PUYALLUP EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, and POLICIES

(Revision #12) - November, 2022

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CONSTITUTION of the Puyallup Education Association Revised-2007

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this association shall be the Puyallup Education Association, herein

referred to as "PEA" and "Association".

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purpose of the Puyallup Education Association is to be a unified force for

excellence in education by:

Section 1: Working for the welfare of school children, the enhancement of education, and

the improvement of instructional opportunities for all.

Section 2: Developing and promoting the adoption of such practices, personnel policies and

standards of preparation, and participation as mark a profession.

Section 3: Unifying and strengthening the teaching profession by negotiating, securing, and

maintaining the Puyallup Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement

necessary to support teaching as a profession.

Section 4: Enabling members to speak with a common voice on matters pertaining to the

teaching profession and to present their individual and common concerns before

the Board of Education and other legal authorities.

Section 5: Holding property and funds and to employ staff for the attainment of these

purposes.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: The membership of the Puyallup Education Association shall consist of active

certificated members. The Constitution shall prescribe eligibility of membership in

all classes.

Membership shall not be denied to individuals on the basis of race, religion, color, marital status, sex, age, national origin, domicile, bonafide political activity or lack

thereof, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical handicap.

Section 2: Active membership shall be open to all professional certificated personnel (including

substitute teachers) employed in the Puyallup School District who hold a regular, vocational, or technical certificate and who shall abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of PEA, Summit UniServ Council, Washington Education Association "WEA", and National Education Association Active membership shall be permanent and

continuing from year-to-year, except on resignation, retirement, death, or

discontinuance as provided in this constitution. Only active members shall have the right to formulate policy and to seek and hold an elective position in the Association.

Section 3: Any college student participating in a teacher-training program in the Puyallup School

District shall be classified as a student member of PEA providing she/he maintains active membership in the Student National Education Association, the Student Washington Education Association, and in the college student chapter. S/he shall

not be eligible to vote or to hold office.

Section 4: The membership year and fiscal year shall be September 1 to August 31.

ARTICLE IV ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP BALLOTING

Section 1: A ballot vote of the active membership shall be the ultimate law of the

Association. The active membership may, by petition of 1/4 of the active membership, call for a ballot vote of the active membership to ratify or declare

null any decision of the Representative Assembly.

Section 2: Ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be by general

membership.

ARTICLE V REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Section 1: The legislative and policy-making body of the Puyallup Education Association shall

be the Representative Assembly.

Section 2: The Representative Assembly shall consist of the Building Representatives and

representation from Pupil Special Services, each of whom shall have one vote.

Section 3: The Executive Board shall be ex officio voting members of the Assembly. The

President shall serve as the chairperson of the Assembly.

ARTICLE VI AFFILIATION

Section 1: The Association shall be affiliated with the National Education Association and

the Washington Education Association.

Section 2: The Association shall be affiliated with the Summit UniServ Council.

ARTICLE VII OFFICERS

The officers of the Association shall consist of the President (NEA-WEA delegate and UniServ delegate), a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Hereafter, the

President (NEA-WEA delegate and UniServ delegate) will be referred to as

President. Duties of the above officers are described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1: The Executive Board shall be the policy-implementing body of the Association.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall consist of the officers and the UniServ delegates as

defined in the Bylaws.

Section 3: Any member of the Puyallup Education Association who holds a state or national

association committee membership or office or is a member of the negotiations team shall be an ex-officio and non-voting member of the Executive Board.

Section 4: The officers and UniServ delegates shall have voting power.

Section 5: It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to carry out the program and policies of the

> Representative Assembly and to exercise the general authority of the Representative Assembly between the meetings. The Board shall have the authority to interpret the Constitution and Bylaws and shall delegate to a Board member the duties of

parliamentarian.

The Executive Board shall develop and adopt standing rules for the Board and shall

direct the committees.

Section 6: Additional Executive Board members may be elected at-large by a secret ballot by the

> membership in order to comply with the requirements of the NEA Constitution and Bylaws for ethnic minorities. Nominations for at-large delegates for these positions shall

be by the ethnic minority members.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

> Amendment(s) to this Constitution shall be presented to the Executive Board. Copies of the proposed amendment(s) shall be distributed to every active member prior to the next Representative Assembly meeting. If the amendment(s) are acceptable to a majority of the Representatives voting, they shall then be referred to a general membership ballot. The amendment(s) shall be adopted by a 2/3 majority of those

voting.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1 DUES Section 1: PEA dues paid to WEA for membership will be calculated at .0028854 times the state average teacher's salary used by WEA to compute dues. Members shall also pay UniServ, state and national affiliate dues as required. Section 2: Annual dues of teachers employed the second semester only shall be one-half the dues for active members. Section 3: Teachers who work .76 – 1.0 FTE shall pay full-time dues and shall be considered as fullactive members. Section 4: Teachers who work .51 - .75 FTE shall pay part-time member dues following the FTE breakdown used by WEA to compute its dues and shall be considered as full-active members. Section 5: Teachers who work .26 - .50 FTE shall pay part-time member dues following the FTE breakdown used by WEA to compute its dues and shall be considered as full-active members. Section 6: Teachers who work .25 or less FTE shall pay part time member dues following the FTE breakdown used by WEA to compute its dues and shall be considered as full-active members. Section 7: Retired members who are rehired shall pay dues as outlined in Sections 3 through 6 of Article 1. Section 8: Substitute dues shall substitute member dues following the substitute breakdown used by WEA to compute its dues and shall be considered as full-active members. Section 9: PEA local dues will not be increased without the consent of the PEA Representative Assembly. **BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES ARTICLE II** Section 1: For the purpose of this Association, Pupil Special Services will be defined as a school building. Section 2: Active members assigned to more than one building shall, from the school buildings they serve, select a building in which to be represented. This information shall be solicited by the Association the first week of the school year. Section 3: In each Puyallup school building, members who are active members in good standing of this Association shall have one faculty representative in the Representative Assembly for each fifteen (15) active members or major fraction thereof. There shall be at least one Representative from each building. The Building Rep will adjust representation for the current year if and only if, the number of faculty changes.

> A Building Representative shall attend the regular meeting of the Representative Assembly unless they have notified the President of their absence in advance. A Building Representative may designate a substitute from within their building to

Section 4:

attend in their absence and notify the President prior to the Representative Assembly of the substitute.

Section 5:

A Building Representative shall call building meetings of the Association members to discuss Association business, shall appoint such faculty committees as the Association may require, shall organize and oversee the subsequent elections of Building Representatives and the enrollment of members, and shall facilitate two-way Association communication within the building.

ARTICLE III REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Section 1:

The Representative Assembly shall approve the budget, act on reports of committees, and approve resolutions and other policy statements. It shall review the actions of the Executive Board. It shall adopt procedures to be followed in censuring, suspending, and adopting rules governing the conduct of the Association and the conduct of meetings as are consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws, except as provided above and in Article IV, Section 1. Powers not delegated by the constitution and bylaws to the Executive Board, the officers, or other groups in the Association shall be vested in the Representative Assembly.

Section 2:

The Representative Assembly shall meet on the third working Tuesday of each school month except December and June. The minutes and/or synopsis of the Representative Assembly shall be published and sent to all Building Representative.

Section 3:

During any Representative Assembly meeting, a roll call vote may be requested by any Representative or officer, and if 1/5 of those eligible to vote request it, the vote on that issue will be by roll call.

Section 4:

A majority of the Representative Assembly members shall constitute quorum.

Section 5:

Special meetings of the Representative Assembly may be held at the call of the President or upon written request to the Executive Board from fifteen (15) Building Representatives. Business to come before special meetings must be stated in the call and sent in writing to each Representative.

Section 6:

Proposals from Representatives regarding New Business items may be submitted in writing prior to the next Representative Assembly or a motion may come directly from the floor of the Representative Assembly.

Only members of Representative Assembly are allowed to make motions.

All motions shall be submitted in either written form or stated orally on the assembly floor.

Committee reports seeking action shall be submitted in written form or stated orally on the assembly floor with recommended action.

All recorders used in Representative Assembly meetings must have approval of the Representative Assembly prior to being used.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1:

The Executive Board shall be responsible for the management of the Association, approve all budgeted expenditures, carry out policies established by the

Representative Assembly, report its transactions and those of the Assembly to the members, and suggest policies for consideration by the Assembly.

Section 2:

The Executive Board shall meet the first working Tuesday of each school month, at the call of the President, or at the request of three (3) members of the Board. A list of regular meetings for the year shall be published at the beginning of the year for all representatives.

The President will provide to the Executive Board an agenda for each meeting as determined by the previous Representative Assembly and Executive Board meetings. New business may be on the agenda or added by a motion from the floor.

Section 3:

The Executive Board shall represent the Association in negotiating the terms and conditions of employment. This contract shall be binding between the Association and the District. The Board may delegate its power to negotiate to the Bargaining Committee, another committee or Representative

The Executive Board shall have the responsibility to review the Collective Bargaining Agreement on an on-going basis and shall make recommendations to the bargaining team for future considerations. They shall refer any possible revisions of substance when such revision is of concern to the Executive Board, a committee, or an individual member of the bargaining team.

A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the Executive Board.

An Executive Board Member shall attend the regular meetings unless they receive prior excuse from the President. After two consecutive unexcused absences, or a total of any three absences, the President shall declare the seat unfilled. The President may appoint an interim Uniserv Position Member, with the Executive Board and Representative Assembly approval. Unfilled officer positions shall be filled on an interim basis for the remainder of the school year and an election for the remainder of the term will be run during the normal election process in the year of the interim appointment.

Section 4:

The Executive Board members shall serve on a minimum of one committee. The Executive Board shall assist committees to define their immediate and long-range objectives. It shall review committee plans as necessary and shall decide any jurisdictional argument between committees.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 1:

The President shall preside over meetings of the Executive Board and the Representative Assembly. The President shall appoint the chairpersons and members of the committees (except as provided in Article VII, Section 2 and 3 of the Bylaws). The President shall appoint special committees, be an ex-officio member of all committees, be elected and represent the Association as NEA and WEA delegate number 1 and be the executive officer of the Association. The President shall represent the Association before the public and at School Board meetings, either personally or through delegates, and shall perform all other functions usually attributed to this office.

Before leaving office, the President shall compile a "State of the Association" report for the incoming President. Such report shall include as a minimum:

- 1) Current matters under discussion with the District
- 2) Outstanding grievances
- 3) Current areas of concern with the Association

4) A chronological guideline of job responsibilities.

After the elections, the past president shall hold themselves available to the current President and/or Executive Board for consultation and whatever reasonable aid may be requested. The past president shall also transition the new president after the election and transfer all responsibilities by July1.

The newly elected President will attend the NEA Representative Assembly as delegate number 1.

Section 2:

The Vice President shall assume all duties of the President in case of temporary absence of the President. The Vice President shall assume all duties delegated by the President.

Section 3:

The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the Representative Assembly.

Section 4:

The Treasurer, or designee, shall disperse the funds of the Association upon authorization by the Executive Board. Payment of dues shall be made on a monthly basis through the WEA APA (Automatic Payroll Authorization) System. The Treasurer, or designee, shall oversee the keeping of accurate accounts of receipts and accounts payable disbursements, and shall oversee the preparation of an annual financial statement for publication to members as directed by the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall meet monthly, or on an as needed basis, with the Administrative Assistant in charge of finances to be apprised of the Association's financial condition. The Treasurer shall keep the President and the Executive Board informed of the financial condition of the Association. The Treasurer, or designee, shall assist the budget committee in the initial drafting of the annual budget. In September, the Treasurer, or designee, shall oversee the arrangement for an audit of the previous fiscal year's books to be conducted by an outside professional auditor. The report of the auditor shall be presented to the Executive Board by the Treasurer.

Section 5:

The officers shall serve for two (2) years. All officers may be elected for a succeeding term.

Section 6:

Whenever the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall serve as President pro-tempore until a special election can be held to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE VI UNISERV DELEGATES

Section 1:

Delegates shall be elected to the Summit UniServ Representative Assembly as provided in the Bylaws. The election of said delegates shall coincide with, and shall be part of, that same election which elects the officers of the Association. The beginning of their term shall coincide with the conclusion of the NEA Representative Assembly.

Section 2:

The UniServ delegates, with the exception of the President, shall be at-large delegates, serving for two-year terms with odd numbered positions elected in odd years and even number positions elected in even years. The delegates shall be elected to Summit UniServ Representative Council on the basis of one (1) for one hundred (100) PEA members or major portion thereof.

Section 3:

A UniServ delegate shall attend the regular meetings unless they receive prior excuse from the President of PEA. After two consecutive unexcused absences, or a total of any

three absences, that President shall declare the seat unfilled. The President may appoint an interim Delegate, with Executive Board and Representative Assembly approval.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1: Committees shall be responsible for specific functions. Each committee may, with

> the approval of the Executive Board, organize from the membership of the Association special sub-committees and task forces for special activities.

Section 2: The President with the approval of the Executive Board shall appoint the Bargaining

Committee. There shall be a minimum of five (5) members with every effort made to represent elementary, secondary, specialists and special services. The Bargaining Committee shall be the designated negotiation agent of the Executive Board.

Section 3: The Nominations and Election Committee shall conduct elections for PEA officers

and UniServ delegates as prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws. It shall also send, collect, and count all ballots from elections or polls carried on by PEA,

Representative Assembly, the Executive Board, or any other committee. Only active

members within each building shall receive ballots.

Section 4: Other committees as created by the Association are listed in the PEA Policy

Handbook.

Section 5: The duties and responsibilities of the other committees are listed in the PEA Policy

Handbook.

Section 6: A designated Committee Member shall report monthly and may be called upon to give an

> oral presentation to the Executive Board and Representative Assembly. By the end of the current school year, the Designated Committee Member shall, if needed, submit the

next year's budget and annual report to the president.

ARTICLE VIII ELECTIONS

Section 1. **PEA Officers**

At the March PEA Representative Assembly meeting nominations will be opened for offices. Nominations may be taken from the floor of the Representative Assembly. Building representatives will be advised to elicit nominations for offices. Candidates for Vice President and Secretary shall be elected during even years for two-year terms. Candidates for President and Treasurer shall be elected during odd years for two-year terms. UniServ Delegates shall be elected as stated in Article VI, Section 2. Any nominations shall be delivered in writing or via email to the Nominations and Elections Committee via the PEA office before the April Representative Assembly. In the event there is only one candidate for a position after nominations are closed, that candidate may be elected by a voice vote by the Rep Assembly and excluded from the ballot.

If a ballot is not necessary, then the accepted slate of officers shall be introduced through a publication to the PEA membership.

Section 1.1

The Nominations and Elections Committee shall report all nominations to the Representative Assembly at the April meeting and shall follow the election dates outlined in the mail sent to all members at least two weeks prior to the opening of the election process per the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA). Members of the Assembly may nominate candidates from the floor.

Section 1.2 Balloting Procedures:

Ballots and voting shall be conducted using the approved WEA electronic balloting procedure (Ballotpoint) and shall be open for a period of five (5) days.

Section 1.3

Candidates shall run by position and shall be elected upon securing a simple majority of those active members voting. In the event no candidate for any given position receives a majority, a final election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes using the approved WEA electronic balloting procedure (Ballotpoint) and shall be open for a period of five (5) days.

Section 1.4

After the election, the Nominations and Elections Committee shall report results to the President. The President shall publish the elected candidates' names after the elections have been verified. When the final results are reported to the membership, the percentage of total ballots cast during an election shall be included in the election results. The elected candidates shall assume their offices on July 1st of the election year.

Section 1.5

Special Elections--When an elected office of PEA (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer) becomes vacant, a special election shall be conducted by the Nominations and Elections Committee. The openings will be announced at the next Executive Board. The Board will post the positions at the next Representative Assembly for nominations. Nominations shall be forwarded to the PEA President within two weeks of the posted announcement. Nominations will be presented to the next scheduled Rep Assembly. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at that time. Election procedures shall be as described in the Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 3.

Section 2. PEA Building Representatives

Building Representative Elections shall be conducted utilizing open nominations within the building they represent. If it is a contested election, then a secret ballot and a simple majority vote within the building they represent shall be used. When employed in more than one building, the candidate may only represent one building. Elections shall be held each April based on current staff, and the results of the Representative Election shall be reported to the PEA President by June 7. The Representative term of office shall commence on July 1 of the election year.

Section 3. WEA and NEA Representative Assembly Delegates:

At least four months prior to the WEA-RA convention, nominations shall be opened for both WEA-RA & NEA- RA delegates. No less than three months prior to the WEA-RA convention and following the election dates outlined in the mailer sent to all members at least two weeks prior to the opening of the election process per the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA), the election will be held, following the election procedures outlined in Section VIII 1.1, unless otherwise directed by WEA and/or NEA.

Section 3.1 Balloting Procedures:

Ballots and voting shall be conducted using the approved WEA electronic balloting procedure (Ballotpoint) and shall be open for a period of five (5) days.

Section 3.2:

NEA-WEA delegates shall consist of the President as delegate number 1, and additional at-large delegates as allowed by WEA and/or NEA. At-large NEA-WEA delegates shall be nominated and elected as a "pool" of delegates and/or successor delegates. The individual receiving the greatest number of votes shall be designated delegate number 2, that individual receiving the second greatest number of votes

shall be designated delegate number 3, and so on until all delegate positions are filled. The remaining candidates shall be designated successor delegates in order according to the greatest number of votes received.

ARTICLE IX GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Section 1: General Membership meetings may be called as deemed necessary by the President

and/or a majority (50% plus one vote) of the Representative Assembly.

Section 2: Final acceptance of the Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be by secret ballot of

the General Membership. Acceptance of the proposed Agreement shall be by an

affirmative vote of 50% of those voting plus one vote.

ARTICLE X AUTHORITY

The most recent edition of *Sturgis* shall be the parliamentary authority for the Association on all questions not covered by the Constitution and Bylaws and/or standing rules of the Representative Assembly.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote at any regular meeting of the Representative Assembly provided that proposed amendments have been sent to Building Representatives ten (10) days in advance of the meeting. Representatives will then have time to discuss it with the membership in advance of the Assembly meeting.

POLICIES

ORIENTATION

During September or October there shall be a meeting of all Building Representatives and Executive Board members. This meeting shall cover general orientation, a review of Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies, and the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The September or October Representative Assembly may be used for this purpose if the regular business of that meeting so allows. The President shall be responsible for implementing this procedure.

HOW BUSINESS MOVES THROUGH PEA

- Generally, the concerns of PEA members are submitted to the PEA Executive Board. This can be
 accomplished either by individual members coming, with prior notification, before the Board, or by
 presenting the concern to any Executive Board member prior to the Executive Board meeting. In
 addition, concerns may be voiced during the New Business section of the Representative Assembly
 Agenda as time permits.
- 2. The PEA Executive Board and/or Representative Assembly may refer the concern to the appropriate committee when necessary.
 - a. The committee will develop the appropriate course of action and submit the action plan to the PEA Executive Board.
 - b. The PEA Executive Board will determine if the suggested course of action is in line with Association policy and place the items on the agenda for the Representative Assembly.
- 3. The Representative Assembly will accept or reject the proposal.
- 4. Proposals accepted by the Representative Assembly become Association policy.
- 5. If a decision of the Representative Assembly is challenged by the President, Representative Assembly, or 25% of the membership, a General Membership meeting will be called to discuss the issue. A General Membership vote will be taken and the majority vote will be the ultimate policy of the Association.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES FOR REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY:

- 1. Only members of the Representative Assembly are allowed to make motions.
- 2. All motions shall be submitted in either written form or stated orally on the assembly floor.
- 3. Committee reports seeking action shall be submitted in written form or presented orally with recommended action.
- 4. All recorders used in Representative Assembly meetings must have approval of the Representative Assembly prior to being used.
- 5. The Executive Board parliamentarian (designated by the PEA President) shall advise regarding procedures.

USE OF OFFICE MATERIALS AND MACHINES

PEA office machines and supplies shall be made available to those members who are running for State and local education Association offices. The candidates will be personally responsible to reimburse PEA for any costs of materials or equipment used. The candidate will also give the PEA office staff advance notice so that supplies will be available. Regular office business will take precedence over any campaign work.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Travel reimbursement for Association business will be paid at the WEA rate.

TAX-SHELTERED ANNUITIES

(PEA shall accept membership to any tax-sheltered annuities company that is able to sign up five (5) or more PEA participants.)

Other sales representatives desiring to contact members of the Association for business purposes shall first contact the Association President. If deemed appropriate, the President and/or sales representative shall make a presentation to the Executive Board, which may then publish a date, time, and place for the sales representative to meet with interested members. Any expense(s) incurred to conduct such meeting(s) shall be the responsibility of the sales representative.

COMMITTEES

At the end of the school year the PEA President will attach a list of current active committees for the Executive Board to review in the fall. As directed by the Executive Board and/or the Representative Assembly, additional committees will be developed as needed.

All PEA committee members shall be appointed by the President, and shall, with Executive Board Approval, serve at the President's discretion.

Bargaining Committee (PEA)

- 1. Initial negotiations positions adopted by PEA shall remain in effect until the PEA Representative Assembly has ratified the negotiated agreement(s). Upon ratification, the negotiated agreement shall replace said initial positions and shall become the negotiated policy of the Association.
- 2. All initial positions that have been modified or deleted in the ratified negotiated agreement must be brought back through Committee, Executive Board, and Representative Assembly actions if they are to again become part of the subsequent initial position package.
- 3. The Bargaining Committee shall conduct prioritization surveys relative to the bargaining proposals within the general membership. Such prioritization shall include: 1) a general survey of the membership relative to desired proposals, and 2) any other surveys considered necessary by the Bargaining Committee. The results shall be used in formulating bargaining strategy, as appropriate, and said results shall be shared with the membership only after the conclusion of bargaining.
- 4. The UniServ Executive Director shall attend the bargaining sessions between the PEA negotiators and the Puyallup School District and/or its representatives.

Budget & Finance Committee

The Budget and Finance Committee shall review the income and expenditures of PEA. They will make recommendations for the annual budget and review the outcomes. The meeting will be set by the Treasurer.

Nominations and Elections Committee (PEA)

The Nominations and Elections Committee shall actively seek candidates and conduct elections for PEA officers and UniServ representatives as prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws. It shall also send, collect and count all ballots from elections and polls carried on by PEA, Representative Assembly, the Executive Board, or any standing committee. The committee shall issue to each school only the number of ballots equivalent to the active PEA members in that school and these ballots will be distributed at least two (2) days before the election or polls.

Political Action Committee (PEA)

The Political Action Committee shall study pending legislation on local, state, and national levels, maintain contact with elected officials, promote the election of candidates approved by PEA, promote membership in WEA and NEA political action organizations, and carry out promotional activities which the Representative Assembly and/or UniServ supports. The Political Action Committee shall be concerned with securing teacher registration and voting.

District Committees (PEA/PSD)

The PEA President shall recommend Association members to serve on District committees. PEA members serving on a District committee shall, prior to any meeting, be responsible for discussing the agenda with the President or UniServ Director. Members shall report to the Executive Board. The Executive Board may request clarification.