

Constitution and Bylaws of the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators (SCABSE)

Constitution of the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 – Name

The name of this organization shall be the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators.

Section 2 – Purpose

The purpose of this organization is to provide a network of communication for all Educators of South Carolina; to enhance their skills and capabilities for improving the quality of education for all children and students, particularly African-American Children; to provide a mechanism for facilitating the development of skills and techniques of the membership; and to facilitate the resolving of problems commonly perceived.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Any person who serves in an administrative, teaching, supportive, supervisory, policy position, or who is associated with any phase of educational work shall be eligible for active membership. The educational service for these educators may be in a public or non-public school; regional, state, national, or federal educational agency or association; college or university. Students, parents and other stakeholders may be members.

- a) A member is in good standing when the payment of current dues has been confirmed.
- b) Any library, professional organization, governmental agency or other institution wishing to support SCABSE and to receive such publications as authorized by the Executive Board may become an affiliate member.
- c) Affiliate dues and membership dues shall be \$40.00 for each year. Changes in the dues shall be recommended by the Executive Board and approved by the membership.

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

The general officers of the Alliance shall be a president, president-elect, treasurer, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and historian/parliamentarian. All others shall be elected from among the Alliance membership. No two general offices shall be held by the same person.

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ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall be comprised of the elected officers of the Alliance (Article III), the immediate past president, presidents of satellite chapters and the chairperson(s) from each committee. The executive director shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint any and all committees necessary to assist with the work of the Alliance.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

Section 1 – Executive Board

The Executive Board shall meet monthly. Other meetings may be called by the President of the organization as necessary, or must be called by the President upon the request of a majority of the Executive Board members.

Section 2 – Meetings of the General Membership

There shall be at least one general membership meeting per year.

Section 3 – Special Meetings of the General Membership

Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the President upon approval of the majority of members of the Executive Board or upon the written request (submitted to the President) of at least one-third of the general membership in good standing. Written notice of such special meetings shall be mailed to the membership at least fifteen days prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 4 – Quorum

For the purpose of conducting business at a duly called meeting, a quorum shall consist of ten percent of the membership. For the purpose of conducting business at an executive committee meeting, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the executive committee, at least six persons. (See Article V – Section 3-c).

ARTICLE VII – SATELLITES

The Executive Board shall determine the establishment and good standing of branches (also referred to as satellites of SCABSE@ in various locations across the State of South Carolina. These branches shall function to extend the mission, outreach services, and programs of the organization and to develop and enhance its membership base.

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Educators (SCABSE)**

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1 – Amendment Proposals

Amendments may be proposed by petition signed by at least one-third of the members in good standing or by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

- a) Such petition must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board.
- b) Such petition must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board.

Section 2 – Adoption

To be adopted, amendments must be approved by two-thirds of the official votes cast by members who are in good standing.

ARTICLE IX – RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution shall be ratified by a simple majority of the voting assembly.

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Bylaws of the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators

ARTICLE I – PURPOSE

The purpose of the Bylaws is to provide the technical detail needed to implement the provisions of the constitution and to assure the orderly and effective functioning of the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators shall be open to those persons who meet qualifications set forth in the constitution. Types of membership shall consist of:

Section I – Individual Membership

- a) Active Membership
Any interested person employed by a public or private educational institution in the state of South Carolina, including TERI participants.
- b) Retired Membership
Any person who has retired from employment in a public or private educational institution in the state of South Carolina.
- c) Student Membership
Any person who is a full time student in a college or university in education or a related field and not eligible for active membership shall be eligible for student membership.
- d) Honorary Membership
The Executive Board shall have the right to confer honorary membership by a majority vote of the Executive Board.
- e) Affiliate membership
Any persons or organization not provided for in the other classifications.

Section 2 – Rights and Privileges

- a) Active and retired members of the Alliance shall be entitled to all rights and privileges including the right to vote and hold office.
- b) Affiliate, honorary, and student members shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of the Alliance as determined by the Executive Board except the right to vote and hold office.

ARTICLE III – DUES

Section 1 – Dues

Annual membership dues shall be set by the Board and approved by the membership. Membership fees will be due on January 31 of the year.

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ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Section 1 – Eligibility of Officers

Active and retired members of the organization in good standing shall be eligible for election to the office of president, president-elect, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, and historian/parliamentarian. A member is in good standing when he/she has paid his/her membership dues.

Section 2 – Term of Office

Officers shall serve a two-year term. No officer shall serve more than two terms; unless there is a recommendation from the Executive Board and the Nominating Committee to the general body that an officer is offered as a candidate for an additional term(s).

Section 3 – Duties of Officers

a) **President**

The President shall have all general powers and the duties which are generally vested in the office of President as defined by Robert's Rules of Order; shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Board and general assemblies; shall appoint the chairpersons of all committees, standing and ad hoc; shall appoint individuals to fulfill responsibilities deemed necessary to accomplish the objectives of the organization; shall serve as the principal spokesperson of the organization.

b) **President-Elect**

The President-Elect shall carry out the duties of the president in the president's absence and shall perform such other functions as may be set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws. The President-Elect will assume the office of President at the completion of his/her elected term.

c) **Recording Secretary**

The Recording Secretary shall maintain an accurate record of the proceedings of the Organization and shall pass this material on, in good condition, to succeeding secretaries.

d) **Corresponding Secretary**

The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct correspondence on behalf of the Organization as directed by the President or Executive Board and shall maintain an accurate list of membership.

e) **Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall receive and record all monies received by the Organization and disburse all monies owed by the Organization as directed by the Executive

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Board. The treasurer shall also report on the final status of the Organization at every regularly scheduled meeting.

f) **Historian/Parliamentarian**

The Historian shall maintain an accurate record of the activities and accomplishments of the organization as well as maintain order and ensure the use of Parliamentary Procedure for all meetings.

Section 4 – Method of Selection

a) Officers of the Alliance shall be elected by a vote of the membership. The election shall be held during a general meeting.

b) **Nominations**

1. The Nominating Committee appointed by the President shall present a slate of officers to the general membership for consideration.
2. Members may make additional nominations from the floor.
3. **Installation of Officers**
Newly elected officers will be recognized and installed at the conclusion of the general meeting at which they were elected.

Section 5 – Vacancies

a) **President**

In the absence of the President, either temporarily or indefinitely, the President-Elect shall assume the responsibilities of the office.

b) **President-Elect**

Should the office of President-Elect become permanently vacant, the President shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy. The appointment shall be confirmed by a majority of the Executive Board.

c) **Recording Sec., Corresponding Sec., Treasurer or Historian/Parliamentarian**

Should the office of recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer or historian become permanently vacant, the president of the Organization shall appoint a replacement. Such appointment shall be approved by a simple majority Executive Board. The president may also call for an immediate election to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 – Composition

The Executive Board shall be comprised of the elected officers of the Alliance, the immediate past President, Committee Chairs, presidents of satellites, and others appointed by the President.

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Section 2 – Term of Office

Officers shall serve a two-year term. No officer shall serve more than two terms; unless there is a recommendation from the Executive Board and the Nominating Committee to the general body that an officer is offered as a candidate for an additional term(s).

All Board members shall serve a two-year term.

Section 3 – Chairperson of the Executive Board

The President of the Alliance shall serve as Chairperson of the Executive Board. In the absence of the President, the President-Elect shall serve as Chairperson of the Board. Should both the President and President-Elect be unable to attend an Executive Board meeting, the President shall designate one of the other Board members to preside at the meeting.

The Executive Board shall review and approve all policies and practices of the Organization and, in all matters, serve as the official body to speak on behalf of the organization.

- a) The Executive Board shall have the power to review and determine the eligibility of all applicants for membership except that no individual be denied membership on the basis of any identifying characteristic(s).
- b) The Executive Board shall be called into session at least monthly or as determined by the president.
- c) The quorum shall consist of a majority of the Executive Board (at least six members). A quorum is not necessary for a meeting to proceed, but necessary for a vote to take place.
- d) Each Board member shall have one vote and official action shall require a majority vote of the members present.
- e) The Executive Board shall determine the time and place of meetings.

Section 5 – Attendance

If any member of the Executive Board has excessive absences, his or her Board position will be considered by the Executive Board. When deemed appropriate, the Executive Board by simple majority vote may require the Board member to vacate his or her position.

Vacancy of Board Positions

Officers – Refer to Article IV, Section 5 of the Bylaws.

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ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

Section 1 – Standing Committees

The Standing Committees of the Alliance shall be:

- a) Awards and Scholarship Committee:
This committee oversees the SCABSE Awards and Scholarship programs. It manages the application processes, establishes selection criteria for recipients, and orchestrates ceremonies.
- b) Collaborative Partners Committee:
Tasked with securing partnerships (sponsors), this committee seeks financial contributions, services, and products to support SCABSE's initiatives. It plays a vital role in establishing and maintaining beneficial relationships with external organizations and individuals. Additionally, the committee actively engages in fundraising to support the scholarships and awards programs.
- c) Communication and Engagement Committee:
Responsible for disseminating information about SCABSE and its events, this committee utilizes various communication channels, including social media. Its primary goal is to engage both members and the general public, fostering a sense of community within the organization.
- d) Membership and Benefits Committee:
This committee is dedicated to the recruitment and retention of SCABSE members, ensuring a robust and diverse membership base. It will actively pursue and secure benefits for members, maintaining an up-to-date membership database.
- e) Professional Learning Committee:
With a focus on planning and executing professional learning opportunities, including the annual Winter Conference and the Leadership Academy, this committee ensures the continual growth and development of SCABSE members. The President-elect serves as the chairperson for this committee.
- f) Public Policy Committee:
Focused on shaping SCABSE's political platform, this committee keeps members informed about legislation affecting educators and students. Its role includes advocacy, policy development, and maintaining awareness of political issues impacting the educational landscape.
- g) Satellites Networking Committee:
Designed to facilitate collaboration among satellite presidents and presidents-elect, this committee provides a platform for mutual support, joint planning, and problem-solving. The immediate past president serves as the chairperson for this committee.

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g) Young Minds Engagement Committee:

This committee concentrates on addressing the social and emotional needs of youth and college students. It provides life skills preparation and professional learning opportunities for youth and college students, especially those aspiring to become educators.

Section 2 – Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of each committee are to implement the objectives of the committee as established by the Executive Board. Each committee shall submit a written report to the membership at a general meeting.

Section 3 – Chairpersons of Standing Committees

The chairperson of each Standing committee shall be appointed by the President and approved by a simple majority of the Executive Board and shall serve a term of two years, but the chairperson may be reappointed for additional terms if the need for continuity of function is deemed essential to the purpose of the committee.

Section 4 – Ad Hoc (Special Committees)

Special committees may be established by the President with the approval of a simple majority of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII – SATELLITES

Section 1 – Structure

All satellites shall follow the following structure:

- a) No fewer than twenty (20) eligible persons may submit a written request to the Executive Board to organize a SCABSE@ under the banner and insignia of SCABSE.
- b) Upon approval of the Executive Board, such persons shall be authorized to establish the branch. The organizing group shall, in accordance with the constitution/bylaws, and within ninety (90) days of notification, elect a president, president-elect, treasurer, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and historian/parliamentarian.
- c) The new satellite president shall appoint the members to all Standing Committees. The committees are: Membership, Resource, Outreach/Staff Development, Communications, and Social/Recognition. Their terms shall be two years and may be extended as per constitutional provisions.
- d) All officers and Standing committee chairpersons shall comprise the satellite Executive Board.

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- e) The president of SCABSE@ shall serve on the Executive board of SCABSE.
- f) The president may serve or appoint one (1) representative to serve on the Annual Conference Committee.
- g) Membership in SCABSE is required to join a SCABSE@. Each SCABSE@ is empowered to impose local dues, not to exceed one half (.50) of the dues paid to SCABSE, to assist with local operations and initiatives.
- h) Each SCABSE@ may submit an annual budget request to SCABSE for assistance with funding of staff development and outreach activities.
- i) Each SCABSE@ is required to conduct at least two (2) high quality, broad appeal staff development/enlightenment/educational initiatives each year. The theme and content shall be aligned with the SCABSE and agenda.
- j) Each SCABSE@ shall function in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of SCABSE, operate under the umbrellas of its 501©(3) status, and comply with all state and federal annual audit requirements through the parent organization.

ARTICLE VIII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert’s Rule of Order, latest edition, shall be the authority governing proceedings in meeting of this organization, so far as such rules are not in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution and these Bylaws and such special rules or order as this Alliance might hereafter adopt.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Amendments may be proposed to the Executive Board by petition signed by one-third (1/3) of the members present or by a majority vote of the Executive Board. Upon receipt of petition, the Executive Board shall submit the question to a vote of the membership at the earliest opportunity and in the most feasible manner. To be adopted, amendments must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the official votes cast by members who are in good standing.

ARTICLE X – RATIFICATION

The Bylaws shall become ratified by a simple majority of the members present and in good standing.