

# **Pennsylvania Technology Student Association**

## **Bylaws**

### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

The official name of this organization shall be the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association and may be referred to as "PA-TSA."

### **ARTICLE II. PURPOSES**

**Section 1.** The general purposes of this organization are to:

- 1.1** Assist local delegations in the growth and development of PA-TSA.
- 1.2** Assist local delegations in the development and leadership in social, economic, educational and community activities.
- 1.3** Increase the knowledge and understanding of our technological world.
- 1.4** Assist Technology & Engineering Education students in the making of informed and meaningful career goals.

**Section 2.** The specific purposes of this organization are to:

- 2.1** Develop, through individual and teamwork, the ability of members to plan, organize and use a variety of resources to solve problems.
- 2.2** Explore technology and develop an understanding of Technological Literacy.
- 2.3** Promote high standards of learning through curricular resource activities.
- 2.4** Encourage students in expressing creativity.
- 2.5** Develop consumer awareness.
- 2.6** Provide career opportunity information pertaining to a broad range of occupations, including training requisites, working conditions, salaries or wages and other relevant information.
- 2.7** Provide exploratory experiences in classrooms and laboratories and develop partnerships in business or industry to acquaint students with career opportunities.
- 2.8** Assist in providing guidance and counseling for students enrolled in Technology & Engineering Education programs in making informed and meaningful career choices.

- 2.9 Expose students to the responsibility of representing a large membership.
- 2.10 Instill desirable work habits and attitudes toward the positive way of life in students and foster a deep respect for the dignity of work.
- 2.11 Prepare individuals for enrollment in advanced or highly skilled Vocational and Technology & Engineering Education programs.

### **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION**

- Section 1.** The Pennsylvania Technology Student Association is an organization operating in accordance with a charter granted by TSA, Inc.
- Section 2** The Pennsylvania Technology Student Association (PA-TSA) is a student organization operating subserviently under the Pennsylvania Technology Student Association and Foundation Incorporated (PA-TSA, Inc.).
- Section 3.** Membership in TSA shall be governed by TSA chapters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:
  - 3.1 *Active:* Members shall be students who are presently enrolled in or have been previously enrolled in Technology & Engineering Education programs. An active member shall pay dues as established by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors, and may be declared eligible to hold a state office, to participate in competitive events or projects, to serve as a state voting delegate, or to otherwise represent their chapter in PA-TSA affairs as may be approved by their Chapter.
  - 3.2 *Alumni:* Members shall consist of those individuals who have completed an Industrial Arts/Technology & Engineering Education program (have been former active or associate TSA members) and who have graduated from or left school. Alumni members shall pay dues as established by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors. Alumni members shall not vote or hold office.
  - 3.3 *Professional:* Members are those individuals engaged in education, business and industry who have interest in TSA and in the welfare of Technology & Engineering Education. Professional members shall pay dues as established by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors. Professional members shall not vote or hold office.
  - 3.4 *Honorary/Honorary Life:* Members may be individuals who have made or are making contributions to the advancement of Technology & Engineering Education as may be approved by the National TSA Executive Committee and shall be exempt from annual dues.
- Section 4.** A local chapter may be affiliated as a member of TSA, Inc., upon approval by the Board of Directors of PA-TSA, Inc.

- Section 5.** Annual membership dues shall be determined by the TSA, Inc., Board of Directors, National TSA Officers, PA-TSA, Inc., Board of Directors and the PA-TSA Executive Committee. Those members who have not paid the current dues prior to the State Conference shall be dropped from active membership in PA-TSA.
- Section 6.** The membership year shall be August 1 to July 31.
- Section 7.** The fiscal year shall be September 1 to August 31.

## **ARTICLE IV. STATE OFFICERS**

- Section 1.** The PA-TSA State Officer Team
- 1.1** The PA-TSA Officers shall consist of a President **and seven (7) other State Officers.**
  - 1.2** Elected officers will be the President **and five (5) other officers.**
  - 1.3** **Two (2) additional officers will be appointed.**
- Section 2.** Duties of the State Officers
- 2.1** *President:* It shall be the duty of the President of PA-TSA to preside at all meetings; to make necessary committee appointments including the designation of a committee chairperson; to develop with the Board of Directors a program of work for the term of office; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of PA-TSA.
  - 2.2** *Officers:* It shall be the duty of the officers to attend all scheduled meetings of the PA-TSA State Officers under the discretion of the PA-TSA Executive Committee and/or the PA-TSA, Inc., Board of Directors; to serve in any capacity as directed by the president; and to be available, as necessary, in promoting the general welfare of PA-TSA. After being elected, officers must assign to themselves the following responsibilities: to accept the responsibility of the president as occasion may demand; to keep an up to date account of the regional activities of PA-TSA; to record proceedings of all meetings; to keep records and membership reports; to assist in the preparation and control of the meeting place; to accumulate and keep up-to-date information on the history of the association; to prepare articles for PATSA publications, professional magazines and journals, newspapers and other news media; to contact other association members concerning news items for publication; to assist in conducting all meetings according to Parliamentary Procedure as set forth by *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*; to document the activities of the state officer team and present the information visually to the state delegation at the state conference and any other time during his or her term in office; to archive any other information at the discretion of the state officer team. This allocation of duties must be documented before the Bucknell Leadership Conference, and the document approved by the State Officer Advisor.

**Section 3.** Qualifications for a State Office

- 3.1** Only an active member of PA-TSA will be eligible to run for a State Office.
- 3.2** Students must have at least one year of high school eligibility remaining to run for State Office.
- 3.3** A student must have served one full term as a Local Officer before running for a State Office.
- 3.4** A student elected as a State Officer at the annual meeting may hold only one Local Office concurrently with the term as State Officer.
- 3.5** No individual may serve more than one term as a PA-TSA State **President**.
- 3.6** All candidates for President will be reviewed by the Nomination Committee and the Committee will select no more than three (3) candidates. These candidates must all be determined to be qualified and the Committee may choose less than three (3) candidates if the Committee does not believe there are three (3) candidates qualified to run for the position of President. All applicants for President who are not selected may be entered into the regular officer pool.

**Section 4.** Nominations: The PA-TSA State Officers and the PA-TSA, Inc. Board of Directors will be responsible for preparing an application packet complete with a list of requirements, and expectations for the office.

**Section 5.** Elections

- 5.1** State Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting delegates at the annual business meeting.
- 5.2** Election of officers shall be by ballot vote.
- 5.3** If there are more than two candidates for **the office of President**, and a majority is not reached on the first ballot, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on each succeeding ballot will be dropped until a majority is reached.
- 5.4** There will be a separate pool of candidates for the election of President, and all candidates who are not elected as President will be automatically placed into the pool of other State Officers. The Presidential election will take place before the Officer elections.
- 5.5** State Officers will be elected from a pool of State Officer candidates.
- 5.6** Each delegate may either vote for five officers or choose to abstain by voting for no

officers from the state officer pool. Each delegate may only vote for one candidate once. In addition, each delegate may choose to either vote for a Presidential candidate or choose to abstain from the Presidential pool.

**5.7** If there are more than five candidates in the State Officer pool, the five highest vote-getters will be elected.

**5.8** If an unopposed, Presidential candidate does not receive a majority vote, or if there is no Presidential candidate, the delegates will elect six (6) officers from the Officer pool. The highest vote-getter will become the President and the next five (5) highest vote-getters will become State Officers.

## **Section 6.** Appointments

**6.1** Two (2) additional officers, to meet the needs of the elected State Officer team, shall be appointed by the PA-TSA Executive Committee and approved by the PA-TSA, Inc., Board of Directors.

**6.2** The PA-TSA Executive Committee may fill by appointment any vacancy occurring among the State Officers for the unexpired term, except the office of President, which shall be filled by the officer tasked with the duty of accepting the responsibility of the President as occasion may demand.

**Section 7.** PA-TSA State Officers' terms will begin at the close of the national conference of the year that they are elected, and they will serve until the close of the following national conference. The unofficial ceremony will occur at the end of the state conference.

**Section 8.** Failure to fulfill the expectations and duties of a PA-TSA State Office, as stated in Article IV, Section 2, and the State Officer Application Packet, may result in the removal from office by the PA-TSA, Inc., Board of Directors. Removal would occur after a majority vote by the PA-TSA Executive committee.

**Section 9.** If less than five people apply to be a State Officer by the official deadline date of the PA-TSA Officer Candidate Application, the elected PA-TSA State Officers will appoint a qualified PA-TSA member to fill the position(s) through an interview process until there are eight (8) State Officers.

## **Section 10.** State Officer Meetings

**10.1** Meetings can be requested by the President and must be approved by the PA-TSA State advisor(s) and/or the PA-TSA, Inc., Board of Directors.

**10.2** A majority of the State Officers shall constitute a quorum.

**10.3** The PA-TSA State Officers shall appoint standing and special committees as deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE V. THE PA-TSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Section 1.** The PA-TSA Executive Committee shall consist of the PA-TSA State Officers, the PA-TSA State Officer Advisor(s) and the Past President.
- Section 2.** *State Officer Advisor:* It shall be the duty of the PA-TSA State Officer Advisor to attend functions of the State Officers; to advise the State Officers in their duties and tasks; and to serve as the State Officers' liaison with the PA-TSA, Inc. Board of Directors.
- Section 3.** *Past President:* The immediate Past President shall serve as a student advisor to the PA-TSA State Officers on the PA-TSA Executive Committee and make himself/herself available, as necessary in promoting the general welfare of PA-TSA. The Past President is appointed to a committee seat by virtue of his/her previous position. The Past President shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. In the event that the previous year's President graduates from high school, the seat will be left vacant.

## **ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS**

- Section 1.** A PA-TSA Conference will be held each year with the time, date and place designated by the PA-TSA and Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors.
- Section 2.** Each chapter will be entitled to two (2) voting delegates, whom will each have one (1) vote. Each PATSA state officer will be entitled to one (1) vote.
- Section 3.** A majority of the registered voting delegates for the PA-TSA state conference shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VII. THE LOCAL TSA ADVISOR**

- Section 1.** It is recommended that a Technology & Engineering Education teacher serve as a chapter TSA advisor; however, in cases where there is no such interested teacher, a state certified educator may be appointed by the school's principal.
- Section 2.** The appointed PA-TSA advisor would have all the rights and privileges of a regular advisor as long as that chapter is in good standing.

## **ARTICLE VIII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Section 1.** The PA-TSA Inc., Board of Directors is the policy making body for the administration of PA-TSA activities and programs.
- Section 2.** The PA-TSA, Inc., Board of Directors will manage PA-TSA's finances and will furnish upon request an annual report to each chapter.

## ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order - Newly Revised* shall govern TSA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

## ARTICLE X. EMBLEM AND COLORS

**Section 1.** The PA-TSA emblem is a rectangular shape with three parts. The middle section and largest part of the emblem contains the letters TSA in a 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 of the emblem reads Pennsylvania in white lettering over a red rectangular shape, the same size as the bottom area.



**Section 2.** The colors of TSA shall be scarlet (red), white and blue (navy). Scarlet (red) represents the strength and determination of the Technology & Engineering Education students and teachers to obtain their goal. White represents high standards, morals and religious beliefs. Blue (navy) represents the sincerity of the Technology & Engineering Education students and teachers in obtaining a greater knowledge of our technological world.

## ARTICLE XI. MOTTO AND CREED

**Section 1.** The motto of PA-TSA will be the same as that of the Technology Student Association, "Learning to live in a technical world."

**Section 2.** The creed of PA-TSA will be the same as that of the Technology Student Association:

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 work, 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 XII. AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** To amend these bylaws, the proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing by the affiliated chapter to the President (chairman) of PA-TSA and Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting.

**Section 2.** A Bylaws Committee of the Board of Directors of PA-TSA and Foundation, Inc. will review all proposed amendments. All approved amendments will be submitted to the affiliated chapters and the PA-TSA State Officers by the president (chairman) of the Board of Directors of TSA, Inc. at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

**Section 3.** The proposed amendment must be approved by two-thirds of the voting delegates present and voting at the annual meeting.

**Section 4.** Each chapter will be entitled to two votes, which are to be split between two (2) voting delegates.

**Section 5.** The President (chairman) of the Board of Directors of PA-TSA and Foundation, Inc. will be responsible for notifying in writing the affiliated chapters of adopted amendments within sixty (60) days of the annual meeting.

**Section 6.** Amendments will become effective in sixty (60) days unless a different time period is stipulated in the amendment.