

THE MORRIS COUNTY RETIREES' EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION OF 2015

Proposed, January, 2018

Article I. Name and Affiliation

This non-profit Association shall be known as the Morris County Retirees' Education Association, Inc. (MCREA), affiliated with the New Jersey Retirees' Education Association (NJREA), New Jersey Education Association, (NJEA), and the National Education Association – Retired (NEA-R). The Association shall be incorporated as a non-profit corporation under Title 15-A, Section 2-8 of the New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation Act.

Section 1: The Association shall apply for tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Code 501-(c) (4) and govern itself in a manner that will not jeopardize its tax-exempt status.

Article II, Purpose

The purpose of the Association shall be:

Section 1: To keep members informed about the benefits available to them and how they may attain those benefits.

Section 2: To further the advancement of education in New Jersey and the United States.

Section 3: To advocate, promote, and urge the passage of local, state and national legislation; and/or programs and services benefiting retired members.

Section 4: To provide meetings so that valuable information may be presented to those members who conduct state business.

Section 5: To provide a report of meetings, MCREA activities and other valuable information to each member by means of MCREA publications and media or through publications and media of NJREA/NJEA/NEA-R

Section 6: To provide scholarship aid to students who have graduated from Morris County, New Jersey public schools and who will prepare for a career in public education.

Section 7: To provide our membership with information on current Human Rights issues

Article III, Membership

The following may become members of MCREA by paying annual/life dues:

- Section 1: Any retired public-school employee who meets the membership requirements of the NJREA Constitution and pays MCREA dues.
- Section 2: Any retired education employee who is a member of the New Jersey Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) or the New Jersey Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) or and New Jersey alternate benefits retirement program.
- Section 3: Any person employed in an education capacity in a public or state School, college, university or other institution or agency operating under the laws of New Jersey.

Article IV: Officers

- Section 1: The officers of this Association shall be the President, First Vice- President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Section 2: Officers must be Unified Members (MCREA, NJREA, NEA-R)
- Section 3: Officers shall be nominated and elected according to the adopted rules of the By-laws.
- Section 4: Installation of officers:
A. Installation of officers takes place at the June meeting.
B. Newly-installed officers shall assume their duties immediately following the adjournment of the meeting at which they were installed, except the Treasurer, who remains in office to the end of the fiscal year, (August 31).
- Section 5: Term of Office:
A. The term of office shall be two years.
B. Officers may serve no more than two consecutive terms or until a replacement may be secured.
- Section 6: Vacancies:
A. In the event that the President is unable to perform the duties of the office, the First Vice-President shall become President temporarily to complete the unexpired term; the Second Vice-President shall become the First Vice-President. If both the President and First Vice-President are

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unable to perform the duties of the President, the Second Vice –President shall perform the duties of the President.

- B. In the event that a vacancy occurs before the completed term of an executive officer other than the President or the First Vice-President, the Nominating Committee shall present the name of the member to fill the vacancy, and the nominee shall be voted on by the executive board. Vacancies may be a holdover (i.e. Treasurer) until someone comes forward to volunteer for the job.
- C. Officers who fill unexpired terms shall be eligible for election to a full two-year term in any office.
- D. The officers shall make accessible to their successors all materials necessary for a smooth transfer of duties.

Section 7: Removal of an Officer

- A. Officers of the Executive Board shall serve their terms so long as they satisfactorily perform the duties of their office.
- B. If or when an officer is guilty of grievous misconduct or failure to perform the responsibilities, as outlined in the by-laws, such officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the total eligible membership of the Executive Board
 - 1. Presentation of case
 - 2. Hearing Committee to be made up of the Association President, Parliamentarian, and all Past Presidents

Article V: Meetings

Section 1: Schedule of Meetings:

- A. General Meetings – On the second Wednesday of the month unless otherwise requested by the Executive Board (September, October, December, March, April, May, June)
- B. Executive Board Meetings – On the Thursday prior to the General Meeting unless otherwise requested by the Executive Board (September, October, December, March, May, June)
- C. Annual Meeting in June to include:
 - 1. Transaction of Regular Business
 - 2. Installation of officers in alternate years
 - 3. Presentation of Scholarships

Section 2: Meeting Dates shall be

- A. Set by the Executive Board in June
- B. Included in the Newsletter and on the MCREA website_for current meetings

Section 3: The order of business shall be according to *Robert's Rules of Order*

Section 4: Quorums:

A. Executive Board Meetings

1. 50% of the members needed to pass
2. Officers have 1 full vote and Committee Chairs and Parliamentarian Each have .25 of a vote
3. Percent of vote for Committee Chairs and Parliamentarian determined by the formula: 1 less than the number of officers, divided by number of Committee Chairs plus Parliamentarian

Article VI: Executive Board

Section 1: The Executive Board shall be unified members of MCREA, NJREA, NEA-R

Section 2: The Executive Board shall consist of:

- A. Elected Officers
- B. Chairpersons of standing committees appointed by the President
- C. The Parliamentarian
- D. The Immediate Past President

Section 3: Members may attend Executive Board meeting as guests. If they wish to speak, the Secretary must be notified in advance of the meeting, so they may be put on the agenda. The topic of discussion must be disclosed, and guests are limited to three minutes to speak

Section 4: The Executive Board shall recall an elected MCREA officer, if necessary

Article VII: Standing Committees

Section 1: The Standing committees of the MCREA shall be:

Archives, Arrangements, Finance, Government Relations, Hospitality, Human Rights, Membership, Membership Recruitment, Member/Health Benefits, Newsletter, Nominations, Publications, Publicity, Reservations, Revisions, Scholarship, Special Events, Sunshine, Travel, Ways and Means (20 committee chairpersons)

Section 2: The term of each standing committee member shall expire at the end of the President's term

Article VIII: Amendments

Section 1: The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended.

- A. Amendments shall be submitted, first, to the Revisions Committee for review and recommendations.

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- B. Then the Revisions Committee will bring the proposal to the Executive Committee.
- C. A majority vote of the Executive Committee is necessary to then publish said amendment, in full, in the Official Publication of the Association.
- D. At a General Membership Meeting of the Association, a 2/3 vote of members present pass an amendment, provided the proposed amendment has been introduced, in writing, at least two weeks prior to the Membership Meeting.

Article IX: Dissolution

Section 1: The Dissolution Process shall be as follows:

- A. All outstanding Association bills and obligations shall be paid; dues will be suspended; all Association cash assets and income kept in existing Association accounts until disbursed.
- B. All Association investments and earning will be deposited in the appropriate Association Account upon their maturity or as otherwise terminated.
 - 1. Each Scholarship Fund will be clearly identified within the scholarship savings account as the source name, the original sum(s), accumulated sum(s), and earnings.
 - 2. The final sum of Association and non-scholarship funds in the Current Savings Account will be combined proportionally with the identified scholarship funds in 1 and retain the original fund name
- C. In order to continue the purpose for which the Association was founded, the Executive Committee of the Morris County Council of Education Associations (MCCEA) will be requested to include the MCREAP Scholarship Funds, with retained identity, as part of the MCCEA scholarship awards program with the following stipulations:
 - 1. The funds will continue to be identifiable and presented in the name of the original donor with a biographical sketch.
 - 2. The principle will be irreducible.
 - 3. Investment interest will be awarded to current Morris County public school graduates pursuing a career in education.
 - 4. The presentation of the award in the donor or county's name will continue to be part of the MCCEA awards ceremony.