

10/10/12, 5/16/20

North Dakota United Constitution

Preamble

In order to create a better North Dakota, give voice to public and education employees, champion high-quality education and public services, enhance our professional well-being, and promote democracy and social justice, we, the members of North Dakota United, do ordain and establish this constitution and bylaws.

Article I Name

The name of this organization shall be North Dakota United, hereinafter referred to as NDU.

Article II Affiliations

NDU shall maintain affiliation with the National Education Association (NEA), the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), and the national and state AFL-CIO.

Article III Membership

Section 1: Categories

The following categories of membership shall exist: active and non-active.

Section 2: Non-discrimination

Membership eligibility shall be determined without regard to sex, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation or political affiliation.

Section 3: Dues

Membership dues shall provide the necessary funds for NDU to promote the common welfare of its members and to advance the cause of NDU. Dues amounts shall be recommended by the board of directors and approved by the Delegate Assembly. Members shall pay local, state and national dues as assessed.

Section 4: Membership and Fiscal Year

The membership and fiscal year shall begin on Sept. 1 and end the following Aug. 31.

Article IV Delegate Assembly

Section 1: Authority

The Delegate Assembly shall be the governing body of NDU, with the authority to determine policies and direct the actions of the board to carry out those policies. The Delegate Assembly shall meet annually to conduct its business. (2020)

Section 2: Composition

The delegates to the Delegate Assembly shall consist of the board of NDU plus members elected from each local, apportioned on the basis of the rules in the NDU bylaws.

Section 3: Special Delegate Assemblies

Special sessions of the Delegate Assembly may be called by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the board of directors or by a majority vote of the Delegate Assembly. The business of a special session shall be limited to that which is included in the notice of the meeting.

Article V Board of Directors

Section 1: The board of directors shall be made up of the elected officers and board members as established in the bylaws.

Section 2: The terms of office of the board of directors shall be as established in the bylaws.

Section 3: The board of directors or its designee, except as specified otherwise in this constitution and bylaws, shall have the authority to exercise general supervision and management over the affairs of NDU.

Section 4: The board of directors shall adopt policies to provide for the legal defense of members in job security and other work-related legal actions in conformance with the policies of the AFT and the NEA.

Article VI Officers

Section 1: NDU shall have the following officers: a president, a vice president for education-related professionals and a vice president for public employees.

Section 2: The terms and duties of these officers shall be as set forth in the bylaws.

Article VII Elections

The board shall oversee all elections and shall appoint an Elections Committee to conduct elections under the rules in the NDU bylaws.

Article VIII Regions, Locals and Chapters

Section 1: Regions

For the purposes of electing representation, the state is considered to consist of four regions: Northeast, Northwest, Southwest and Southeast. The boundaries of these districts are given in the NDU bylaws.

Section 2: Locals

A. Locals are the basic unit of self-governance in NDU and the primary source for services to members. Any group of 10 or more members of NDU may, by adopting a constitution and bylaws in accordance with NDU's constitution and bylaws, organize a local and be granted a charter by the board of directors of NDU. The 10-member rule may be waived by the board of directors.

B. Locals are entitled to representation at the Delegate Assembly and to all rights and privileges granted under this constitution and bylaws.

C. Locals and chapters of the NDPEA and the NDEA that were in existence at the time of the implementation of this constitution and bylaws shall automatically be recognized as locals and affiliates of NDU.

D. Each local of NDU shall provide NDU with a current copy of the local's constitution and bylaws. Each local's constitution and bylaws shall not be in conflict with the constitutions and bylaws of NDU, the AFT or the NEA.

E. A local may be placed into receivership by a three-fourths vote of the board of directors for good cause, and after notice and an opportunity to be heard. In this event, or in the event of the dissolution of a local, all assets, properties and other material in possession of a local shall revert to NDU. The board of directors shall have the authority to reinstate a local by a majority vote.

F. A chapter may be organized by any group of members who have a common purpose. Chapters shall be affiliated with a local.

Article IX Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by any local or by the board at least 90 days prior to the Delegate Assembly. Proposed amendments shall be published in an official publication of NDU, which shall serve as a first reading of the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment shall be acted on at the first Delegate Assembly following its first reading.

Section 2: Amendments to this constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Delegate Assembly and take effect immediately upon their adoption.

Article X General

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern in all matters not specifically covered by the constitution or bylaws of NDU.