

**REGION _____, TEXAS ASSOCIATION
FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS
OF AMERICA, INC.**

CONSTITUTION / BYLAWS

Revised and Adopted by the Region House of Delegates

2009

REGION ____, TEXAS ASSOCIATION
FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA, INC.

C O N S T I T U T I O N

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be the Region ____, Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. The letters FCCLA may be officially used to designate the organization. Its units, divisions, or members thereof may be designated FCCLA.

ARTICLE II
MISSION AND PURPOSES

Section I. Mission

The mission of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is to promote personal growth and leadership development through family and consumer sciences education. Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and community leader, members develop skills for life through --

- character development;
- creative and critical thinking;
- interpersonal communications;
- practical knowledge, and;
- career preparation

Section II. Purposes

Organized instruction relating to the mission is a part of the family and consumer sciences education program in the schools. The purposes of the organization shall be:

1. To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.
2. To strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society.
3. To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community.
4. To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony.
5. To promote greater understanding between youth and adults.
6. To provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities.
7. To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today's society.
8. To promote family and consumer sciences, family and consumer sciences careers and related occupations.

ARTICLE III
ORGANIZATION

Section I. Region ____, Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc., shall be affiliated with the state and national associations.

Section II. The regional association shall consist of local chapters in public or private junior, middle, or senior high schools. These chapters shall be grouped into regions corresponding to the regional service areas identified by Family and Consumer Sciences Education, Texas Education Agency.

Chapter members must be enrolled or have been enrolled in a family and consumer sciences course.

Section III. FCCLA Chapter Handbook published by Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. shall be the official guide for the region.

ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP

Section I. Membership in this organization shall be (1) active, (2) alumni, (3) associate, and (4) honorary.

Section II. Active membership - Any student who is regularly enrolled in a public or private, junior, middle, or senior high school may be eligible for active membership in Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Active members shall be or shall have been enrolled in a family and consumer sciences class. Such active membership may be retained as long as the pupil continues to attend junior, middle, or senior high school and has paid dues to an affiliated chapter. Active members may wear the official FCCLA pin with the official guard.

Section III. Alumni Membership - Former FCCLA, FHA, NHA (New Homemakers of America), or HERO chapter members desiring to continue support of and involvement with the organization following high school graduation are eligible for alumni membership. Alumni members shall not be eligible to hold office, make motions, or vote. Both active and alumni members may wear the official FCCLA pin.

Associate Membership - Former active members and other adults who share the goals and purposes of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America and its programs and who wish to support the continuing development of FCCLA youth shall be eligible for membership of Alumni and Associates. Members of Alumni and Associates shall not be eligible to hold office, make motions, or vote. Alumni and Associates may wear the official Alumni and Associate pin.

Section IV. Honorary Membership

The regional association may, each year, confer on five (5) persons the title of honorary member to be recognized by the regional and state associations. This title shall be conferred only on a person who has rendered outstanding services in helping to advance the family and consumer sciences program. The regional honorary members will be selected from the pool of nominations by the current years regional officers.

The chapter shall determine the number of honorary memberships to be awarded locally.

Regional honorary members may wear the official FCCLA pin with the torch symbol and the official H guard. The symbol for the respective group honorary membership shall be as follows: (1) chapter honorary member--scroll; (2) state honorary member--torch; and (3) national honorary membership--rose.

Regional honorary members may attend all meetings but may not make motions, vote, or serve on committees. Such membership is to be perpetual.

ARTICLE V
OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section I. The officers of Region ____, Texas association shall be president, 13 Vice Presidents, and three state officers.

Section II. PRESIDENT shall preside at all business meetings of the regional association and of the Regional Executive Council; shall appoint all committees except the Nominating Committee and serve as an ex officio member of those committees; shall guide the work of the year and perform any duties as president, in the parliamentary authority adopted.

Section III. VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS shall be an aide to the president and shall, in the absence of the president, perform the duties of that office. This officer shall chair the Program Committee to plan and promote the program of work.

Section IV. VICE PRESIDENT OF ACHIEVEMENT shall chair the Achievement Committee to create interest and encourage participation in Power of One and other projects.

Section V. VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE shall promote community service activities in the region and on the state level.

Section VI. VICE PRESIDENT OF CORRESPONDENCE shall take care of the correspondence of the regional association and shall chair the Resolutions Committee.

- Section VII. VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE shall collect all meeting registration funds, be responsible for meeting registration before and during the conference, and keep accurate records to report to the state office.
- Section VIII. VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP shall promote membership within the region and develop membership programs and retention strategies.
- Section IX. VICE PRESIDENT OF PARLIAMENTARY LAW shall assist and advise the president on points of parliamentary law and shall chair the Constitution Committee, House of Delegates, and Nominating Committee.
- Section X. VICE PRESIDENT OF PROJECTS shall chair the Projects Committee to create interest and encourage participation in regional, state, and national projects.
- Section XI. VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS shall chair the Public Relations Committee to promote Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc.
- Section XII. VICE PRESIDENT OF RECORDS shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings of the Texas Association and the Regional Executive Council.
- Section XII. VICE PRESIDENT OF RECREATION shall chair the Recreation Committee to compile suggestions for wholesome recreation for members.
- Section XIII. VICE PRESIDENTS OF STAR EVENTS shall chair the STAR Events Committee to assist in the organization and implementation of STAR Events at the regional and state levels.
- Section XIV. STATE OFFICER CANDIDATES shall chair/serve on the Leadership Training Committee and represent the region on the state level.

ARTICLE VI ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Section I. Each chapter may have one officer candidate. Chapters with more than fifty (50) affiliated members may have two officer candidates. The maximum number of officer candidates for each chapter is two. A school with multiple chapters may not have more than four candidates. If a region does not receive enough candidates for a full slate of officers, nominations may be taken from the floor at the House of Delegates meeting. Candidates nominated from the floor must meet all officer requirements and follow the procedures outlined for officer elections. It shall be the duty of the House of Delegates to elect regional officers.

- Section II. The election of officers shall be by a majority vote of the accredited delegates present and voting at the annual regional meeting.
- Section III. Following the election of officers, an interview with the region nominating committee will take place.
- Section IV. If it is impossible to hold a regional meeting, the election may be by mail, such decision to be made by majority vote of the Executive Council. In this case, a printed ballot containing the name of each nominee for office shall be mailed to every affiliated chapter with instructions to return at a stated time. If not returned by the stated time, the ballot shall be void.
- Section V. The region shall select two (2) members to serve on the state nominating committee, which prepares the slate of officers from the nominees elected by the five regions.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

- Section I. There shall be an annual meeting of the Region ____, Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc.
- Section II. The Region ____ House of Delegates shall be the governing body of the regional association. The privilege of making motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to accredited delegates.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

- Section I. The Regional Constitution may be amended at any annual regional meeting by two-thirds (2/3) of those delegates present and voting, provided a copy of the amendments has been sent by the Regional Executive Council at least 30 days before the meeting to each affiliated chapter in the region.

B Y L A W S

ARTICLE I DUES

- Section I. Annual membership dues in the regional association shall be fixed by the State Executive Council and approved by a majority vote of the accredited delegates present and voting at the state meeting of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. Membership dues shall be received on or before November 1. Dues for additional members, for transfers or new second semester family and consumer sciences students should be sent by February 15.

- Section II. The chapter treasurer shall send full per capita amount of dues to the State Association.
- Section III. Chapters may vote to determine the amount of their local dues.
- Section IV. A member changing from one chapter to another at any time during the year shall present membership card to the new chapter as a receipt for dues paid.
- Section V. The fiscal year shall be from July 1 through June 30.
- Section VI. Dissolution or Liquidation - Upon final dissolution or liquidation of Region ____, Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc., and after the discharge or satisfaction of all outstanding obligations and liabilities, the remaining assets of the regional association shall be forwarded to the Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc.

ARTICLE II OFFICERS

- Section I. All region officers, shall be elected at the annual regional meeting to serve a term of one year or until their successors are elected and installed, and thereafter, shall not be eligible for the same regional office. They shall be installed and assume office at the close of the regional meeting of which they are elected.
- Section II. If a vacancy occurs in any office, between the election date and the national meeting of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, except that of president, officer candidates who were not elected to an office at the regional meeting will be invited to fill the vacancy. Invitations will be extended based on the number of votes received. First runner-up would receive the first invitation. If the first runner-up does not accept the invitation, the second runner-up would be invited to assume the office, etc. If there are no candidates, the vacancy will be filled by the chapter to which the original elected officer belonged.

In case of permanent disability or resignation of the president, the vice president of programs shall succeed to that office for the unexpired term. The vacancy thus created in the office of the vice president of programs shall be filled by the chapter from which the former president was elected.

When a vacancy occurs and the chapter is unable to fill the vacancy, the regional advisor, in consultation with the Executive Council members, will have the discretion to fill that office through one of the following methods, in order of preference: (1) a regional office candidate not elected to serve during the current year; or (2) a member of a regional chapter selected by the Executive Council.

Persons filling office vacancies must meet qualifications required of other region officers.

If a regional officer cannot fulfill the responsibilities as stated in the regional calendar of activities, he/she will be required to resign the designated office. The only exception would be illness or death in the family.

ARTICLE III BUSINESS MEETINGS

- Section I. The quorum shall be a majority of the accredited delegates, present and voting.
- Section II. Each affiliated chapter shall be entitled to one accredited delegate.
- Section III. No accredited delegate shall represent more than one chapter or have more than one vote per issue.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- Section I. There shall be a Regional Executive Council for the purpose of planning and guiding the regional association's program of work. It shall be composed of regional officers and their advisors. Officer advisors shall serve as ex officio members, without vote.
- Section II. While it is the duty of the Regional Executive Council to study all questions of major importance, the final decision shall be referred to the chapters, except minor matters or in case of emergency.
- Section III. A quorum shall be a majority of the regional members.

ARTICLE V RITUALS AND SYMBOLS

- Section I. The official ceremonies, pins, symbols, creed, colors, and motto shall be the same used by the national association.

ARTICLE VI PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- Section I. The rules contained in ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED, shall govern the regional association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, or Special Rules of Order of this association.

ARTICLE VII
STATE ADVISOR AND SPONSOR

- Section I. STATE ADVISOR shall be the administrative officer of the Texas Association, shall be appointed by the Board of Director, Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. The advisor shall be a qualified Family and Consumer Sciences Education educator.
- Section II. THE REGION ADVISOR who manages the region business, appointed by the State Advisor, FCCLA.
- Section III. REGIONAL SPONSOR shall be the regional president's advisor.

ARTICLE VIII
LOCAL CHAPTERS

- Section I. Local chapters shall make their own rules for meetings.
- Section II. Chapter advisors shall be family and consumer sciences teachers in the school.

ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENTS

- Section I. The Bylaws may be amended at any annual regional association House of Delegates meeting by two-thirds (2/3) of those delegates present and voting, provided a copy of amendments has been sent by the Regional Executive Council at least 30 days before the meeting, to every chapter in the region.

ARTICLE X
SUSPENSION OF THE BYLAWS

- Section I. When the Region ____, Texas Association, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc., wishes to do something that cannot be done without violating its own rules, and yet it is not in conflict with its Constitution, Bylaws, or the fundamental principles of parliamentary law, it may suspend the rules that interfere with the proposed action.
- Section II. The object of the suspension must be specified and nothing else can be done under the suspension.

Section III. No rule may be suspended when the negative vote is as large as the minority protected by that rule; nor may a rule protecting absentees be suspended.

ARTICLE XI POWER OF ONE

Section I. Recognition of the growth of individual members of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc., may be given through the Power of One Program. Participation in the Power of One Program shall be optional for members of local, regional, and state association. The five (5) units recognized shall be: A Better You, Family Ties, Working on Working, Take the Lead, and Speak Out for the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

ARTICLE XII STANDING COMMITTEES

Section I. There shall be the following standing committees. Program, Achievement, Recreation, Public Relations, Community Service, Membership, Projects, STAR Events, Constitution, Registration, Leadership Training, and National Planning. Each committee shall submit a plan of work for the current year for the approval of the Regional Executive Council. The appropriate regional officer shall be in charge of the standing committee.

Section II. Special Committees - Special committees shall be appointed by the president in consultation with the State Advisor, or by the delegates at an annual meeting to carry on the work of the organization.

STANDING RULES

Number I. Qualifications for candidates seeking a regional or state office are as follows:

- A. Should have held a chapter or regional office.
- B. Must have an overall average of 85 in all subjects for the preceding semester.
- C. Must be an affiliated member of an affiliated chapter.
- D. Should have worked on at least one unit of Power of One. State officer candidates must have completed a unit.
- E. Should have a sincere interest in the further improvement and development of the specific office which the nominee desires.
- F. Should have a sincere interest in the development and improvement of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. including local, regional, state, and national levels.
- G. Should have an understanding and thorough knowledge of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. program of work and the purposes of the

- organization; should be familiar with the regional and state constitution, bylaws, and the official guide.
- H. Should be proficient in the use of parliamentary procedure.
 - I. Must have the support and cooperation of advisor, local school administrators, and family.
 - J. Should have the necessary time for the proper execution of the responsibilities of the office, both scheduled and called, that the office may involve. Be willing to sacrifice personal pleasure for the good of the organization.
 - K. Should possess good speaking qualities such as a clear, well-modulated voice, so that he/she could be able to speak at ease before a group.
 - L. Should have the ability to express himself/herself in both oral and written composition. Typing skill would be desired.
 - M. Should possess the following character traits: reliability, sincerity, industriousness, congeniality, self-confidence, and humbleness.
 - N. Should be well-mannered, neat, and well-groomed.
 - O. Should possess the feeling of enthusiasm for FCCLA work to the point that he/she will be good "public relations" in everything he/she represents: in home, school, and community life.

Number II. Election of Region ____ Officers shall follow the procedures below:

- A. Candidates shall submit qualifications and office preference on the official nomination form according to dates and procedures defined.
- B. Candidates will appear before the House of Delegates presenting a prepared speech not to exceed one minute in length on a specified topic and answering a thought question and a fact question pertaining to the organization.
- C. Following all presentations and questioning, the voting delegates will vote for no more than 18 candidates to fill the slate of offices. Once the candidates are determined, the nominating committee will interview the officers and vote by secret ballot for office placement. The nominating committee will be composed of not less than five or more than seven individuals from the following groups: officers not running for an office for the following school year; former regional and state officers. School districts/chapters with officer candidates may not have representation on the nominating committee. Relatives of candidates may not serve on the nominating committee. The nominating committee will place officer candidates in designated positions.

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