

# NEMA Constitution

June 1993  
Revised December

1995

Revised Spring 1997  
Revised October 2001  
Revised October 2002  
Revised October 2004  
Revised October 2007  
Revised December

2009

## **Article I - Name**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the Nebraska Educational Media Association.

## **Article II - Purpose**

The purpose of the Nebraska Educational Media Association is to provide visionary leadership, support for educational library media professionals, and to advocate for library media programs throughout the state of Nebraska.

## **Article III - Membership**

Section 1: Current membership shall be limited to those whose dues are paid for the current year.

Section 2: Types of membership

- A. Active membership is open to all who are interested in enhancing student learning through libraries, literature, and technology.
- B. Student membership is open to students pursuing a career in communications, media, or related fields. Student members may not vote in the general election or hold an Executive Board position, but may vote at the annual business meeting and hold student liaison or committee positions.
- C. Business or institutional membership is open to those who develop and market media, are responsible for training media personnel, and/or provide media instruction. Each membership of this type may designate one person who will have all rights and privileges of active membership.

D. Retired membership is open to any retired person who is interested in enhancing student learning through libraries, literature, and technology.

Retired members will have all rights and privileges of active membership.

E. Honorary or life-time membership may be established at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section 3: Affiliated regional or special interest organizations whose interest and purpose is similar to that of the Association and whose constitutions and bylaws are consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association, on request of that organization and on approval of the Association's membership, may become affiliates of the Association.

The purpose of the affiliation is to enable the Association and affiliated organizations to work together more effectively in the achievement of their common goals. Each affiliate will report annually to the Executive Board the names and addresses of its officers and members and the nature and extent of its program. The Executive Board will be notified of any change in its organization and purpose.

#### **Article IV - Affiliation**

Section 1: The Nebraska Educational Media Association shall be affiliated with the American Association of School Librarians, a division of the American Library Association, and with other state, regional, and national organizations when such affiliation will be of mutual benefit. The purpose of the affiliation is to enable the Association and other similar organizations to work together for the achievement of common goals.

#### **Article V - Officers**

Section 1: The officers of NEMA shall be a president, a president-elect, a secretary and a treasurer.

Section 2: All officers of NEMA shall be active members in good standing in the Nebraska Educational Media Association.

Section 3: Election and term of office:

A. The president shall hold office for a period of one year or until an elected successor takes office. Election shall occur annually.

- B. The president-elect must have previously served on the NEMA Board as an officer, board member, liaison, or committee member. The president-elect shall hold office for one year, succeeding to the presidency the following year. Election shall occur annually.
- C. Officers assume duties at the beginning of each fiscal year.

Section 4: Any of the officers of NEMA may be removed from office when in the judgment of a quorum of the Executive Board, the best interest of the Association will be served by such removal.

### **Article VI - Executive Board**

Section 1: Executive Board members:

- A. The Executive Board shall be composed of the president, president-elect, immediate past-president, secretary, treasurer, four members of the Association elected by the membership-at-large, and the AASL liaison. The Executive Secretary shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board. The media consultant of the State Department of Education may serve on the Board in an advisory capacity.
- B. Presiding officer: The president of the Association shall serve as chairperson of the Executive Board.

Section 2: Function of the Executive Board:

The Executive Board shall have active charge of the affairs of the Association and shall be an ad interim committee with power to represent and act for the membership in the intervals between the meetings of that body.

Section 3: Board Members-at-large:

- A. All Board members-at-large shall be active members in good standing in NEMA.
- B. Two of the four Board members-at-large shall be elected annually for two-year terms.

- C. Board members-at-large assume duties at the beginning of each fiscal year.
- D. Any Board member-at-large may be removed from office when, in the judgment of a quorum of the Executive Board, the best interest of the Association will be served by such removal.

Section 4: Meetings:

- A. The Executive Board shall convene at least four times annually in addition to the annual business meeting of the general membership at the fall NLA/NEMA Conference. The four NEMA Board meetings will be set for the fiscal year at the summer retreat.
- B. Additional meetings may also be called by the president or by a majority vote of the Executive Board members, and shall be set annually at the summer retreat.
- C. Executive Board meetings shall be open to the membership, but the Executive Board shall be permitted to adjourn into closed session as deemed necessary.
- D. A quorum shall be a simple majority of the Executive Board membership.

**Article VII - Election of Officers and Board Members-at-Large**

An election of officers and board members shall be held by ballot, unless there are no contested races. The candidate receiving a simple majority of votes for each office shall be elected. In case of a tie, the Executive Board, with the exception of the president, shall break the tie by vote. (Specific guidelines, as outlined in Bylaws Article IX, shall be followed.)

**Article VIII - Meetings**

- Section 1: The Association shall convene annually, either individually or in cooperation with other organizations.
- Section 2: The members of the Association present at any regular meeting or special meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 3: A majority vote by the members present at a meeting shall carry a motion.

**Article IX - Amendments to Constitution**

Section 1: Changes in the Constitution may be presented in writing to the secretary by a member(s) thirty days prior to the annual business meeting of the Association. The secretary will disseminate the proposal for discussion. The proposal will be discussed at the annual business meeting.

Two notices will be disseminated to the membership. The first will be distributed within two months of the annual business meeting when the proposal was initially presented. The second will be sent within six months of the first notice. A ballot to approve or disapprove the proposed change(s) will be available with the second notice.

Section 2: Amendments to the Constitution of the Association shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority.