***Bylaws***

Northeastern Zone

Of

RENY (Retired Educators of NY)

the DBA of

NYS Retired Teachers' Association Inc.

Revision of the Bylaws 2023

NYSRTA/NEZ

Bylaws p.2

***Bylaws For the***

Northeastern Zone

Of

RENY (Retired Educators of NY)

the DBA of NYS Retired Teachers' Association Inc.

## ARTICLE I

#### Name

**Section 1** The name of this organization shall be Northeastern Zone of the

New York State Retired Teachers' Association Inc. and shall consist of Clinton and Essex counties. Be it known that RENY and New York State Retired Teachers' Association Inc. ( NYSRTA) are used as one and the same for the purposes of this document.

## ARTICLE II

#### Objectives

**Section 1** To promote the economic, social and professional status of retired educators.

**Section 2** To afford opportunity for the expression and interchange of opinions on

subjects of special interest to retired educators.

**Section 3** To act on the behalf of retired educators in matters involving their needs.

**Section 4 …...** To work for the advancement of education in the State and Nation.

**Section 5** To promote the status of all senior citizens.

**Section 6 …...** RENY does not support any political candidate or political party. The Association shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

## ARTICLE III

#### Governance

**Section 1.** The Zone shall be governed by its officially adopted Bylaws which shall

not be in conflict with the Bylaws of NYSRTA / RENY.

NYSRTA/NEZ

Bylaws p.3

### ARTICLE IV

#### Membership

Membership in the Zone shall be of three types: 1. Educator. 2. Associate. 3. Spouse.

1. Educator membership is open to all certified retired who indicate an interest in promoting the objectives of the Association. Educator members have all privileges of membership including the right to vote and to hold office.
2. Associate membership in the Association is open to all non-certified staff who or are retired from, an educational institution. Associate members must indicate an interest in promoting the objectives of the Association. Associate members, by paying Annual or Life membership dues, shall be entitled to all privileges of membership except the right to vote or to hold office at the zone or state level.
3. Spouse. If a spouse of a member or deceased member does not meet the Bylaws qualifications as an Educator or Associate member, he/she may become a Spouse member by paying Annual or Life membership dues and shall be entitled to all privileges of membership except the right to vote or to hold office.
4. Honorary membership may be extended to persons who are deemed worthy and are recommended by the executive board. They must also be confirmed by a vote at the annual meeting. Honorary member shall not pay dues and shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.

### ARTICLE V

#### Finance

**Section 1......** The fiscal year of the Zone shall be January 1st through December 31st•

**Section 2** Annual dues for membership shall be the amount set by NYSRTA. Dues shall be

paid to the NYSRTA office upon receipt of notice.

### ARTICLE VI

#### Elected Officers

**Section 1** The elected officers of this Zone shall be as follows:

* 1. President / Co-President
  2. Senior Vice President - President-Elect
  3. Vice President for Friendly Services
  4. Vice President for State and Federal Legislative Action
  5. Vice President for Membership
  6. Secretary

G Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer

NYSRTA/NEZ

Bylawsp.4

The elected officers of the Zone shall have such powers and authority and shall perform such duties as are designated, and shall have such other powers and duties as may be from time to time assigned to them by the Board of Directors. To be a member of the BOD you are required to hold an Educators Membership. The term for an elected officer shall begin November 1st and end on October 31st of the following year.

**Section 2……**Duties

1. The President / Co-President shall:
   1. Preside at all Zone and Board of Directors meetings.
   2. Represent the Zone at all State Executive Board meetings and special meetings called by NYSRTA.
   3. Appoint, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, any vacancies that may occur in any elected office, standing committee or special committee of the zone and a parliamentarian.
   4. By and with the consent of the Board of Directors at their August meeting, appoint delegates to the Annual Meeting of NYSRTA (RENY). Set the calendar for the following year.
   5. Appoint person(s) to attend any other meeting arranged and/or approved by the Zone and/or NYSRTA.
   6. Call meetings of the Board of Directors as the business of the Zone requires.
   7. Approve or disapprove each voucher.
   8. Be an ex-officio member of each Committee except Nominations.
   9. Send out notices of meetings.
   10. Perform any other duties, which are not assigned to other officers and committees, as may be necessary to discharge properly the functions of his/her office.
   11. Perform the duties of the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer when the latter two are unable to act. The president’s name must also appear on the signature card.
2. The Senior Vice President shall:

1. In the absence of the President, the Senior Vice President will perform all duties of that office

2. The Senior Vice President shall perform such duties as the President may direct.

1. The Vice President for Friendly Service shall:
   1. Be chair of the Friendly Service Committee.
   2. Perform such other duties as the President may direct.

NYSRTA/NEZ

Bylaws p.5

1. The Vice President for State and Federal Legislative Action shall:
2. Appoint a co-chair and with that person coordinate legislative action at the state and/or federal level.
3. Insure training of local legislative advocates.
4. Implement visitations to state and federal representatives in order to discuss, promote and support legislation pertinent to NYSRTA / RENYgoals.
5. The Vice President for Membership shall:
   1. Be Chair of the Membership Committee
   2. Perform such other duties as the President may directed.
6. The Secretary shall:
   1. Record the proceedings of the Zone membership meetings and those of the Board of Directors Meetings.
   2. Keep such records in a digitized format.
   3. Have available at all meetings a copy of the Bylaws and a list of elected officers.
7. The Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer shall:
   1. Be responsible for keeping an accurate record of all monies received and disbursed.
   2. Pay bills of the Zone approved by the President and/or the Board of Directors.
   3. Serve as a member of the Budget and Finance Committees.
   4. Render a financial report at the Board of Directors meetings, the Annual Business Meeting and at such other times as requested by the President.

### ARTICLE VII

#### Board of Directors

**Section 1.** The Board of Directors shall be composed of all elected officers,

Chairs of Standing Committees, the Immediate Past President, and appointed positions.

**Section 2** The Board of Directors shall carry on the general business of the Zone

under the direction of the President.

**Section 3** The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President or a

majority of the members of the Board of Directors.

**Section 4……** Two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum and each position on the Board of directors shall have only one vote.(for example, even if we have a President and a Co-President there would only be one vote for that position)

NYSRTA/NEZ

Bylaws p.6

### ARTICLE VIII

#### Elections and Terms of Office

**Section 1......** A nomination committee of three members, with priority given to past presidents, appointed by the President at least thirty days before the September Annual Business Meeting, shall prepare a slate of nominees to be presented at the September Annual Business Meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

**Section 2…...**Using Roberts Rules of Order Newly revised, elections shall be held at the Annual Business Meeting to be prior to October 1. Voting shall be by voice or show of hands unless there are two or more candidates nominated for the same office. In that case; voting shall be by ballot for the contested office. In case of a vote by ballot, the presiding officer shall appoint tellers to distribute, collect, count the ballots and provide the presiding officer with the official results of the voting whereupon the results will be announced to the meeting assembled members. A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for an election if there are more than two nominees for a particular office.

**Section 3…..** All officers shall take office on November 1 and shall serve for one year. Officers shall be eligible for re-election.

**Section 4…..** All vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the President.

### ARTICLE IX

#### Committees

**Section 1** There shall be the following standing committees:

1. Budget and Finance
2. Bylaws
3. Nominations
4. Resolutions
5. Student Scholarship
6. Teacher Award
7. Community Service
8. Historian
9. Public Relations
10. Health Care
11. Newsletter
12. Program

**Section 2** Special Committees, when deemed necessary, shall be appointed by the

Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the President.

**Section 3** Chairs of Committees shall:

A Select members of their own committees in consultation with the President with the exception of the Nominations Committee.

B Make reports whenever requested.

Bylaws p.7

## ARTICLE X

#### Duties of Standing Committees

**Section 1** The *Budget and Finance Committee* shall:

1. Prepare a budget showing estimated balances, receipts and expenditures of the Zone for the ensuing year.
2. Present this budget to the Annual Business Meeting for approval.
3. Insure that an outside concern audits the books of the Treasurer at the close of the fiscal year and report at the next membership meeting.

**Section 2…...**The *Bylaws Committee* shall prepare and submit recommendations for state Bylaw changes to the Board of Directors. If approved by 2/3 of the Board of Directors or the membership, the bylaw proposal would go to the RENY Executive Board. Following the vote, the results will be forwarded to the state bylaws chair.

**Section 3…..**The *Nominations Committee* shall prepare a slate of nominees to be

presented 30 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

**Section 4…...**The *Resolutions Committee* shall solicit, prepare and/or present resolutions to

the Annual Business Meeting of the Zone and forward results to the State.

**Section 5……** The *Student Scholarship Committee* shall be responsible for contacting schools in the NEZ geographic area and requesting that they encourage students planning to major in Education to apply for NEZ scholarship. The committee will review applications and select recipients.

**Section 6……** The *Teacher Award Committee* shall contact schools in the NEZ geographical area to provide information about the NEZ award and the Karl Kramer education award for active teachers as well as any other award which might become available. This award is intended to fund innovative enhancements of classroom activities by a teacher.

The committee will review applications and select recipients.

**Section 7……** The *Community Service Committee* shall organize volunteers for projects which benefit the community such as, but not limited to, food shelf and Christmas toy drives.

**Section 8......** The *Historian* shall collect, file, and preserve any and all data and records

which pertain to the establishment, growth and development of the Zone in a digitized format.

**Section 9** The *Public Relations Committee* shall:

1. Provide area newspapers and news media with information concerning the activities of the Zone and its members.
2. Seek to promote a good relationship with active teachers' groups as

well as the general public.

**Section 10** The *Health Care Coordinator(s)* shall provide members of the Zone with

information and assistance so they may make informed choices on health care.

**Section 11.....** The *Newsletter Editor* shall be responsible for publishing the NOR-EASTER

Newsletter prior to each membership meeting.

**Section 12** The *Program Committee* shall provide interesting and educational programs at

each of the membership meetings.

## Bylaws p.8

## ARTICLE XI

#### Meetings

**Section 1 .......**Regular membership meetings (in person or virtually) shall be held a minimum of twice each year at a time and place approved by the President and the Board of Directors.

Electronic meetings are authorized in accordance with parliamentary authority. Electronic meetings must provide an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication among all members in attendance. Only those in attendance shall vote.

**Section 2** The September membership meeting shall be the Annual Business Meeting at which there shall be the election of officers and the reception of reports (Note ARTICLE VIII, Sec. 2).

**Section 3** Special meetings may be called by the President.

**Section 4** Notice of each regular membership and/or special meeting must be sent to

the membership at least fifteen days before the date of the meeting.

## ARTICLE XIl

#### Rules of Order

**Section l …....** *Robert's Rules of Order Newly revised* shall govern the conduct of all membership meetings.

**Section 2……**The president may appoint a parliamentarian.

## ARTICLE XIII

#### Amendments

**Section 1…...** Amendments to the NEZ bylaws may be proposed by any Educator member of the Zone.

**Section 2…...**The NEZ bylaws may be amended at any regular or special membership meeting by a 2/3 affirmative vote of those members present and voting.

**Section 3** Proposed amendments must be presented to the Board of Directors in writing at least thirty days preceding the meeting at which such amendments are to be

voted upon by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4……** Proposed amendments must be presented to the membership in a meeting that is assembled and in written form with ample opportunity for discussion before a vote shall be taken.

**Section 5……** State bylaws propositions (amendments) must be acted upon by NEZ Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may choose if warranted to have amendments voted on by the membership.

## ARTICLE XIV

#### Adoption and Effective Date

The NEZ Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Board of Directors or the membership present and voting at any regular or special meeting.

Passage of the state Bylaws shall require a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Board of Directors or the membership present and voting at any regular or special meeting.

This meeting must take place prior to the RENY Annual Meeting and be early enough to communicate the results to the state Board of Directors to become an agenda item at the RENY Annual Meeting. A 2/3 vote by 2/3 of the zones is required to become an agenda item.

ADDENDUM

1. It is established that the President of the Zone selects the names of the convention.
2. We are usually allocated 1 zone delegates for every 100 zone members, not counting Zone President and a few other State Representatives as per the direction of the RENY office.
3. Delegates will each pay a determined assigned amount towards expenses to attend convention and NEZ will pay the difference. Travel expenses will be incurred by the delegate unless otherwise stipulated by RENY procedure.

C. Alternates are encouraged to attend the convention at their own expense.

* 1. Letters of interest will be used to determine prioritization of Alternates, in the event of replacing a delegate.
  2. **No money** will be allocated for Alternates.

D. It is recommended that delegates accept the following responsibilities representatives of the NEZ

1. They need to attend the committee meetings that are held at the convention.

It is the responsibility of President to see that all delegates have been assigned to committee meetings. . .

1. Delegates need to be responsibly involved in their delegate duties and file a report to the membership via the newsletter. Presentations to a membership meeting is also encouraged.