Western Maryland School Psychologists’ Association

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Western Maryland School Psychologists’ Association (WMSPA).

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of the Western Maryland School Psychologists’ Association shall be to

1. Promote the interests of children through school psychology as a science and profession. These interests shall be aligned with the schools’ goal of ensuring that each student meets or exceeds performance and achievement standards.

2. Sponsor and promote continuing professional development activities in the field of school psychology.

3. Provide an opportunity for the exchange of ideas among members, which would enable school psychologists to share resources, establish professional networks, and engage in professional collaboration.

4. Provide input that is representative of the Association’s membership to the MSPA Executive Board.

5. Encourage policies and procedures pursuant to the above purposes.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

The Association shall have the following classes of membership: Member, Associate, and Student

1. The minimum standards for obtaining Member status shall be
   a. Employment in one of the following public school systems - Allegany County (ACPS), Carroll County (CCPS), Frederick County (FCPS), Garrett County (GCPS), or Washington County (WCPS); and
   b. Certification as a School Psychologist in Maryland.

2. Associate membership shall be open to any professional interested in school psychology, who does not meet the requirements for Member, including psychologists from counties other than the western five (Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington).
3. Student membership shall be open to
   a. Any student enrolled in a college/university program in school psychology; or
   b. Currently enrolled as a practicum or internship student in ACPS, CCPS, FCPS, GCPS or WCPS.

4. Only Members shall have full privileges of membership including privilege of the floor, voting, and serving on boards and committees.

5. Associates shall have privilege of the floor, but no vote. They may serve in any nonvoting capacity assigned by the President, with the approval of the Executive Board.

6. Students shall have the privilege of the floor, but no vote. They may serve in any nonvoting capacity assigned by the President, with approval of the Executive Board.

7. Dues will be set by the Executive Board. Dues are payable to the Treasurer by October 1 each year. The fiscal year shall be from October 1 to September 30. A member in good standing is defined as one whose dues are paid before October 1 of the current fiscal year.

8. Members, Associates, and Students of the Association are expected to maintain ethical standards of professional conduct as set forth by the Maryland School Psychologists’ Association (MSPA), National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), and American Psychological Association (APA).

9. Termination of membership shall be for non-payment of dues after December 15.

10. Reinstatement of membership shall be accomplished in the following manner:
   a. For a membership terminated due to non-payment of dues, reinstatement will be contingent on payment of dues for the current fiscal year.
   b. For a membership terminated due to resignation, reinstatement will involve payment of dues for the current fiscal year.

ARTICLE IV – ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. The Executive Board of the Association shall consist of officers, one representative from each of the five counties (ACPS, CCPS, FCPS, GCPS or WCPS), and chairpersons of standing committees.

2. Only Members in good standing are eligible to serve on the Executive Board.

3. The officers of this Association shall include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

4. Ad hoc committees will be determined as needed.
5. The WMSPA President and/or designee shall serve as the liaison to the Maryland School Psychologists’ Association.

6. All officers shall be elected for a 2-year term by May 30 via a process to be determined by the Executive Board.

7. The process for electing officers to WMSPA Executive Board positions allows for any WMSPA Member to nominate a school psychologist from one of the five western counties (with their consent) for one of the four positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer) by the deadline established by the WMSPA Executive Board. The nominee will then submit the Nominee Biography Form to the WMSPA Executive Board for distribution to members. Voting will occur at a business meeting convened by the WMSPA Executive Board, and via absentee ballot procedures. Absentee ballot procedures are determined by the present WMSPA Executive Board.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS: DUTIES

1. The President shall be the Executive Officer of the Association, preside at the meetings, call special meetings as necessary or as directed by the membership, appoint committee chairpersons, act as the MSPA Liaison or appoint the duty to another member, and be ex officio member of all committees.

2. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the event of his/her absence, resignation, or inability to perform duties.

3. The Secretary shall keep minutes and attendance of all Executive Board meetings.

4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues, maintaining membership roll, disbursing money, and keeping accurate records of all receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer shall furnish an annual financial report to the active membership. An independent review of the Association’s financial records shall be conducted at the discretion of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD: DUTIES

The duties of the Executive Board shall be to

1. Solicit the views and opinions of the membership.

2. Communicate such views to the appropriate sources.

3. Manage the affairs of the Association between meetings.

4. Appoint committees as needed for carrying out the purposes of the Association.
5. Give full and complete reports of its activities to the Association’s membership.

6. Consult with any individuals or groups whose positions or knowledge can further the purposes of the Association.

ARTICLE VII – QUORUM

1. A quorum for transacting business at Executive Board meetings is a simple majority of the Officers and Committee Chairpersons, including the President or designee.

2. All members shall be notified of business meetings. Business meetings shall be held at a time to be decided by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. Any Member may present a proposed amendment, in writing, to the Executive Board.

2. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Board to inform the membership about the nature and meaning of any proposed amendment.

3. A simple majority vote shall be necessary to amend this Constitution.