

## **AkASL Constitution**

**Last Revised February 2018. See Amendments page for a full list of amendments.**

*AkASL is an independent association which is also a roundtable of the Alaska Library Association (AkLA) and an affiliate of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL).*

*The Puffin is the AkASL logo.*

*"The mission of the Alaska Association of School Librarians is to advance a high standard for the school library profession and the library/information programs in the schools of Alaska."*

### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

A. The name of this organization shall be the "Alaska Association of School Librarians, hereinafter referred to as the "Association".

### **ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES**

- A. The objectives of the Association shall be:
1. To advance a high standard for the school library profession and the library/information program in the schools of Alaska.
  2. To promote the development of continuing education activities in order to facilitate the development of professional skills and the extension of professional knowledge.
  3. To encourage elected officials, administrators, teachers and library/information specialists to provide the best possible library/media experiences for all students in the state of Alaska.
  4. To promote public understanding of the importance of library/information programs and libraries in the education of all students.
  5. To support the inherent right of the individual to have access to ideas and information.

### **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Membership in this organization shall be confined to those who have paid their dues in the following classes:
1. Active membership. Alaska school librarians who currently teach, direct, coordinate or supervise in the field of school library information services are individual members and entitled to vote.
  2. Honorary membership. Individuals who have served the profession with distinction shall become voting members for life with the approval of the Executive Board.
  3. Associate membership. Retired Alaskan school librarians, individuals in school library paraprofessional positions, librarians working in associated fields, library friends and supporters, unemployed or out of state librarians, and students are associate members and entitled to a vote.

4. Commercial membership. Any commercial organization interested in library service shall be without vote.
5. Courtesy membership. A one-year complimentary, non-voting membership may be granted upon approval of the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT**

##### **A. Executive Board.**

1. Authority. The Executive Board shall have the power and authority to manage the Association's property and to regulate and govern its affairs. The E Board shall determine policies of the Association and shall take such actions as it considers necessary to carry out the objectives of the Association
  2. Members.
    - a. The Board shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, a representative elected from each of the four regions of the state, the Membership Coordinator, the Puffin Editor, the Battle of the Books chair(s), the Webmaster and the Grants Coordinator. The State School Library Media Coordinator shall be an ex-officio member with the privilege of attending all meetings.
    - b. Representatives shall be elected from each of the four regions of the state:
    - c. Region 1: Alaska Gateway, Fairbanks, Delta/Greely, Bering Strait, Copper River, Denali, Galena, Nenana, Nome, Kuspuk, Lake and Peninsula, North Slope, Northwest Arctic, Tanana, Yukon Flats, Yukon Koyukuk, Aleutians East, Bristol Bay, Dillingham, Iditarod, Kashanamiut, Kodiak, Lower Kuskokwim, Pribilof, Southwest, St. Mary's, Unalaska, Yupiit
    - d. Region 2: Mat-Su and Kenai
    - e. Region 3: Anchorage
    - f. Region 4 : Annette Island, Chatham, Chugach, Cordova, Craig, Haines, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Juneau, Kake, Ketchikan, Klawock, Pelican, Petersburg, Sitka, Skagway, Southeast Island, Valdez, Wrangell, Yakutat
  3. AkLA Liaison. The President or his/her designee shall serve as liaison to the AkLA Board on behalf of the Association.
  4. Chair.
    - a. The President shall serve as Chair of the E Board.
    - b. The President shall appoint a Chair for each committee, with the approval of the Board. The President shall serve as a member of all committees.
  5. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of 60% of elected members.
- ##### **B. Officers.**
1. Elected Officers. President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, Grants Coordinator, and four Regional Representatives.
  2. Voting. Balloting shall be conducted by e-mail not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall be elected to each office.
  3. Term of Office.
    - a. The President is elected to serve a three year term, the first as President Elect, the second as President, and the third as Past President. The President-elect is elected from among the current and past board members.
    - b. The Secretary shall be elected to serve for two years.

- c. The Regional Representatives shall be elected to serve for two years. The positions will be staggered so that Region 1 and 2 are elected on even years and Region 3 and 4 are elected on odd years.
  - d. A treasurer shall be elected to serve for a three year term with the third year as a past-treasurer consultant. A new treasurer shall be elected at the end of the second year to begin the position under the guidance of the past treasurer.
  - e. The Webmaster, Puffin Editor, and Battle of the Books Chair are appointed by the President and confirmed by the E Board and serve at their pleasure.
  - f. The Membership Coordinator shall be elected to serve for two years.
  - g. The Grants Coordinator shall be elected to serve for two years.
- 4. Vacancies. In the event that an elected officer shall be unable to serve out his term, the Executive Board shall appoint a successor to complete that term. If the office of President becomes vacant, the President-Elect shall fill the office. A vacancy in the office of President-Elect shall be filled by the election process.
  - 5. Duties. Duties of the officers shall be described in the Association Policy Manual.

#### **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

- A. There shall be one or more meetings of the general membership annually, to be convened by the Executive Board. Such meetings shall be announced at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting, and the assembled members shall constitute a quorum.
- B. Any business of the Association may be transacted at a meeting of the Association, with the exception of the final ballot on amendments to this Constitution.
- C. There shall be regular meetings of the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE VI: VOTING**

- A. Voting privileges shall be exercised by all current active, honorary and associate members.
- B. All executive board members are voting members.

#### **ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES**

- A. Special Committees.
  - 1. The President shall establish special committees with the approval of the E Board.
  - 2. The powers and duties of each special committee will be determined at the time of the establishment by the President with the approval of the E Board.
  - 3. The length of time a special committee will function will be determined by the President and the E Board.
- B. Chair. The President shall appoint a Chair for each committee, with the approval of the E Board. The President shall serve as a member of all committees

#### **ARTICLE VIII: FISCAL YEAR**

- A. Dates. The Fiscal Year of the Association shall be July 1 through June 30.
- B. Dues. Dues shall be determined by the Executive Board.

### **ARTICLE IX: PARLIAMENTARY STANDING**

In parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the authority except in matters specifically provided for in this Constitution.

### **ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION**

- A. Proposals. Amendments to the Constitution may be initiated by:
  - 1. The Executive Board.
  - 2. A written petition to the E Board signed by fifteen (15) active members.
- B. Notice. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be sent to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the day of voting.
- C. Voting. The Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 majority of the members voting on a ballot.

### **ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION**

In the event that AkASL should cease to exist or perform its constitutional function, any assets, be they monetary or material, shall be conveyed to the Alaska Library Association by the last existing Executive Board.