

## Excerpt from OEA Bylaws Regarding OEA RA Delegate Elections

### 4-3. Allocation of Delegates.

#### a. Education Professional Units

- (1) Allocation of delegates shall be on the basis of active membership in the Association. Those active members shall be counted whose current annual dues have been paid or are in the process of collection.
- (2) Allocation of delegates will be in the ratio of one delegate and one alternate for each fifty (50) active members of the Association or major (defined as "more than 50 percent") fraction thereof in each electoral unit. From such allocation local affiliates will then be allotted one delegate and alternate per fifty (50) active members of the Association or major fraction thereof, except that each local affiliate shall be allotted at least one delegate and alternate on the basis of the previous year's membership. Local delegates will be seated at the Representative Assembly in accordance with 4-3a(1). When local membership increases sufficiently to qualify for an additional delegate(s), the elected alternate(s) shall be seated as a delegate(s).
- (3) Remaining delegates and alternates allocated to each unit shall be elected at-large within the unit by all members of the Association within the unit. Delegates elected by this procedure shall be those with the highest number of votes, except that when the ethnic-minority delegates elected by other means fall below the proportion of ethnic-minority members within that unit, sufficient ethnic-minority members shall be elected to comply with Ethnic-Minority Representation.

#### b. Higher Education Units

- (1) Delegates shall be allocated in the same manner as 4-3a(1) above.
- (2) Allocation of delegates will be in the ratio of one delegate and one alternate per fifty (50) active members of the Association or major fraction thereof in the unit to be allotted by a plan devised by the Division of Higher Education.
- (3) Remaining delegates and alternates shall be allocated in the same manner as 4-3a(3) above.

#### c. Aspiring Educator Units

- (1) Allocation of delegates shall be on the basis of aspiring educator

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membership in the Association. Those aspiring educator members shall be counted whose current annual dues have been paid or are in the process of collection.

- (2) Allocation of delegates will be in the ratio of one delegate and one alternate per two hundred (200) aspiring educator members of the Association or major fraction thereof to be allotted to subdivisions as determined by the OEA Aspiring Educator Division in the following manner: one delegate per two hundred (200) aspiring educator members of the Association or major fraction thereof.
- (3) Remaining delegates and alternates shall be allocated in the same manner as 4-3a(3) above.

### d. Retired Units

- (1) Allocation of delegates shall be on the basis of retired membership in the Association. Those retired OEA members shall be counted whose current annual dues have been paid or are in the process of collection.
- (2) Allocation of delegates will be in the ratio of one delegate and one alternate per two hundred (200) retired members of the Association, or major fraction thereof.

**4-4. Officers.** Unless elected as a delegate by a secret ballot of the membership, officers of the Association shall have all the rights of a delegate except the right to vote in elections for officers and dues increases.

**4-5. Presidents of District Associations.** Unless elected as a delegate by a secret ballot of the membership, Presidents of District Associations, by virtue of their office, shall have all the rights of a delegate, except the right to vote in elections for officers and dues increases.

**4-6. Past Presidents.** Unless elected as a delegate by a secret ballot of the membership, each Past President, except a Past President who is a "supervisor" or is a "management level employee" as defined in O.R.C. 4117.01 for an employer which engages in collective bargaining against an affiliate of the Association, shall be designated as a delegate ex officio to all Representative Assembly meetings, except the delegate shall not have the right to vote in elections for officers and dues increases. Each Past President shall receive delegate expense upon attendance at each meeting.

**4-7. Size Limitation.** The maximum size of the Representative Assembly shall be determined in accordance with Bylaw 4-3.

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### **4-8. Delegate Guarantees.**

- a. When the allocations of delegates in Education Professional units have been completed in accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 4-3, the number of delegates allocated to the unit may be increased only if the membership of a local association within the unit increases sufficiently to qualify an additional delegate(s). Such increase shall be limited to that unit for that year and not affect the allocation of delegates in any other unit.
- b. A local association established and affiliated subsequent to November 1 in any year shall be granted the opportunity to elect delegates to attend the next scheduled session of the Representative Assembly providing the results of their election shall be received by OEA Secretary-Treasurer at least 30 days prior to such session and that all other requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws shall have been met. The certification of such delegates shall not change the delegate allotment of the unit.

### **4-9. Election and Certification of Delegates.**

- a. All candidates for delegates and alternates to the OEA Representative Assembly shall be active members of local affiliated associations where eligible for membership, affiliated district association, the OEA and the NEA.
- b. Nomination for delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly shall be by declaration of intent or by nominating committee or by nomination from the floor, where applicable.
- c. All delegates and alternates shall be elected annually for one year terms. Candidates shall be eligible to seek election only within their designated unit of representation. Alternates shall be those candidates for delegate status who did not receive sufficient votes to be elected as delegates within the number of delegates allotted. The selection of alternates for elected delegates shall be made by ranking the remaining candidates according to the highest number of votes received.
- d. By September 1, the Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the president of each local affiliate of the number of delegates to which it is entitled (Bylaw 4-3). Elections shall be held not later than October 10 of each year. Not later than October 15 of each year, the president or designee of each affiliated local association shall certify to the Secretary-Treasurer, on a form provided, the eligibility of each delegate and alternate. Upon receipt of the eligibility form, a confirmation of delegate status shall be sent to each delegate and alternate.

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- e. Delegates shall serve until their successors have been elected and certified. In case any delegate is not officially seated at the OEA Representative Assembly, an alternate may be certified by the Credentials Committee to exercise all rights and privileges of said absent delegate.
- f. Education Professional Unit.
  - (1) The President of the affiliated local education association, which has been allotted a delegate or delegates to the Representative Assembly, shall name an election committee of three OEA members from the affiliated local association. This committee of three shall supervise the nomination of candidates and arrange for the election of delegates and alternates in their local affiliates according to the local affiliates' constitutional provisions for elections unless otherwise provided herein.
  - (2) The election shall be by secret ballot of the members.
  - (3) An affiliated local association may designate the President and/or Vice-President (President-Elect) of the local affiliated association a delegate (by virtue of office) to the Representative Assembly. The affiliated local association must place authorization for designating the President and/or Vice-President (President-Elect) as a delegate in its constitution. Such ballot shall include a statement indicating those delegates named by virtue of their office in the local affiliated education association constitution.
  - (4) Election of At-Large Delegates in the Unit.
    - (a) The OEA Convention Planning Standing Committee members shall supervise the nomination of candidates and arrange for the election of at-large delegates and alternates.
    - (b) The election shall be by secret ballot of the members.
- g. Election of Delegates in the Higher Education Unit.
  - (1) The nomination and election procedure for this unit shall be provided under the rules and regulations of the division.
  - (2) The election shall be by secret ballot of the members.
- h. Election of Delegates in the OEA Aspiring Educator Unit.
  - (1) The nomination and election procedure for this unit shall be provided

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under the rules and regulations of the division.

(2) The election shall be by secret ballot of the members.

i. Election of Delegates in the Division of OEA Retired Members.

(1) The nomination and election procedure for this unit shall be provided under the rules and regulations of the division.

(2) The election shall be by secret ballot of the members.