

ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT COUNCIL BYLAWS

As amended and restated effective October 26, 2011

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be Abington School District Parent Council.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES

Section 1. To unify and strengthen the individual parent organizations/ associations of which this council is composed, to act as an advocate for every Abington School District parent/guardian and student.

Section 2. To provide for the collaboration and cooperation of all parent organizations/associations within Abington School District through membership in Abington Parent Council, in order to encourage constructive interest in the well-being of the district students and to promote positive youth oriented programs within the various parent organizations/associations.

Section 3. To act as an advocate on behalf of students and parents/ guardians in the Abington School District with regard to the educational and fiscal policies and determinations of the Abington School District and for purposes of influencing public opinion related thereto; to take such action as is available to assure that all Abington School District students have available to them through the public school system educational programs and facilities of the highest standards that will appropriately meet their educational needs and enable them to successfully take their place in our society as responsible and productive adults.

Section 4. To sponsor or participate in seminars, programs, meetings and communication with members, parents/guardians and the community in matters relating to the education and well-being of the students of Abington School District.

Section 5. To engage in such other activities and action as is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Abington Parent Council.

ARTICLE III: POLICIES

Section 1. The Council shall be non-commercial, non-sectarian, and shall not be affiliated with any political party. The Council shall endorse no commercial enterprise. Neither the name of the Council nor the names of its officers, in their official Council capacities, shall be used in connection with a commercial concern or for any purposes other than the regular work of the Council. Nothing herein, however, shall preclude the Council from sponsoring or participating in fund raising events, the purpose of which is

to provide funding for the Council or membership activities or which is otherwise consistent with Council purposes or objectives.

Section 2. The Council shall meet for conference and cooperation in matters of child well-being only. It shall not legislate for any member organizations/associations.

Section 3. The Council may cooperate with other organizations and agencies active in child well-being, such as conference groups or coordinating Councils, providing Council representatives make no comments that bind their member groups.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP & MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1. Membership of this Council shall consist of representatives from school- parent organizations/associations in the Abington School District.

Section 2. Membership in the Council shall consist of two (2) representatives from each parent-school organization/association, one of whom must be the President of the organization/association. The officers of Abington Parent Council shall also be members. Each member shall have one (1) vote.

Section 3. Membership dues shall be billed by Abington Parent Council and paid by member groups no later than December 31st of each year for member organizations/ associations to remain as a member in good standing of the Council.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTIONS

Section 1. There shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer chosen from the Council membership or former Council membership, who is a member in good standing in their current school-parent organization/ association or a former executive board member in good standing in their current school-parent organization/association.

Section 2. The officers shall be nominated by Council members at the next to last Parent Council scheduled meeting for the current school year in question.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected by ballot, written or electronic, cast by members in attendance at the last meeting of the current school year. However, if there is only one candidate for any particular office, a vote for said nominee should be recorded by a show of hands. The required quorum necessary for a binding vote is defined in Article VII: Section 5.

Section 4. The term of office of the elected officers of the Council shall be no more than two (2) consecutive years in the same position, providing officer resides in the Abington School District and is a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the District

throughout the term of office. The term of the officers will begin at the last meeting of the current school year after elections. At this time the new officers shall be installed into their respective positions.

Section 5. If an elected Council officer is unable to complete his/her term, and the position becomes vacant, the officers of the Council may appoint, at their discretion, another individual to complete the term of the officer who was unable to continue in his/her elected position.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Council, shall act as an ex-officio member on all committees except the nominating committee, and shall appoint the chairpersons of standing and special committees with the approval of the elected officers. The President shall appoint an auditing committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting, which is the last meeting of the school year.

Section 2. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall serve as an aide to the President.

Section 3. The Secretary shall record the minutes of each meeting and handle all correspondence.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds belonging to the council, shall collect and keep account of all monies of the Council, shall expend money only as authorized by the Council, or as otherwise provided for in these bylaws or standing rules. The treasurer shall submit a written report at each meeting of the Council. The Treasurer shall be required to give a commercial bond for the faithful duties in such amount as shall be determined by the Council out of the general fund. In the event that the bonding is no longer available through Council, no assessment for bonding shall be made. The books of the Treasurer shall be audited annually by a committee of no fewer than three (3) persons who when satisfied that the report is correct, shall sign a statement to the effect at the end of the report. The Treasurer shall prepare a summary of the year's transactions through May 31st, and present it to the auditing committee. The auditing committee shall complete the audit and present its findings at the annual meeting. The Treasurer of Parent Council will handle the finances for the Abington Parents Scholarship Fund.

Section 5. The officers shall deliver all official material to their successors within thirty (30) days following the close of the meeting at which their term of office expires.

Section 6. The officers of the Council shall have the authority to conduct all business of the Council between general membership meetings. Any formal action taken by the officers on behalf of the Council between membership meetings shall be reported to the membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting and shall be subject to

ratification by the members then present. The officers of the Council shall have the authority to interpret and apply these bylaws consistent with the objectives and policies of the Council.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings shall be scheduled during the school year as deemed necessary by the officers of the Council and the availability of openings on the school calendar. The first and the last meetings shall be membership only meetings. Membership is defined in Article IV: Section 1 (one) and 2 (two). There shall be no less than three (3), but no more than seven (7) meetings in the months between the membership meetings. The annual meeting will be the last scheduled membership meeting.

Section 2. The Council officers in conjunction with district administration shall determine meeting locations. General meetings will be held in one of the district schools with that school parent group acting as host. General meetings may also be held in the administration building with one of the district parent groups acting as host. Membership only meetings will be held in the administration building or one of the district schools depending on availability. Hosting duties shall be equally shared amongst district parent groups who will host no more than one meeting per school year.

Section 3. Every membership meeting of the Council shall be open to the designated officers of the Council, parent group representatives, as defined in Article IV: Section 1 (one) and 2 (two), Superintendent, and administration as necessary. General membership meetings of the Council shall be open to those members as identified above, along with parents and guardians of school district students and Abington School District personnel.

Section 4. The President may call special meetings of the Council, by a majority vote of the members of the Council, or by two-thirds of the parent groups in membership. Seventy-two (72) hour notice of a special meeting shall be given.

Section 5. A quorum shall be two-thirds of the parent groups in membership.

ARTICLE VIII: THE VOTING BODY

Section 1. The privilege of making motions, debating and voting shall be limited to the members of the Council as defined in Article IV: Section 2. However, the privilege of voting at meetings is limited to those whose terms have been in effect during the current school year.

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

Section 1. Such committees shall be created as needed by the Council as may be required to promote the objectives and interests of the Council.

Section 2. The chairpersons of the standing and special committees shall be appointed as provided for in Article VI, Section 1.

Section 3. The term of office of standing and special committees shall be one (1) school year. A vacancy during the school year shall be filled by a person designated by the President. A person shall not be eligible to serve more than two (2) full consecutive terms in the same year.

Section 4. Chairpersons of all committees shall present all proposals to the Council for approval. No committee's work shall be undertaken without such approval.

Section 5. A nominating committee shall be appointed at the next to last scheduled meeting to find suitable candidates for the officers of the Council. This committee shall be comprised of three (3) people from the Council membership, but not its current officers.

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by approval of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting members present at any meeting providing that the proposed amendments have been submitted to each member of the Council thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the action is requested.

Section 2. These bylaws shall be reviewed as needed by the Council and its members at any time.

ARTICLE XI: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER REVISED shall govern this Council in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

Abington School District Parent Council Bylaws Approved October 26, 2011.

ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT COUNCIL STANDING RULES

1. The groups that comprise membership in the Abington School District Parent Council are PTO's from Abington Senior High School, Abington Junior High School, Highland Elementary School, McKinley Elementary School, Overlook Elementary School, Roslyn Elementary School, Rydal Elementary School and Willow Hill Elementary, Copper Beech Elementary School PTA, Abington Gifted Education Parent Advisory Council and Special Education.

2. Annual membership dues shall be thirty-three (33) cents per student, capped at two hundred (200) dollars, per member group with an additional charge for the Abington Parent Council bond insuring the member groups. The cost of which bond shall be divided between the member groups.

3. The President, or representative of, Abington School District Parent Council shall sit on the board and attend meetings of the Abington Educational Foundation (AEF).

4. The President, or representative of, Abington School District Parent Council shall attend membership meetings of Abington Community Taskforce (ACT).

5. Any member of the Abington School District Parent Council executive board shall represent the President at AEF and/or ACT meetings if the President is unable to attend.

6. The Treasurer shall handle the disbursement of monies from the Abington Parents Scholarship Fund. A scholarship in the amount of two hundred and fifty (250) dollars will be awarded to two graduating Abington High School students, one male and one female.

Passed by unanimous vote and amended on June 5, 2013

Amendment to Article V, Section 4

The term of office of the elected officers of the Council shall be no more than two (2) consecutive years in the same position, providing officer resides in the Abington School District and is a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the District throughout the term of office. The term of the officers will begin at the last meeting of the current school year after elections. At this time the new officers shall be installed into their respective positions. *In addition, if no viable candidate steps forward to fill the vacant board positions, the position may be held for another term provided the above criteria is still met.*

ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT COUNCIL STANDING RULES

2. Annual membership dues shall be thirty-three (33) cents per student, capped at two hundred (200) dollars, per member group with an additional charge for the Abington Parent Council bond insuring the finances of the member groups. The cost of which bond shall be divided between the member groups.

(a.) Member schools should still have monies in their yearly budgets to cover the cost of the bond. However, if the membership dues in the current school year budget provide sufficient funds to cover the cost of the bond, the bond will be paid by the Council budget and not billed to the member school organizations/associations.