

GPEA

Grosse Pointe Education Association

MEA

Michigan Education Association

<http://www.mea.org/>

Bylaws and Constitution—

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I—RULES OF ORDER

- Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the authority of all questions of procedure not specifically stated in the Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE II—ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

- Examples of Association Meetings
 - Executive Board
 - Board of Delegates
 - General Membership
 - Special Association Meetings
 - Negotiations Committee
 - Crisis Committee
 - Elections Committee
 - Nominations Committee

1. All general membership meetings shall be called by the President or by a majority of the Board of Delegates as needed. At least twenty-four (24) hours notice is required, specifying date, time place and purpose of such meetings.
2. The Executive Board of this Association shall meet at least once each month during the school year. After establishment of a calendar, the membership shall be notified of dates, times and place of meetings.
3. The Board of Delegates shall meet at least once a month during the school year.
4. After establishment of a calendar, the membership shall be notified of dates, times, and place of meetings.
5. All meetings of the Association shall be open to members, except for the reasons set forth in MEA Administrative Policies. An Association member shall be permitted to address a meeting of the Executive Board or the Board of Delegates under rules established by those bodies.
6. Member, membership and/or any phrase including member, membership set forth in the By-Laws shall refer to GPEA bargaining unit member(s) who are members in good standing of the GPEA, MEA/NEA as defined by the MEA Constitution, By-Laws and/or Administrative Policy.

ARTICLE III—QUORUM

7. Quorum for a general membership meeting shall be twenty percent (20%) of the total active membership in good standing.
 1. However, when a general membership meeting is called for the purpose of voting to withhold services, a majority of the membership in good standing is required for quorum purpose.
 2. A quorum for the Board of Delegates meetings shall be a majority of the elected members.
 3. A quorum for the Executive Board meetings shall be two-thirds (2/3) of the elected officers.

ARTICLE IV—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

President/ MEA-NEA RA Delegate -- The powers and duties of the President shall be those of the chief executive office of the Association.

1. **The President** shall:
 - a. Represent the Association as spokesperson on matters of policy or assign at his/her discretion responsibility for such.
 - b. Preside over and prepare the agenda for the meetings of the governing bodies and the general membership meetings and shall be empowered to call special meetings of those bodies.
 - c. Attend the regular and special meetings of the Board of Education or make appropriate arrangements to be represented.
 - d. Appoint all committees and chairpersons with the consent of the Executive Board and shall serve as an ex officio member without vote on all committees so authorized except those pertaining to the election of officers.
 - e. Prepare with the assistance of the Treasurer the annual budget for submission to the Executive Board and subsequently to the Board of Delegates, and shall administer with the Treasurer the budget of the Association; and shall sign jointly with the Treasurer for disbursements from the authorized accounts, or special disbursements authorized by the Executive Board or Board of Delegates, and shall arrange for annual audit all of the Association financial records and submit the results to the Executive Board.
 - f. Serve as a member of the Negotiating Team.
 - g. Meet regularly with the general membership.
 - h. Serve as a delegate to the MEA and NEA Representative Assemblies.
 - i. Represent the Association by attending local, regional, state, and national meetings/conferences or delegate such responsibilities at his/her discretion.
 - j. Review annually the policies of the Association for submission to the Executive Board and Board of Delegates.
 - k. Perform the duties as enumerated in the Constitution and Bylaws of this Association and the Master Agreement with the Board of Education and such other duties as are customarily assumed by the chief executive officer of an association.

2. **The Vice President for Professional Rights and Responsibilities/ MEA-NEA RA Delegate** shall:
 - a. Serve the unexpired term of the President if the President is unable to continue in office, until an election can be held.
 - b. Act for the President when the President is unable to perform the duties of the office.
 - c. Process and be responsible for all grievances as provided by the Master Agreement.
 - d. Serve as a member of the Negotiating Team.
 - e. Serve as a delegate to the MEA and NEA Representative Assemblies
 - f. Be authorized to sign vouchers and two-signature checks when necessary.
 - g. Perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.

3. The Vice President of Negotiations/ MEA-NEA Successor Delegate shall:

- a. Keep written records of contractual concerns.
- b. Serve as Chairperson of the Negotiations Committee and shall be a member of the Negotiating Team.
- c. Coordinate all activities concerning negotiations, and shall insure that written records are maintained as a summary of all contract review and negotiations sessions with the Board of Education Representatives. A copy of these records will be filed in the Association offices.
- d. Be authorized to sign vouchers and two-signature checks when necessary.
- e. Perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.
- f. Serve as a Successor Delegate to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies

4. The High School Liaison Board Member/MEA-NEA Successor Delegate shall be elected by members assigned to the high schools. This officer shall ensure that the interests of the constituency are advocated. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.

5. The Middle School Liaison Board Member/MEA-NEA Successor Delegate shall be elected by members assigned to the middle schools. This officer shall ensure that the interests of that constituency are advocated. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.

6. The Elementary School Liaison Board Member/MEA-NEA Successor Delegate shall be elected by members assigned to elementary schools. This officer shall ensure that the interests of that constituency are advocated. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.

7. The Special Education Liaison Board Member/MEA-NEA Successor Delegate shall be elected by the members assigned to that unit. This officer shall ensure that the interests of that constituency are advocated. He/she shall perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.

8. The Delegates to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies (2 positions) shall:

- a. Attend the meetings of the Coordinating Council (6e) and of the Region (6) Council.
- b. Attend the MEA Representative Assembly and Region Caucus, and attend the NEA Representative Assembly and Michigan Caucus.
- c. Regularly inform the Executive Board and the Board of Delegates of Local, region, state, and national issues and, as appropriate, report to the general membership.
- d. Report to the Board of Delegates and the Association membership on the actions of the MEA and NEA Representative Assemblies.
- e. Be responsible for polling the Board of Delegates and/or the membership on significant issues as defined by them that will be voted upon at the Region Council and MEA and NEA Representative Assemblies.
- f. If an MEA/NEA Representative Assembly Delegate is unable to attend a meeting or assembly, or additional Delegates positions are added prior to an election, the Liaisons shall serve as alternates in an order determined annually by the Executive Board.
- g. Perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to them by the President.

9. The Secretary/ MEA-NEA Successor Delegate shall:

- a. Take and write the minutes of all the Executive Board, the Board of Delegates and the General Membership meetings. These minutes shall be offered for approval at a subsequent meeting of those bodies. All minutes shall be kept by the Secretary in a note book as the official record of the Association and shall be available for inspection by any member thereof at the end of each school year these minutes shall be filed in the GPEA office.
 - b. Keep a record of the attendance of the Association Representatives at the Board of Delegates meetings and inform the Representatives and the Executive Board when a member's attendance does not meet the rules of the Bylaws.
 - c. Perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.
 - d. Serve as a Successor Delegate to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies
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10. The Treasurer/ MEA-NEA Successor Delegate shall:

- a. Assist in the preparation of the annual budget of the Association.
 - b. Deposit funds of the Association and disburse them as provided in the budget.
 - c. Write checks for properly signed vouchers and keep a ledger of all such disbursements.
(Vouchers must be signed by the President or one of the Vice Presidents.)
 - d. Be authorized along with the President and the two Vice Presidents to sign two-signature checks and to sign for withdrawal from the Association's savings account.
 - e. Prepare and keep copies of all records, forms and reports that are or may be required by the State of Michigan or the Federal Government Internal Revenue Service.
 - f. Send MEA-NEA dues monies at regular intervals and keep such records as may be required by them.
 - g. Perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.
 - h. Serve as a Successor Delegate to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies
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11. The PAC Chair/MEA-NEA Successor Delegate—shall:

- a. Encourage participation in and awareness of political action and responsibility by local officers, faculty and staff;
- b. Aid in identification, selection, and retention of qualified public officials;
- c. Promote the objectives and interests of the organization through a coordinated political action program;
- d. Coordinate establishment rules governing fund-raising and distribution, endorsement of candidates and intra-organizational matters.
- e. Perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate and are delegated to him/her by the President.
- f. Serve as a Successor Delegate to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies

ARTICLE V—POWERS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The Executive Board of this Association shall:

- a. Implement policies, goals, and objectives established by the Board of Delegates.
- b. Meet at least once each month during the school year and may be called for a special meeting by the President or by a majority of the officers.
- c. Constitute rules and procedures for Executive Board and Board of Delegates meetings.
- e. Receive all reports of the President, other officers and committees, and other officers and staff members of the Michigan Education Association, and as appropriate, transmit with its recommendations said reports to the Board of Delegates.
- f. Present the tentative budget with recommendations to the Board of Delegates.
- g. At its meeting in May, receive and act upon an annual audit of Association financial records.
- h. Act as a Grievance Committee in the processing of grievances as provided in the Master Agreement.
- i. Be vested with all powers delegated by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Grosse Pointe Education Association. Exercise of the aforementioned powers of the Executive Board is subject to review by the Board of Delegates.
- i. Any member who is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the Executive Board (except in the case of serious illness) shall be dropped from office and the position declared vacant.
- j. Serve as Delegates or Successor Delegates to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies
- k. Have the authority, by majority vote of its body, to allow election by acclamation in the event that the number of candidates is equal to the number of positions to be filled for any elected position(s).
- l. Have the authority, by majority vote of its body, to allow electronic voting of Executive Board positions.
- m. Have the authority, by majority vote of its body, to allow electronic voting of Association Representatives.
- n. Have the authority, by majority vote of its body, to allow electronic voting of the members of the Negotiations Committee and Team.
- o. Have the authority, by majority vote of its body, to allow absentee ratification voting on a Master Agreement.
- p. Have the authority, by majority vote of its body, to allow an electronic ratification vote of a Master Agreement.

ARTICLE VI—RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

1. Association Representatives are elected on the basis of one (1) AR for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof, allowing each building or unit at least two (2) representatives.
2. The Association Representatives shall be elected annually by secret ballot during April or May in their respective buildings or units. The Head Building/Unit Association Representative is responsible for conducting the election.
3. The Association Representatives from each building or unit shall elect from their number by June 1, Head Building/Unit Association Representative for the following school year. This Head AR shall be the Association's chief representative in that building/unit and shall serve as coordinator for the building/unit concerning Association affairs and activities.

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4. The duties of the Association Representatives shall be to attend regular and special meetings of the Board of Delegates, call meetings of the building or unit membership to discuss Association business, conduct enrollment of members and provide communication between the members and the Board of Delegates and the Executive Board.
5. Association Building Representatives who miss three (3) consecutive Board of Delegates meetings shall, upon recommendation of the Executive Board and approval by the Board of Delegates, be removed from office. The building or unit affected shall be notified by the President and an election conducted by the other AR(s) to elect a new AR prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Delegates.

ARTICLE VII—POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DELEGATES

1. The Board of Delegates shall:
 - a. Meet at least once a month during the school year to conduct the business of the Association.
 - b. Approve the policies, goals and objectives of the Association.
 - c. Receive reports from the officers and committees of the Association.
 - d. Approve the annual budget and membership dues of the Association at its meeting in June.

ARTICLE VIII—NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE AND TEAM

1. During the school year in which negotiations are to occur, a Negotiations Committee shall be elected by the end of the first semester. It shall serve until a new Master Agreement has been achieved and ratified by the general membership.
2. The Negotiations Committee shall be composed of (1) representative per twenty-five (25) members or major factions thereof assigned to each represented unit, e.g. building, special education, elementary and/or other traveling teachers.
3. The Negotiations Committee shall be responsible for all data and information from the general membership concerning their desires for the Master Agreement. They shall be responsible for communications in their respective buildings concerning negotiations.
4. The Negotiations Committee shall choose the members of a Negotiating Team to represent the Association at formal contract negotiations with the Board of Education.
5. The members of the Negotiating Team shall be presented to the Executive Board for its consent, then presented to the Board of Delegates for its consent,
6. The Negotiating Team shall serve as negotiators until a new Master Agreement has been ratified by the general membership.
7. The Negotiating Team shall be chosen by March 1 of the year in which negotiations are to occur. Formal negotiations with the Board of Education shall commence no earlier than May 1, or as mandated by law.
8. The Negotiating Team shall be composed of at least six (6) teacher members, three of whom shall be the Vice President for Negotiations, the President, and the Vice President for Professional Rights and Responsibilities, and the MEA Executive Director assigned to the unit.
9. The Team shall select one member to be chief negotiator.
10. The Negotiating Team shall be responsible for negotiating a new Master Agreement with the Board of Education.
11. The Team shall report regularly to the Negotiations Committee, the Executive Board, and the Board of Delegates.

ARTICLE IX—RATIFICATION OF MASTER AGREEMENT

1. Only a Tentative Agreement agreed to by an officially impaneled bargaining team may be submitted to membership for a ratification vote.
 - a. The new agreement or subsequent changes shall be presented to the membership at least five (5) calendar days prior to a general membership meeting called for the express purpose of discussing the proposed agreement.
 - b. Ratification of a Tentative Agreement
 - i. The ratification vote shall take place at a subsequent general membership meeting called no earlier than five (5) calendar days after the general membership meeting discussed above.
 - ii. Those who may vote are all those who are dues paying members as of the first of the calendar month in which the ratification election takes place.
 - iii. New teachers may not vote unless they are dues paying members on the above date.
 - iv. No provision shall be made for absentee ballots.
 - v. Votes shall be tabulated at the election site as soon as the polls close in the presence of the general membership.
 - vi. The President shall appoint members of the most recent Nominating and Election Committees to conduct the election and to do the tabulating. The results shall be made known immediately.
 - vii. An affirmative vote of a majority of the GPEA members voting is necessary for ratification of a new contract.
 - c. A Tentative Agreement or subsequent changes in the Master Agreement shall be declared ratified upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the Association's members present and voting

ARTICLE X—OTHER COMMITTEES

1. The Executive Board and/or the Board of Delegates may direct the President to appoint such committees as they may deem are necessary from time to time. All such appointments shall be approved by the Executive Board.
2. It is the duty of the President to appoint members of such committees, as explained in (1).

ARTICLE XI—NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

1. The elections procedures and guidelines as established by the Michigan Education Association for local associations may be followed in conducting the election of officers or the Executive Board, or the Elections Committee, by designation of the Executive Board, may develop its own procedures and guidelines provided said procedures and guidelines are fair and transparent and not in violation of the MEA Constitution and By-Laws.
 - a. Care shall be taken by the Association officers, the Nominating Committee, and the Election Committee to assure adherence to the principle of one person, one vote.
 - b. An election time line shall be developed by the President and presented to the Board of Delegates no later than at their February meeting which shall culminate in the election of officers being held in April.
2. **Nominations**
 - a. The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least five (5) members which shall be broadly representative of the total membership.

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- b. The Committee members' names shall be presented to the Executive Board by the first meeting in February.
 - c. Any active member in good standing of the Association may nominate or be nominated for office. Names to be considered for a position on the list of candidates may be sent to the Nominating Committee under procedures established by them.
 - d. Members in good standing of the Association may also be nominated by a membership petition signed by fifteen (15) members and submitted to the Committee.
 - e. Candidates may be nominated from the floor at any Board of Delegates or General Membership meeting during the months of February and March.
 - f. It is the intent of this Association to nominate at least two (2) members **in good standing** for each office in contest.
 - g. The slate of officers shall be completed by April 1, and no additional nominations shall be accepted after that date.
 - h. The ballot shall include the designation of the officers being elected as alternate MEA/NEA Delegates, as provided in Article IV.
3. The Nominating Committee shall be in charge of campaign procedures and shall assure adherence to procedures outlined in the MEA Association Election Guidelines.
4. Upon completion of the election of officers of the Association, the Nominating Committee shall be dissolved, except that it may be recalled to conduct a contract ratification election.

5. Elections

- a. The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, shall appoint an Election Committee of at least five (5) members in good standing which shall be broadly representative of the total membership. The Committee shall establish election procedures that guarantee that all elections shall provide for open nominations by active members in good standing, secret ballot, voting procedures and preservation of ballots for at least one (1) year. The committee members; names shall be presented to the Executive Board by the first meeting in February.
- b. The Election Committee shall be responsible for conducting the GPEA election, the MEA Region election, and for tabulating and reporting the results there of.
- c. All members in good standing shall be eligible voters in the GPEA officer election in April.
 - i. This list shall be acquired from: MEA and checked by the person in charge of membership records.
- d. The Election Committee shall see that absentee ballots are available according to the Guidelines for all members in good standing who are on paid leaves and will be unable to vote on-site n the GPEA election.
 - i. The election shall be an on-site election held for one day only in April.
 - ii. Provision shall be made for voting at each site for a total of at least one hour during two or more periods of the Election Day.
 - iii. The Association Building Representatives shall serve as an ad hoc committee within their respective buildings/units and assist the Election Committee in holding the election as directed by them.
- e. The double envelope system of voting and locked ballot boxes, as described in the Guidelines, shall be used.
- f. The Election Committee shall tabulate the results of the election according to the Guidelines within three school days of the election.
- g. A winning candidate must secure a majority of the votes cast for that office.

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- h. In those situations wherein a candidate fails to secure a majority of the votes cast for that office, a runoff election between the top two candidates shall be conducted within a two school week period after the regularly scheduled election.
- i. The Election Committee shall officially notify all candidates of the election results within twenty-four (24) hours of the counting of the ballots.
- j. The Election Committee shall transmit to the President the official results, including the tabulations or tally, ballots, signature envelopes, voting membership list, and a list of the declared winners.
- k. These records shall be kept in the GPEA office for one year, in the custody of the President.
- l. The Executive Board shall certify by resolution the Election Committee report and publish the results of the election in the Association Newsletter. Upon completion of the three elections for which the Election Committee is responsible each year, the Committee shall be dissolved, except that it may be recalled to conduct a contract ratification election.
- m. An official report of the election of Representative Assembly Delegates and all officer(s) shall be filed by the President with the Michigan Education Association no later than ten (10) days following the election.
- n. The newly-elected President, Vice Presidents and Secretary shall assume their duties on July 1.
- o. The Delegates to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies, the Liaisons and the Treasurer shall take office on the first day of September following their election.
- p. The newly-elected President shall be a Delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly that takes place approximately when he/she assumes office, upon submission of his/her name as the alternate delegate for the outgoing President.
- q. Vacancies occurring when an officer resigns prior to March 1, effective at the end of the first year of a term, shall be filled at the regular election in April.
- r. Vacancies in one of the offices at other times shall be filled by appointment by the President with the consent of the Board of Delegates until the next general election, except for a vacancy in the office of President and or Representative Assembly Delegate.
- s. The Vice President for Professional Rights and Responsibilities shall temporarily fill a vacancy in the office of President until a special election is held.
 - i. A Representative Assembly Delegate vacancy shall be filled by the duly-elected alternate, as stated in Article IV.
- t. The special election to fill a vacancy in the office of President shall be conducted by the Executive Board within fifteen (15) school days after the position becomes vacant.
- u. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Executive Board may, by majority vote of its body, allow election by acclamation in the event that the number of candidates is equal to the number of positions to be filled for any elected position(s).
- v. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Executive Board may, by majority vote of its body, allow electronic voting of any elected position(s). In the event that the Executive Board votes to allow electronic voting for any elected position(s), the Election Committee shall develop electronic voting procedures that are fair and transparent and adhere to the MEA Association Election Guidelines.

ARTICLE XII—DUES

1. The dues of the Association shall consist of the total amount of local, region, state and national dues.
2. Local dues shall be established by a vote of the Board of Delegates at a meeting to be held in June.
3. All cash paying members must make at least 50% payment by November 1, of each fiscal year. If half payment is made, the remainder must be paid by December 31 of that same fiscal year.
4. Special assessments can be assessed only by a majority vote of the membership in a special election conducted by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XIII—AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to these Bylaws may be introduced by the membership by petition signed by ten (10) percent of the total active membership in good standing and submitted to the President.
2. Amendments to the Bylaws may also be introduced by the Board of Delegates or the Executive Board by majority vote.
3. Proposed bylaw amendments must be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those members in good standing present and voting at the Board of Delegates meeting.
4. Such amendments shall be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the Board after their introduction, providing that there shall be at least a delay of two (2) days.
5. A secret printed ballot shall be used. Unless otherwise provided, ratified amendments to the Bylaws shall have immediate effect.

CONSTITUTION OF GROSSE POINTE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

We, the professional educators of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, believing that we must institute our own self-government and secure proper recognition and responsibility for the well-being of our members, adopt this Constitution.

ARTICLE I: NAME

- The name of this organization shall be the Grosse Pointe Education Association an affiliated unit of the Michigan and National Education Associations.
- The Association shall be a nonprofit corporation organized in accordance with the laws of Michigan.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

- The objectives of this Association shall be the improvement of education and of the educational program of the Grosse Pointe Public School System; the advancement of the interests of education and of educators; the advancement and advocacy of the interests, concerns and rights of the Association members; and the promotion of the professional growth of its members.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons who meet the active membership requirements of the Michigan Education Association, may, upon payment of dues as herein provided, become active members of this Association with full rights and privileges of membership.

Section 2. Active members of this organization shall also be members of the Michigan Education Association and National Education Association.

Section 3. Member, membership and/or any phrase including member, membership set forth herein shall refer to GPEA bargaining unit member(s) who are members in good standing of the GPEA, MEA/NEA as defined by the MEA Constitution, By-Laws and/or Administrative Policy.

Section 3. 4No member shall be censured, suspended or expelled without a due process hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by the GPEA Executive Board sitting as a Board of Reference. Their decision shall be binding unless appealed to the GPEA Board of Delegates. Moves to censure, suspend or expel shall fail unless supported by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the body considering. The Board of Delegates' decision shall be binding unless appealed to the MEA Board of Reference as provided in the MEA Constitution.

ARTICLE IV: EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The elected officers of this Association shall be the President, Vice President for Professional Rights and Responsibilities, Vice President for Negotiations, High School Liaison, Middle School Liaison, Elementary School Liaison, Special Education Liaison, Delegates and one alternate of the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies, Secretary, and Treasurer. The immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Board as an ex officio member without voting power.

Section 2. The Executive Board of this Association shall be composed of those officers enumerated in Article IV, Section 1, who shall have full voting rights, except the President who shall be empowered to vote only in case of a tie. Members of this Association appointed or elected to the region, state, or national boards or offices shall be ex officio members, of the Executive Board without voting power.

Section 3. All elected officers of this Association shall be elected to a two-year term of office. They shall be eligible for reelection to office.

Section 4. The President, Vice President for Negotiations, Secretary, High School Liaison, Special Education Liaison, and one delegate to the MEA- NEA Representative Assemblies shall be elected to a two-year term in even numbered years beginning in 1986.

- All other officers shall be elected to a one-year term in 1986 and a two-year term in odd numbered years thereafter.

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Section 5. The officers of this Association shall take office on July 1, except for Delegates and Alternates to the MEA-NEA Representative Assemblies who shall take office on September 1.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DELEGATES

- **Section 1.** The governing body of the Grosse Pointe Education Association shall be known as the Board of Delegates, which shall consist of the officers and Association Representatives. Each member shall possess full voting power.
- **Section 2.** The ethnic representation of the Board of Delegates shall be in compliance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Education Association and the Michigan Education Association. In the event that the ethnic representation is less than required by the Constitution and Bylaws of the MEA and NEA, rules and procedures shall be established by the Board of Delegates for an at-large election to ensure proportionate ethnic minority representation.

ARTICLE VI: DIRECT LEGISLATION

- **Section 1.** Initiative and referendum. The rights of popular initiative and referendum shall rest with the active membership of the Association. Upon receipt of a petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the active membership of the Association, the President shall announce a general meeting or ballot for the purposes presented in the petition. A majority of the total active membership shall be required for its adoption, which shall take effect thirty (30) days later.
- **Section 2.** Recall. The right of recall of an elected officer or Association Representative shall rest with the electing body. Upon receipt of a petition signed by at least one-third (1/3) of the membership of the electing body, the President shall announce an election by the electing body as indicated on the petition within fifteen (15) school days for the purposes presented in the established Bylaws shall be conducted. A majority of the total active membership in the electing body shall be required for the adoption of a recall petition, which shall take effect ten (10) school days later. In the event the President is recalled, the Vice President for Professional Rights and Responsibilities shall assume the office of the President until an election can be held as provided in the Bylaws. All other officer vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the President and approval by the Board of Delegates until the next regular election. In the event a Representative Assembly Delegate is recalled, he/she shall be succeeded by the Alternate and a new Alternate elected. In the event of a recall of an Association Representative, the President shall conduct an election within fifteen (15) school days in that building or unit to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP AND FISCAL YEAR

The membership and fiscal years shall be September 1 through August 31.

ARTICLE VIII: AUTHORITY

- Any part of the Constitution and/or Bylaws which is in conflict with the MEA and/or NEA Constitution and/or Bylaws will be declared null and void.
- Any reference in the Constitution and/or Bylaws which refers to the MABO known as MEA/NEA Local 1 will be declared null and void.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be introduced by the membership by petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the total active membership and submitted to the president. Amendments to the Constitution may also be introduced by a majority vote of the Executive Board or the Board of Delegates. These proposed amendments shall be acted upon at a subsequent ballot election within at least thirty (30) school days of submission. A copy of the proposed amendment(s) together with the recommendations of the Executive Board and the Board of Delegates shall be sent to each member of the Association at least ten (10) school days prior to voting. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the active membership voting is required to adopt the proposed amendment, which shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless otherwise provided.

ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Association, any assets remaining, after the payment of all expenses shall be distributed to its successor so long as the successor is affiliated with the Michigan Education Association or to the Michigan Education Association, a Michigan nonprofit corporation exempt from tax under Section 501(C)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

DATE RATIFIED: _____

DATE AMENDED: _____