

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH DAKOTA TECHNOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

We, a group of students in local chapters of the North Dakota Technology Student Association affiliated with TSA, recognize the need for and benefits to be derived from the promotion and improvements of Technology & Engineering Education in our schools and state and hereby resolve to organize a state association.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this association shall be the North Dakota Technology Student Association, referred to hereinafter as the association, or the North Dakota Technology Student Association (NDTSA)

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

This association is an organization of students enrolled in or previously enrolled in technology education in the middle/junior or senior high schools in the state of North Dakota, functioning through comparable local chapters and has its purposes:

1. To provide opportunities for development of leadership through active participation in chapter activities;
2. To encourage broader educational experiences through technology & engineering education activities;
3. To increase the knowledge and understanding of our technological society;
4. To assist chapter members in making informed and meaningful occupational choices;
5. To foster high standards of craftsmanship, scholarship, fellowship, and ethics;
6. To instill desirable habits and attitudes toward the American way of life in students and foster deep respect for dignity of work;
7. To promote a better understanding and greater appreciation of technology & engineering education in the school and community;
8. To develop intelligent buying and selling through consumer education;
9. To stimulate and develop a spirit of fair competition

ARTICLE III: DESCRIPTION

The association is a statewide organization of affiliated local chapters in middle/junior or senior high schools.

Any local chapter having a teacher-advisor, hereinafter described, and consisting of membership coming from a state accredited middle/junior or senior high school in the state of North Dakota, may be eligible to affiliate their chapter and be accepted into the association.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Membership in this association shall be classified as active and honorary.
- Section 2. Active membership shall be open to middle/junior and senior high school students enrolled or previously enrolled in technology education who are members in good standing in the local (state and nationally affiliated) chapter of the school in which they are enrolled.
- Section 3. Honorary membership in the state association may be bestowed upon school administrators, teachers, business or professional men and women and others who have outstanding contributions to the advancement of technology education as set forth in the purposes of this association upon the recommendation of the state advisor hereinafter described, and a majority affirmative vote of the executive committee.
- Section 4. Honorary membership in local chapters may be bestowed upon individuals upon the recommendation of the local teacher-advisor, hereinafter described, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the membership of the local chapter.
- Section 5. The fiscal and membership year shall be from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

ARTICLE V: VOTING

- Section 1. Local chapters shall exercise their voting privileges through voting delegates at the annual business meeting (annual conference).
- Section 2. The voting delegates shall be appointed annually by their local chapters. The number of voting delegates is described in the bylaws.

ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS

- Section 1. There shall be one annual business meeting of the association (at the annual conference) and one annual planning meeting of the association advisors.
- Section 2. Special meetings shall be determined by the executive committee based on the recommendation of the advisory council.
- Section 3. The executive committee shall meet at such time and place as the president, or state advisor may direct.
- Section 4. The advisory council shall meet at such time and place as the chairperson of the advisory council may direct.
- Section 5. Each local chapter shall determine the time and place of meetings of local chapters. It is recommended that there shall be a minimum of one meeting every other month of local chapters.

ARTICLE VII: STATE OFFICERS (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

- Section 1. Officers of the association shall consist of a president, 1st Vice President (elected from the senior high division), 2nd Vice President (elected from the junior/middle school division), Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, and Sergeant-at-Arms.
- Section 2. The executive committee of the association shall consist of the officers of the association. The state advisor is an ex-officio member of this committee.
- Section 3. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the 1st vice president shall automatically succeed to this office. The office of 1st vice president would then be declared vacant, and all affiliated chapters would be notified of said vacancy and be eligible to submit a candidate for consideration by the executive committee for the unexpired term. Local chapters will also be notified in the event of a vacancy in other elected offices so they can submit a candidate for consideration. The executive committee would review those candidates submitted and select a person to fill the vacancy.
- Section 4. All elected officers shall assume their duties at the end of the national conference and continue until the end of the next national conference.
- Section 5. No officer of the association may serve for more than two consecutive terms in the same office on the executive committee.

ARTICLE VIII: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Section 1. All officers shall be elected at the annual conference by a simple majority of all voting delegates.

ARTICLE IX: STATE ADVISOR

- Section 1. The State Supervisor of Technology & Engineering Education or his/her designee shall be the state advisor of the association.
- Section 2. The State Supervisor of Technology & Engineering Education or his/her designee shall serve as Executive Secretary of the association.

ARTICLE X: STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Section 1. The state advisory council provides advice to the executive committee at their request.
- Section 2. The state advisory council shall consist of at least five members composed of the state advisor and four local teacher-advisors. Three members constitute a quorum. The Executive Secretary may serve as an ex-officio member of the advisory council.
- Section 3. The local teacher-advisors serving on the council shall be elected by the local teacher-advisors of affiliated chapters.
- Section 4. The term of office of the advisory council members will be as follows:
a. All advisory council terms shall be for the duration of the member's qualification as a member.
b. An optional member will be selected from the NDTSA Alumni Association and approved by the executive committee. The alumni member will not have voting privileges but will have some influence in the council's proceedings.
c. No more than half of the advisory council will be new at any one time.
- Section 5. The members of the advisory council shall elect the chairperson of the advisory council for a term of one year.

ARTICLE XI: TEACHER ADVISORS

The local teacher-advisor(s) shall be certified in the field of technology & engineering education and teaches technology & engineering education subjects for the major portion of the school day.

ARTICLE XII: DUES

- Section 1. Dues for the state and national association shall be determined by the executive committee and are subject to the approval of the association. Said dues shall be paid by each active member of a local chapter to become affiliated with the association.

ARTICLE XIII: QUORUM

Two thirds of all the delegates (as described in the bylaws) registered at the annual conference shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

ARTICLE XIV: EMBLEM AND COLORS

- Section 1. The TSA Emblem is a rectangular shape with three parts. The middle section and largest part of the emblem contains the letters TSA in very large, bold print. The letters are white on a blue background. Below these letters and about 1/3 the size, is the name of the association – Technology Student Association – in white letters on a red background. The top portion contains the words “North Dakota” in white letters on a red background.
- a. The logo is a practical, modern, futuristic symbol that represents the association’s commitment to technology and its impact on the future.
- Section 2. The colors of TSA shall be scarlet (red), white and blue (navy).
- a. Scarlet (red) – represents the strength and determination of the technology education students and teachers to obtain their goal.
 - b. White- represents the high standards, morals, and religious beliefs we hold.
 - c. Blue (navy) – represents the sincerity of the technology education students and teachers in obtaining a greater knowledge of our technical world.

ARTICLE XV: CREED AND MOTTO

Section 1. The motto of the association will be: “**Learning to Live in a Technical World.**”

Section 2. The creed of the Technology Student Association will be:

“I believe that Technology Education holds an important place in my life in the technical world. I believe there is a need for the development of good attitudes concerning works, tools, materials, experimentation, and processes of industry.”

“Guided by my teachers, artisans from industry, and my own initiative, I will strive to do my best in making my school, community, state and nation better places in which to live.”

“I will accept the responsibilities that are mine. I will accept the theories that are supported by proper evidence. I will explore on my own for safer, more effective methods of working and living.”

“I will strive to develop a cooperative attitude and will exercise tact and respect for other individuals.”

“Through the work of my hands and mind, I will express my ideas to the best of my ability.”

“I will make it my goal to do better each day the task before me, and to be steadfast in my belief in my God, and my fellow Americans.”

ARTICLE XVI: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The constitution may be amended as follows: all proposed amendments to the constitution shall be submitted in writing to the state advisor and in turn to the executive committee in advance of the annual conference at which these are to be acted upon.

Section 2. If passed by a majority of the executive committee, the proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to each local chapter at the time of registration during the annual conference. Upon receiving a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present at the annual conference, the amendment shall become effective at the beginning of the next membership year.