

AAGC

By-Laws

(amended January 2009)

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Alabama Association for Gifted Children (AAGC), a nonprofit corporation.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES & OBJECTIVES

The Alabama Association for Gifted Children (hereafter referred to as the Association) is committed to sensitizing Alabama to the nature and importance of appropriate education for gifted students by:

- A. Serving as a public advocate concerning the needs of gifted young people.
- B. Facilitating the exchange of information concerning gifted students.
- C. Facilitating and assisting the development of local organizations to support gifted education.

ARTICLE III: STRUCTURE

Alabama Association for Gifted Children (AAGC) is a state organization, which is an affiliate of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) and which is composed of chapters, and individual members.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to any interested person. Members of AAGC are urged to hold co-membership in other organizations that advocate for gifted children, such as The National Association for Gifted Children, Alabama Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children, but such identification is not mandatory."

Members of AAGC shall be those persons who maintain their status by proper payment of dues in The Association. Members may maintain co-membership in state and national organization concerning the gifted, subject to the provisions of any such organization(s).

Each Association membership shall be entitled to a single vote in elections and official actions of The Association.

Members are eligible for election to office, to serve on committees, and are encouraged to attend all meetings of The Association.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of this organization shall be President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, three Members-at-large.

Section 2: Each officer of The Association shall serve for a two year term.

Section 3: The President shall preside at The Association's business meetings and serve as Chairperson of the Executive Board; be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; make all authorized appointments and serve in all other capacities authorized by the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 4: The President-Elect shall serve as Chairperson of the Program Committee. In case the office of President is vacated for any reason, the President-Elect shall complete the President's term of office as President Pro Tem.

Section 5: The Vice-President shall serve as Co-Chairperson of the Program Committee. In case the office of President-Elect is vacated for any reason, the Vice-President shall complete the President-Elect's term of office as President-Elect Pro Tem.

Section 6: The Secretary shall maintain systematic records of all action taken at the annual business meeting and other called meetings, and of the action of the Executive Board in any regularly called meetings. The Secretary shall maintain the official file of members and associated organizations; be responsible for the official records of The Association; and perform other such duties as may be authorized by the Executive Board and/or the President.

Section 7: The Treasurer shall maintain and render to the Executive Board and to the membership a formal accounting of all receipts and income in the form of dues, donations, grants, and otherwise; shall present a financial statement at each meeting of The Association; and shall perform other such duties as may be authorized by the Executive Board and/or the President.

Section 8: All officers shall serve until their successors are elected. In the event that any officer, except the President, is unable to fulfill his term of office, the Executive Board shall be empowered to fill the remainder of that term with an appointee.

Section 9: Six Members-at-Large shall also be on the Executive Committee. Two Members-at-Large shall be the person(s) who are employed by the Alabama State Department of Education as the Education Specialists in Gifted Education. Four Members-at-Large shall be one university professor of gifted education from each of the four universities that provide gifted certification.

ARTICLE VI: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: Only AAGC members in good standing may be nominated for office in The Association.

Section 2: The Nominating Committee shall consist of the immediate Past President, serving as Chairperson, and of not less than three non-officers in the Association. The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall appoint members of the Committee. The Nominating Committee shall canvass the membership of The Association, through the Association's publication or otherwise, for potential nominees for officers and the third member-at-large. Such information shall be regarded (as) advisory. However, any name submitted by twenty members or more for a particular office shall automatically be placed on the ballot. The Nominating Committee shall ascertain willingness and availability of each potential nominee and present to the Secretary a slate of nominees, a minimum of one for each office to be filled.

Section 3: Elections shall take place by written ballot during an annual business meeting or by e-mail. The Secretary shall submit the slate of nominees and ballot to the membership by e-mail. The slate of nominees shall be emailed/mailed to the membership at least 30 days prior to the annual-business meeting or email election date. The ballots will be opened and counted by the Secretary and two other members in good standing the day of the election at an annual business meeting or 2 days after the ballots are emailed. The secretary and 2 members in good standing will have the only access to the email account used solely for elections. If there are only two nominees for an office, a simple majority of the votes cast shall constitute an election; in the case of more than two nominees for an office, the one receiving the largest number of votes shall be regarded as elected. The Secretary shall notify each nominee of the results of the election; the General Membership shall be notified of the election results at the annual meeting and through the official publication(s) of The Association.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Vice-President, the immediate Past President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, three Members-at-Large, and Chairpersons of The Association's Standing Committees/Council.

- Section 1-a. The Executive Board shall be responsible for conducting the affairs of The Association accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of The Association. It is empowered to act in behalf of The Association in between general meetings of The Association.
- Section 1-b. A quorum of the Board shall consist of those in attendance at a meeting for which all board Members have received at least two weeks prior notice. Executive Board meetings shall be open.

Section 2. There shall be standing committees as provided for in this article, and ad hoc committees as may be authorized from time to time by the President of the Board. The Standing Committees of AAGC shall be: Executive, Nomination, Program, Membership, Communications, Legislation/Public Issues, Newsletter/Publication, Legal: By-Laws/Incorporation.

- Section 2-a. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Vice-President, the Immediate Past President, the Secretary, The Treasurer, and three Members-at-Large. The Committee shall initiate policies and actions for Board consideration and develop an agenda for each meeting of the Board.
- Section 2-b. The Program Committee shall be responsible for the planning of programs for the membership meetings and/or any other special meetings. The inviting of al program participants shall be the responsibility of the Program Committee.

- Section 2-c. The Membership Committee shall be responsible for structuring and executing such membership solicitation endeavors as may be approved by the Executive Board.
- Section 2-d. The Communications Committee shall be responsible for publicity for the Association subject to the approval of the Executive Board; this shall include announcements of meetings and dissemination (subject to approval of the Executive Board) of literature/information on the nature and education of gifted students. The Association Historian shall be a member of this committee and shall keep an accurate account of all the Association's activities.
- Section 2-e. The Legislative/Public Issues Committee shall review and propose to the Executive Board state and local legislative action on behalf of gifted students and public issues as they relate to gifted students.
- Section 2-f. The Newsletter / Publication Committee shall be responsible for publishing a newsletter to be distributed to The Association membership and other audiences. The Editor of this publication will be the Chairperson of this Committee. All publications of this Committee shall be subjected to the approval of the Executive board prior to distribution.
- Section 2-g. The Legal Committee shall be responsible for studying the By-Laws and operational policies and recommending changes (additions, deletions, and modifications) to the Board and all initially take the necessary steps to file for incorporation and nonprofit status.

Section 3. Other Committees may be appointed by the President or by the Executive Board, or as a result officially taken at a business meeting of The Association.

Section 4. In case of vacancy, the unexpired term of a standing committee chairperson shall be filled by presidential appointment.

Section 5. An Advisory Council to be representative of both professional and lay interests shall be chosen by the Executive Board. Recommendations for such persons may be submitted by the membership.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be an annual general meeting of The Association at a time and location set by the Board. The annual general meeting shall include the annual business meeting of The Association and shall provide opportunities for meetings of the Committees.

Section 2. Recommendations concerning the program content of the annual meeting may be made to the Board by the Program Committee. The members of The Association shall be notified in writing of the date and location of the annual meeting. If the meeting is during the annual conference, the meeting date and time will be included in the conference program. Prior information about the annual meeting could be sent through email to the members.

Section 3. Other meetings of The Association may be held and/or other business meetings of The Association may be called at the discretion of the Board provided the membership shall be fully notified at least two weeks in advance.

Section 4. Ten members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at any regularly called business meeting of The Association.

ARTICLE IX: DUES

Section 1. The annual dues for The Association shall be voted at the annual business meeting. Until modified, annual dues shall be ten dollars (\$15.00).

Section 2. Annual dues shall be payable to the treasurer of The Association on the first day of each organization year. A member shall be in good standing so long as his dues have been paid for the current year. Failure to pay current dues and those of the immediately preceding organization year shall be just cause for dropping a person from membership in The Association. A member may be reinstated on his payment of the dues of the current and immediately preceding organization year.

ARTICLE X: ORGANIZATION YEAR

The organization year shall be from the date of the annual meeting or convention to the date of the next annual meeting or convention.

ARTICLE XI: CHAPTERS

Section 1. Organizations within the State of Alabama wishing to affiliate with AAGC and become a Chapter shall have a written statement of organization and purpose which the AAGC Executive Board interprets as being in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws of the Alabama Association for Gifted Children.

Section 2. Each AAGC Chapter shall be an autonomously operating body.

Section 3. Each AAGC Chapter shall have at least two officers who are members in good standing of the Alabama Association for Gifted Children.

Section 4. Each AAGC chapter shall provide evidence of at least one local business meeting per organization year.

Section 5. The Alabama Association for Gifted Children may enter into affiliations with other state organizations or national organizations of common interest and purpose by recommendation of the Executive Board to and concurrence by the general membership at its annual meeting, may authorize payment of appropriate fees for such affiliation, and may terminate such affiliation when it is not in the interest of The Association to continue the affiliation.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Board to be discussed in a regular or special meeting of the Board. The Board will then vote to submit the proposal to the membership for their vote. These By-Laws can be amended by a majority vote of members in good standing at the annual business meeting or at a called business meeting with voting by email or mail for members who can not attend.

ARTICLE XIV: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. Robert's Rule of Orders revised shall govern the proceedings of The Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.