

Magnet Schools of America, Inc.
1909 K Street, N.W. Suite C-140
Washington, D.C. 20006
Association By-Laws

Adopted by the Membership in September 2019

Article I. Name

Section 1: This Association shall be known as Magnet Schools of America, Inc.

Section 2: Upon dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article II. Mission and Pillars

Section 1: Mission

Magnet Schools of America provides leadership for innovative instructional programs that promote choice, equity, diversity, and academic excellence for all students.

Section 2: Pillars of Magnet Schools

- A. *Diversity* is a cornerstone to offering students a global educational experience. Schools, through recruitment and lotteries, strive to have student populations that are reflective of the community. Culturally competent educational environments model empathy, respect and working collaboratively with a variety of persons.
- B. *Innovative Curriculum and Development* is developed to assure theme-based relevant instruction to students. Effective teaching strategies, emulating from best practices, are implemented through the inclusion of the school's theme. Curriculum is based on high quality rigorous standards that prepare students for higher education and career success.
- C. *Academic Excellence* is demonstrated through a commitment to multi-dimensional instruction focused on the learner needs. Multiple assessment strategies are employed to monitor student learning, progress and success. High expectations are clearly articulated and personalized supports are in place to address the interests and aspirations of all students.
- D. *High Quality Instructional Systems* are rooted in well-prepared, well-educated professional educators. Teachers and administrators who are student-centered, collaborative and inquisitive prepare learners to be world ready, workforce ready and higher education ready.
- E. *Family and Community Partnerships* are mutually beneficial, offer a system of support, shared ownership and a caring spirit and are designed to enhance a theme integrated educational environment. Partnerships with parents are essential for a rich educational experience for students. Community partnerships include a diverse array of stakeholders including business, health and human services, and policy makers to support the education of all students.

Article III. Membership

Section 1: Membership Categories

- A. Supporter Membership
 - Individual Membership
 - Educational Consultant
 - Business/Vendor Membership
 - Parent Membership
- B. Institutional Membership
 - Schools/
 - Departments/
 - District Offices
- C. District Membership
- D. Honorary Membership

Section 2: Specific membership benefits are listed in MSA'S Policies and Procedures Manual.

Section 3: All voting members of the Board of Directors must be dues-paying members of the Magnet Schools of America, Inc.

Section 4: Membership dues will be set by action of the Executive Committee.

Article IV. Dues

Section 1: Dues for Supporter Members, Institutional Members, and District Members shall be reviewed annually and set by the Board of Directors. These shall be payable upon joining, and annually thereafter on or before July 1, but no later than October 1.

Section 2: Unpaid dues for a period of three months will result in membership termination.

Article V. Executive Committee

Section 1: The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Immediate Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President may appoint a Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian will be a voting member of the Board of Directors but not of the Executive Committee. The Parliamentarian may be appointed from the general membership or from the sitting Board of Directors.

Section 2: Executive Committee members consisting of the President, President-Elect, and Immediate Past President shall serve a term of two years. The Secretary and Treasurer have no term limits. The President-Elect, upon serving two years, shall assume the position of the President on the first day of the first month following the National Conference on Magnet Schools. The President will become the Immediate Past President.

Section 3: A nominee for President-Elect must have served a full two-year term on the Board of Directors at the time of assuming the position of President-Elect.

Article VI. Duties of Executive Committee

Section 1: The President shall preside at the Annual Business Meeting and all meetings of the Board of Directors. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and shall perform all other duties pertaining to this office, as appropriate to the Mission and Pillars of Magnet Schools of America, Inc.

Section 2: The President-Elect shall, in the absence of the President, perform the responsibilities of the President; he/she shall assume office on the first day of the first month following the conclusion of the National Conference of Magnet Schools.

Section 3: The Executive Director and President of Magnet Schools of America shall coordinate the on-site preparation of the National Conference in cooperation with the local conference committee members.

Section 4: The Secretary shall keep accurate records and reports of the meetings of the Board of Directors, and the Annual Business Meeting; he/she shall have charge of all committee reports submitted for the record.

Section 5: Treasurer shall report all dues and other monies to which the association is entitled as well as financial data as appropriate to all meetings of the Board of Directors including the members at the Annual Business Meeting, based on financial reports submitted by the Executive Director of Magnet Schools of America, Inc. He/she shall co-sign checks with the Executive Director in accordance with policy established by the Executive Committee, and prepare the annual budget in cooperation with the Executive Director and the Executive Committee.

Section 6: The National Office (in lieu of the President-Elect) shall update MSA's Policies and Procedures Manual on an annual basis.

Article VII. Board of Directors

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Committee, 6 Regional Directors, 6 Specialized Directors, 3 representatives of the Past President's Advisory Committee and a Parliamentarian if appointed by the President.

Section 2: Regional Directors and Specialized Directors shall not serve for more than three consecutive terms in the same position. Each term is two years.

Section 3: The Board of Directors meets three times a year including one at the national conference. Board members are expected to attend all meetings. The President may call additional meetings as needed to conduct the business of the organization.

Section 4: Regional Structure. The regional structure shall consist of six (6) geographical regions with an elected Regional Director for each region. The Regional Directors are voted upon by the membership of their respective regions.

A. Region I – Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont

B. Region II – Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, Marianas Islands and Trust Territory of the Pacific

C. Region III – Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands

D. Region IV – Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and International

E. Region V – Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Mississippi and Texas

F. Region VI – Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin

Section 5: Specialized Directors. Up to three (3) specialized directors shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee and voted on by the board membership in accordance with Article VII, Section 1. Three (3) specialized directors shall be elected by the MSA membership. Specialized areas include, but are not limited to the following: (a) Higher Education, State, or Local School Officials, and Equity Assistance Centers (b) Theme-Based Specialist, (c) Curriculum Specialist, (d) Evaluation and Research Specialist, (e) Nonprofit/private affiliate, (f) Magnet Affiliate.

Article VIII. Duties of the Board of Directors

Section 1: General Duties:

- A. Shall articulate the Mission and Pillars of the organization.
- B. Shall attend all Board Meetings.
- C. Shall serve as an active member of an MSA Project Work Group.
- D. Shall assist the National Office with membership.
- E. Shall serve as a liaison to provide support from a specific geographical area.
- F. Shall provide information to the National Office related to activities within the state/region/nation.
- G. Shall facilitate meetings, as appropriate, at the National Conference.
- H. Shall contribute to MSA publications.
- I. Shall adhere to Conflict of Interest and Roles and Responsibilities Guidelines.

Article IX. Board Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees of the Association shall be determined by the Executive Committee and shall include “A-F” as appropriate to the operation of the organization.

- A. Executive Committee
- B. Finance Committee, comprised of the Executive Committee
- C. Human Resources Committee, comprised of the Executive Committee
- D. Regional Directors Committee
- E. Standards and Certification Committee
- F. Past Presidents Advisory Committee

Section 2: Operating Committees, known as Project Work Groups, shall be established by the President as shall its chairs and members, and shall reflect the diversity of the Board of Directors. The Project Work Groups are established as necessary.

Article X. Appointment of the Executive Director

Section 1: The President and designated members of the Executive Committee shall recommend the appointment of the Executive Director for approval by the Board of Directors. A 2/3 majority of the full Board of Directors is required.

Section 2: The Executive Director carries out the policies of the Board and the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Section 3: The Executive Director shall be bonded.

Article XI. Parliamentary Procedure

Section 1: All meetings shall follow *Robert's Rules of Order*, Newly Revised, and current edition.

Section 2: A quorum shall constitute the presence of a majority of the Board present at meetings of the Board. When a quorum is once present to organize a meeting, it is not broken by the subsequent withdrawal of any member. The members present may adjourn the meeting despite the absence of a "quorum."

Section 3: A vote of the Board of Directors may be held electronically if the issues are clearly delineated.

Article XII. Elections

Section 1: Election procedures will consist of a weighted voting system to allow an equitable balance between Supporter Members, Institutional Members, and District Members.

Article XIII. Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1: Proposed Amendments approved by a vote of the membership shall take effect upon approval and will be published in *e-Choice*. Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed by any member in writing and submitted to the President of Magnet Schools of America.

Section 2: A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast to amend the by-laws by the membership identified as in good standing is required for an amendment to carry.