-Retired Advisory Council no later than February 1st. Said proposal shall include current and proposed language, rationale, estimated cost, and the original signatures of at least twenty (20)

CEA-Retired members in good standing. Said proposal shall be forwarded to the Annual Meeting. For passage, a proposed amendment to the Bylaws must receive a majority vote at the Annual Meeting. Unless otherwise provided, an amendment shall take effect at the beginning of the fiscal year following its adoption.