

Broward County School Social Work Association, Inc.
By-Laws 2003

By-Laws of the Broward County School Social Work Association (BCSSWA), Inc.

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be the Broward County School Social Work Association, Inc.

ARTICLE II

Object

This is a non-profit, educational organization whose purposes are:

To foster a closer personal and professional relationship among School Social Workers throughout the Broward County School District;

To assume an active role in communicating the role of the School Social Worker to others and enlisting their cooperation in working towards improved services;

To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, information, and skills among members and the community at large;

To establish and maintain a liaison with Social Work educators;

To form liaisons with other Student Support Services workers and Associations;

To provide support and direction to district-wide and/or regional school social work organizations;

To provide a vehicle for social policy change through community and legislative efforts;

To serve as an advocate for the rights of children and families;

To develop partnerships with the business and professional community;

All fundraising efforts shall serve the purpose of enhancing the fulfillment of the aforementioned objectives.

ARTICLE III

Members

This association shall include five types of memberships:

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| Full Membership: | Open to all Social Workers holding a school social work position, any retired school social worker, and or Mental Health professionals employed by the Broward County School Board *, and/or any individual holding a degree in Social Work and employed by the Broward County School District. |
| Associate Membership: | Open to any person interested in the professional area of School Social Work. |
| Student Membership: | Any student interested in School Social Work who is attending any CSWE accredited school of social work. |
| Honorary Membership: | Bestowed at the discretion of the BCSSWA Executive Board. |

Only full members shall be able to vote, make motions, chair committees, and serve on the Board of Directors. All members may serve on committees.

Dues: Full Members shall pay full dues. Associate Members shall receive a 25% reduction in dues. Student Members and retirees shall receive a 50% reduction in dues.

ARTICLE IV

Offices

Section 1: The officers of the Association shall be President; First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall perform duties prescribed by these By-Laws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Association.

Section 2: Each officer shall serve a minimum term of two years. Each officer can serve a maximum of two terms in the position. The terms of office shall begin at the close of the bi-annual meeting at which they are elected. Elections shall be held by May 31st of the election year. To the extent permitted by law, the corporation shall indemnify an individual against liability and expenses incurred in any

proceeding in which the individual was joined as a party because of his or her service at any time as a director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, (FL. Statute 617.0831).

Section 3: A Nominating Committee chairperson shall be elected by the Executive Board at its January meeting of the election year. The chairperson shall select other committee members. It shall be the duty of this committee to solicit nominations county-wide and to develop a slate of officers; slate shall consist of up to two candidates for each office for which there will be an opening, plus allowances for write-in candidates.

Section 4: Officers shall be elected by ballot. One eligible member—one vote. The nominating committee shall mail a ballot at least 45 days prior to the bi-annual meeting to all full and retired members.

Section 5: After the charter term of office, the presidential candidate shall have been a member of the association a minimum of two consecutive years and shall have served as a member of the Executive Board during either or both of the preceding two years.

Section 6: The Treasurer shall be authorized to pay the financial obligations of the Association and shall bill others for services rendered by the Association. By the June meeting, the current Treasurer shall submit a budget for the next fiscal year. The Treasurer will provide operational guidelines and policies to be passed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board may amend the budget at Executive Board meetings. At the time of each Fall meeting, the President shall appoint two (2) Executive Board members to perform an audit of the financial records of the Association by the May meeting. The Treasurer shall assist the Audit Committee in the preparation of their report which shall be submitted to the Executive Board at its June meeting.

Section 7: After the charter term of office, the First and Second Vice-President shall be a member of the Association for one year prior to their election. The First Vice-President will chair meetings in absence of the President, providing that a majority, plus one, of full membership is present. The Second Vice-President will chair in absence of the President and First Vice-President. The First Vice-President shall be designated ex-officio of the Workshop/Program Committee.

Section 8: The Secretary shall record and publish minutes of all General and Executive Board meetings. Duties will include coordinating with the Executive Board date, time and place of meetings, and assisting President with notifying members of meetings. The Secretary shall also be ex-officio chair of the Public Relations Committee.

Section 9: In case of a vacancy in any other office, the President shall fill the vacancy by appointment with the approval of the Executive Board; such appointee to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 10: Under special circumstances, the Executive Board, by two-thirds vote, can waive this article.

ARTICLE V

Meetings

The Association shall conduct at least four (4) local meetings per school year.

ARTICLE VI

The Executive Board

Section 1: The President, the First and Second Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Immediate Past-President, and the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees shall constitute the Executive Board. The Broward Director of Student Services **shall also serve on the Executive Board.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association between its business meetings, fix the time and place of meetings and make recommendations to the Association. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Association, and none of the acts shall conflict with action taken by the Association.

Section 3: The Executive Board shall meet at least four (4) times per year prior to the scheduled member meetings of the Association. Special meetings can be called by the President. The President (or his/her designee), two duly elected officers, and one standing committee chairperson shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4: The retiring and newly elected members of the Executive Board shall meet immediately following the election of officers at which time each officer shall present to his/her successor all materials pertaining to his/her office.

ARTICLE VII

Standing Committees

Section 1: The Workshop/Program Committee shall be composed of a minimum of 5 members, including a Chairperson. The duties of the workshop/program committee will be to plan the program and make the local arrangements for the workshops. The committee shall report regularly to the Executive Board for its approval.

Section 2: A Legislative Committee shall inform the membership of existing and pending local and state legislation. It shall keep the membership informed of the legislative programs of other organizations vital to its interest.

Section 3: A Public Relations Committee shall publish and mail the newsletter at least three times per year. The committee shall seek ways to inform the membership and the public at large of our associations' objectives particularly as it relates to professional issues and the specific needs of children and families in our community.

Section 4: Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President of the Association or the Executive Board from time to time as deemed necessary to carry on the work of the Association. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendment of By-Laws

Section 1: These By-Laws can be amended by two-thirds of the *officers* responding by a *verbal vote*.

Section 2: Proposals to amend the By-Laws may be initiated by the Executive Board or by any individual member. Proposals to amend by individual members must be submitted in writing and signed by at least 20% of the members of the Association. These proposals must be submitted to the Executive Board at least sixty (60) days prior to the voting.

ARTICLE IX

Dissolution

Section 1: This Association shall be incorporated until dissolved by two-thirds vote of the members in good standing.

Section 2: Upon dissolution, any funds held by the corporation will be distributed to the Florida Association of School Social Workers.

* amended by board vote 8-26-09

** amended by board vote 8-26-09

MISSION STATEMENT

The Broward County School Social Work Association (BCSSWA) promotes and serves the needs of school social workers employed by the local school district. Through the provision of networking and educational opportunities, the BCSSWA seeks to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, information and skills among members and the community at large. In addition, BCSSWA will provide a vehicle for social policy change through community and legislative efforts and will actively seek the development of partnerships with the business and professional community.