CONSTITUTION OF Santa Monica College Chapter No. 36, CSEA Latest Revision July 20, 2017

This Constitution is the local operating document for this Chapter as formulated under Article III, Section 8 of the Association Constitution.

Where used throughout this document, "Association" means the California School Employees Association, the statewide governing body for this organization; "organization" and "Chapter" are interchangeable and mean Santa Monica College Chapter No. 36, CSEA.

<u>APPROVED</u>

California School Employees Association

Date: September 19, 2017

By: Arnold J. Morin, Executive Coordinator

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ARTICLE I NAME AND OBJECTS

Section 1. Name: The name of this organization shall be Santa Monica College Chapter No. 36 of the California School Employees Association.

 Section 2. Objects: The objects of this organization shall be to promote the good and welfare of the members of this organization under the available labor relations system, and to secure for them reasonable hours, fair wages and improved working conditions; to establish a spirit of cooperation, good faith and fair dealings with the employer; to safeguard, advance and promote the principle of free collective bargaining in a democratic society; to promote such legislation as may be in the best interests of the members of this organization; to promote the efficiency and raise the standards of service of its members and other public service workers; to instill confidence, good will and understanding among the members and their employers; to promote the economic and social welfare of the members of the Association through unity of action and mutual cooperation.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in this Chapter shall be as follows:

(a) **Active:** "Active" membership, which carries with it the privilege of full participation in Chapter activities, including the right to vote and to hold elected or appointed offices, shall be extended to any person employed in a bargaining unit represented by this Chapter, without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation or political belief. Active membership status shall cease at such time as the member becomes eligible for any other category of membership defined herein, except as follows:

(1) Active members who are laid off may continue in Active status until expiration of their 39-month reemployment period or until reemployed, whichever comes first, upon continued payment of the established dues in effect at the time of layoff.

(2) Active members who are appealing an involuntary termination action by the employer may continue in Active status until the appeal(s) process has been terminated and the status of their employment has been finally decided, upon continued payment of the established dues in effect at the time of the involuntary termination.

(3) Nothing herein shall be construed to require continued Active status of members under paragraphs (1) and (2) above for the purpose of continued CSEA representation regarding their employment/reemployment rights. However, retention of Active status shall be required for such employees to continue to be eligible to hold appointed or elective offices within the Association and Chapter and to have voice and vote and otherwise participate in Chapter and Association affairs.

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(b)

the Association as defined in the Association's Constitution.

Section 3. Membership "In Good Standing"

unpaid leave of absence by the employer, or (2) is placed on a reemployment list for reasons other than layoff and is not otherwise in a paid status with the employer, or (3) is laid off and elects not to continue as an Active member under provisions of paragraph (a)(1) above, may continue membership in an "Inactive" status until expiration of the approved leave of absence or reemployment list, or until returned to paid employment status in an eligible position [as defined by paragraph (a) above], whichever occurs first, upon continued payment of dues at 1/2 the rate required of them as an Active member at the time the leave or placement on the reemployment list occurred. Such dues shall be paid annually in advance, or for the number of months of the approved leave if less than one year. Such members shall be eligible to continue to receive such membership benefits as are generally made available to the Active membership, unless specifically excluded by contract. They shall not, however, be accorded voice or vote in Chapter or Association affairs.

Active members of this Chapter must also be Active members of

Inactive: Any Active member of this Chapter who (1) is granted an

- (c) **Lifetime Retired**: Any person who was a member of the Chapter at the time of retirement may become a "Lifetime Retired" member of this Chapter upon payment of a one-time fee of \$25.00. Such members shall be permitted to attend Chapter meetings and social functions and to receive the Chapter newsletter as long as they live in the local area. They shall not otherwise be accorded voice, vote or other participation in Chapter affairs.
- (d) Active Retired: Any person who was a member of the Chapter at the time of retirement and who also maintains a retired membership in good standing with the Association may continue as an Active member of this Chapter upon payment of the regular Chapter dues required of Active members. Such dues shall be paid annually in advance or monthly in advance direct to the Chapter Treasurer. Such members shall be entitled to continued full participation in Chapter affairs, including the right to hold appointive or elective offices and the right to vote, with the exception of the right to vote in contract ratification and concerted activities matters.

Should such member cease to be a retired member in good standing of the Association, his/her Chapter membership shall automatically terminate.

Section 2. Active membership shall be effective upon the completion, dating, and signing of an official CSEA application form as provided by the Association, and execution of a valid authorization for payroll deduction of dues or payment of at least one (1) year's dues in advance. The application shall be immediately forwarded, together with advance dues received if any, to the Association. The Association shall send payroll deduction authorizations to the appropriate district office.

(a) Membership "in good standing" shall be effective and shall continue upon receipt of the required dues for the current month. For purposes of establishing voting

rights and eligibility to hold an elected or appointed office, Active members whose dues are paid via payroll deduction shall not be deemed to be in good standing until the first of the month following the month in which the first dues are deducted, unless s/he pays dues in cash for the interim period.

(b) Membership shall terminate with:

- (1) The effective date of layoff for members who are laid off and who choose not to continue in either an Active or Inactive status under provisions of Sections 1(a)(1) or 1(b) above.
- (2) The effective date of an unpaid leave of absence or placement on a reemployment list for reasons other than layoff, for such members who choose not to continue in an Inactive status under provisions of Section 1(b) above.
- (3) The date of termination of their 39-month reemployment rights or approved leave of absence for members who have continued in an Active or Inactive status, if such members have not been returned to active employment.
- (4) The date of execution of a document terminating payroll deduction of dues, unless arrangements have been made with the Chapter Treasurer for advance cash payment.
- (5) The effective date of removal from the bargaining unit, or voluntary termination of employment.
- (6) The effective date of involuntary termination of employment, unless the member is eligible to continue and elects to retain Active status as permitted under provisions of Section 1(a)(2) above.
 - (7) Actions pursuant to Sections 5 or 6 below.
- **Section 4. Fair Share Service Fee Payers**: Employees obligated to pay either dues or fair share service fees to CSEA pursuant to organizational security provisions in the collective bargaining agreement and who choose not to be Active members of this Chapter shall be carried on the Chapter rolls as "Fair Share Service Fee Payers". Such persons shall pay fair share service fees in an amount equal to the dues required of Active members of the Chapter (less any local Chapter fees unless collection of local Chapter fees has been approved by the Association) subject to annual requests for advance refunds of the portion of fair share service fees that CSEA determines will be used for purposes not related to collective bargaining, in accordance with the policies of the Association.

Fair share service fee payers shall be entitled to full rights of representation in all matters related to their collective bargaining agreement. They shall not, however, have the right of voice, vote, or other participation in Chapter or Association affairs, unless otherwise provided herein or required by law.

Section 5. Delinquency & Resignation:

 (a) Members who no longer wish to retain that status may resign CSEA membership by written notification to the Chapter Treasurer. They shall become fair share service fee payers subject to the same fair share service fees and rights, benefits and burdens as provided under Section 4 of this article.

(b) Any member failing to pay all dues owed for the current month shall be deemed delinquent and shall not be considered to be in good standing until such delinquency has been remitted.

(c) Members who have resigned shall, upon reapplication, be admitted as new members.

Section 6. Expulsion, Suspension, Discipline:

(a) No member may be involuntarily removed from the membership rolls except as provided for in Sections 3 and 5 above, or in accordance with the procedures for expulsion, suspension and discipline of members as specified in the Association Constitution.

(b) All matters for proposed disciplinary action against members shall be referred to the Association for action, except that members may be recalled from office in accordance with provisions of Article X of this Constitution.

ARTICLE III DUES and ASSESSMENTS

Section 1. Association Per Capita Dues

(Effective October 1, 2017)

(a) Per capita dues to the Association for Active members shall be assessed at the rate of 1.5% of the first \$3,150 of monthly gross salary (*excluding overtime*, but *including* longevity, professional growth and anniversary increments), but not to exceed a maximum of \$472.50 for the 12-month period commencing each September 1st and continuing through the following August 31st. Said dues shall be payable by payroll deduction or annually in advance direct to the Association.

(1) Payroll deduction shall commence in September of each year and continue through the following August for each month the member is in a paid status, or until the maximum of \$472.50 has been deducted, whichever comes first.

(2) Annual in advance payments must be remitted direct to the Association's accounting office no later than September 30, or within 30 days following membership application for new members after September. Such annual payments shall be as calculated by the Association's Accounting Office in accordance with the Association's Bylaws.

Section 2. Chapter Dues. Local Chapter dues for Active members of this Chapter shall be \$40.00 per year, and further increased by \$.25 per month after each pay raise implemented, payable in equal amounts by payroll deduction during each of the months October through July in which the member is in regular paid status; or payable annually in advance to the Chapter Treasurer.

- **Section 3.** The local Chapter dues plus the Association per capita dues equals the member's total dues requirement.
- **Section 4.** Assessments: No assessments shall be levied in this Chapter other than those approved by 3/4 of the Chapter membership present and voting on the question by secret ballot, provided that each member has been notified in writing at least ten days in advance of the nature of the proposal and the time, date and place where the matter will be voted on.
- **Section 5. Fund Solicitation:** No funds shall be solicited in the name of the Chapter without authorization of the Executive Board. All funds collected (together with an accounting of source) shall be delivered to the Chapter Treasurer within five working days of receipt, for deposit in the Chapter's account.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD / ELECTION PROCEDURES

- **Section 1. Officers:** The following officers shall be elected by and from among the total Active membership of the Chapter, regardless of the location of their employment: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Chapter Development Officer, Communications Officer, Chief Union Steward, Parliamentarian.
- **Section 2. Executive Board:** The elected officers designated in Section 1, plus the Immediate Past President, shall constitute the Executive Board of this Chapter.
- **Section 3.** Eligibility to Hold Office: Officers shall be elected from among the Active members of the Chapter who are in good standing who are not elected (or interim appointed) officers or executives of another classified employee organization.
- (a) Nominees for elected office shall be Active members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of nomination and can only accept nomination for one Executive Board office.
- (b) Nominees for Chapter office must have also maintained Active membership in good standing in the Chapter for a period of not less than six (6) consecutive calendar months preceding the month in which they are nominated.

Section 4. Nominating and Election Procedures:

(a) A Certification Committee shall be appointed no later than September of each year to duly certify that all who submit letters of intent to run or who are nominated from the floor for the offices of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Chief Union Steward, and Parliamentarian are members in good standing. This certification shall be submitted at the November Chapter meeting.

(1) Letters of intent to run for the above offices shall be in letter form to the Certification Committee c/o Recording Secretary indicating a candidate's intent and ability to serve. Such letters must be received no later than the last day in the month of October.

(2) Nominations for these offices shall also be accepted from the floor at the October and November Chapter meetings.

(b) The Certification Committee will then review the official treasurer's record to determine eligibility as defined in member in good standing. Candidates so certified shall be submitted formally to the Chapter no later than the close of the November Chapter meeting.

(c) All candidates certified as eligible shall be offered equal space and opportunity to state their individual qualifications for the office in the Chapter's official publication "The Classified Focus."

(d) If, after nominations are closed at the November Chapter meeting there is only one nomination for an office, the single nominee shall be declared elected to the office, and no balloting or other action shall be required. The Executive Board shall so notify the membership in writing as soon thereafter as possible.

(e) When there is more than one nominee for an office, a secret ballot election shall be conducted on the day scheduled for the December Chapter meeting. Balloting shall be conducted at such times and at campus site locations as determined by the Chapter President. Hours for balloting shall be set so that polls will close prior to the start of the Chapter meeting.

(f) Every member shall be notified, at least fifteen (15) working days in advance of the date set for balloting, of the exact location of their balloting site, the specific date and time (hours) during which balloting will take place, and the candidates and offices which will appear on the ballot. At least two election tellers will be present at each balloting site to verify voter eligibility and secure the balloting process.

(g) Immediately following the appointed hour for close of polls, the election tellers shall deliver the ballot boxes, sign-in sheets and related materials to a predetermined location where the tally will then take place.

- (h) All procedural matters relating to the site balloting process and tally shall be conducted in accordance with Association Policy 618 and *Robert's Rules of Order*. All candidates shall be permitted to appoint an observer at each site to observe the balloting procedures, and each candidate or his/her representative shall be permitted to observe the ballot tally.
- (i) It shall require a plurality vote to elect an officer. Write-in votes shall not be accepted. The official ballot tally shall be provided in writing to all candidates within five working days, and shall be announced at the December Chapter meeting, where the presiding officer shall officially declare the winning candidates or announce such other action as may be necessary. In addition, the final vote count shall be posted in the next edition of "The Classified Focus."
- (j) All ballots, including used, unused, invalid and challenged ballots, sign-in sheets, tally sheets and related election documents, including notices of nomination and election, shall be retained by the Chapter Secretary for one year, or until any and all challenges to the election or charges of misconduct in running the election have been resolved, whichever is the longer period.
- **Section 5. Terms of Office:** Elected officers shall take office and assume their duties on the January 1 following their election and shall continue to serve for one (1) year or until their successors are elected, provided that any officer shall automatically forfeit such office if they cease to be an Active member in good standing or if they become an elected (or interim appointed) officer or executive of another classified employee organization.
- **Section 6. Installation:** Installation of officers shall be held no later than January 31.

Section 7. Vacancies:

- (a) A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the 1st Vice President.
- (b) A vacancy in any other Executive Board office shall be filled by special election to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

ARTICLE V AUTHORITY OF EXECUTIVE BOARD / DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Executive Board: The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Chapter between the general membership meetings. It shall transact the necessary business of the Chapter and approve the plans of the various committees, except that none of its actions shall conflict with orders or actions taken by the membership. A report on all actions taken by the Executive Board shall be made to the membership at the next regular or special Chapter meeting.

Minutes of Chapter and Executive Board meetings shall be kept on file for at least five (5) years. Chapter financial records shall be kept on file for at least five years.

The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the President or at such times and places designated by it; the President shall call a special meeting upon the written request of a majority of the Board.

A majority of the members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Duties of Officers, General: Upon separation from office, an officer shall immediately turn over to his/her successor or other properly designated CSEA official all books, records, money and other effects of the Chapter in his/her possession.

Section 3. President: The President shall:

- (a) Be chairperson of the Executive Board, call and preside over all meetings of the Chapter and Executive Board at which s/he is in attendance.
- (b) Appoint the activities of the various committees, standing or special, required by this constitution or established by the Executive Board, or as may be ordered by vote of the membership, except as otherwise provided herein.
- (c) Attend, or send designee to, all Regional Presidents' Meetings (RPMs) and other meetings as required by the Association or direction of the Chapter, and report back to the membership at the next Chapter meeting, with recommendations for Chapter action or as otherwise required.
- (d) Be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Auditing and Elections Committees.
 - (e) Serve as a Chapter delegate to the Association's Annual Conference.
- (f) Perform such other duties as normally pertain to the office of President or ordered by this constitution.

Section 4. 1st Vice President: The 1st Vice President shall:

- (a) In the absence or disability of the President, possess all of the powers and perform all of the duties in his/her stead.
 - (b) At all times assist the President in the performance of his/her duties.
 - (c) Assume the office of President if a vacancy occurs.
- (d) Coordinate and monitor the activities of the standing and special committees, including the compilation of each committee's annual report.

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include serving on college-wide committees; representing the Chapter at monthly Board of Trustees and Personnel Committee meetings; and serving as the Chapter liaison with other groups including faculty and student organizations, community groups, government agencies, legislative officials and the California Community College Chancellor's office. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President/Executive (f)

As assigned by the President or Executive Board, additional duties may

Board or ordered by this constitution.

2nd Vice President: The 2nd Vice President shall: Section 5.

- (a) In the absence or disability of the President and 1st Vice President, possess all of the powers and perform all of the duties in their stead.
 - (b) At all times assist the President in the performance of his/her duties.
- Compile an annual report of activities and achievements of the Chapter (c) and distribute to Chapter membership.
- As assigned by the President or Executive Board, additional duties may include serving on college-wide committees; representing the Chapter at monthly Board of Trustees and Personnel Committee meetings; and serving as the Chapter liaison with other groups including faculty and student organizations, community groups, government agencies, legislative officials and the California Community College Chancellor's office.
- Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President/Executive Board or ordered by this constitution.

Section 6. **Recording Secretary:** The Recording Secretary shall:

- In the absence or disability of the President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President, possess all of the powers and perform all of the duties in their stead.
- Keep an accurate record of all proceedings of Chapter and Executive (b) Board meetings, including an accurate roll of members and officers in attendance at each.
- Keep an accurate roster of the officers of the Chapter and see that such (c) information is forwarded to the Association as required.
 - (d) Notify members of all committees of their appointment.
- Have custody of all correspondence, official documents and historical records of the Chapter, which shall be open at all times for the inspection of the President or his/her agent and members of the Executive Board.

- (f) Maintain up-to-date copies of the Constitution & Bylaws and Policy of the Association and the constitution of this Chapter and see that copies of same are available for reference at all Executive Board and Chapter meetings, and available for inspection by the general membership upon request.
- (g) Perform such other duties as normally pertain to the office of Recording Secretary or as may be assigned by the President/Executive Board or ordered by this constitution.

Section 7. Corresponding Secretary: The Corresponding Secretary shall:

- (a) Obtain reserved room assignments for all Chapter and special meetings, and issue notices of all meetings of the Executive Board and Chapter meetings, which shall include notice of matters for discussion at same.
 - (b) Prepare correspondence related to Chapter business.
- (c) Assist the Communications Officer with preparation of newsletter, press releases, flyers and other Chapter communications.
- (d) Perform such other duties as normally pertain to the office of Corresponding Secretary or as may be assigned by the President/Executive Board or ordered by this constitution.

Section 8. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall:

- (a) Receive all funds of the Chapter and keep and disburse same under the direction of the President and as required by the Constitution & Bylaws of the Association and this Chapter.
- (b) Keep or cause to be kept regular books and full accounts which shall be open at all times to inspection of the President or his/her agent and the Auditing Committee.
- (c) Provide access to all records, vouchers and statements to the Auditing Committee for annual inspection at the close of each fiscal year.
- (d) Report at each meeting of the Executive Board and Chapter as to the financial condition of the treasury with a detailed statement of receipts and expenditures and accounts payable, to include per capita dues/fees paid and owed to the Association if any. The report to the Executive Board should also include copies of the bank statement(s)/reconciliation(s).
- (e) Prepare the annual financial report to include the last day of the fiscal year, and immediately submit same to the President for review and forwarding to the Association, and the membership.

- (f) Promptly forward membership applications and dues payments to the Association. The Association shall send payroll deduction authorizations to the appropriate district office for processing.
- (g) Maintain an accurate record of members in good standing, and prepare such monthly reports and remittances as may be required by the Association and promptly forward to CSEA Headquarters within thirty (30) days of request.
 - (h) Assist in preparation of the Chapter budget.
- (i) Upon leaving office, sign such bank signature cards or other documents necessary for the transfer of all Chapter accounts to the new Treasurer.
 - (i) Chair the Fundraising Committee.
- (j) Arrange for bond coverage under the Association's blanket bond in such amount as determined by the Executive Board. Premium for said bond shall be at the expense of the Chapter and through the Association.
- (k) Perform such other duties as normally pertain to the office of Treasurer or as may be assigned by the President/Executive Board or ordered by this constitution.
- **Section 9.** Chapter Development Officer: The Chapter Development Officer shall:
 - (a) Chair the Membership Committee.
- (b) On a monthly basis, provide a list of the newly-hired classified employees to the Membership Chairperson.
- (c) Send to each new Chapter member a welcome packet containing a current CSEA/District contract, a Chapter constitution, a Member Benefits Guide, and information on the Association.
- (d) Conduct regular member orientations to explain the benefits and advantages of CSEA membership.
 - (e) Coordinate officer and member training and information sessions.
- (f) Perform such other duties as normally pertain to the office of Chapter Development Officer or as may be assigned by the President/Executive Board or ordered by this constitution.

Section 10. Communications Officer: The Communications Officer shall:

(a) Chair the Publicity Committee.

- (b) Produce and distribute a Chapter newsletter or similar publication as may be authorized by the Chapter membership, President, or Executive Board.
- (c) Write and distribute press releases pertaining to Chapter affairs for local newspapers and the Association's official publication(s).
- (d) Coordinate Chapter communications program including the bulletin board program, the Chapter website, and other electronic communications.
- (e) Perform such other duties as normally pertain to the Communications Officer or as may be assigned by the President/Executive Board or ordered by this constitution.

Section 11. Chief Union Steward: The Chief Union Steward shall:

- (a) Ensure that the Union Steward program of the Chapter functions according to the requirements set forth in this constitution; and maintain the necessary records on matters of contract enforcement to permit the Chapter to effectively represent bargaining unit employees.
- (b) Process all grievances not settled at the immediate-supervisory level, unless CSEA staff assistance is required.
- (c) Shall serve as Chairperson of the Grievance Committee, and keep the President and Executive Board informed on all grievance activity.
- (d) Call and conduct periodic meetings with Union Stewards to ensure an appropriate level of communication and coordination.

Section 12. Parliamentarian: The Parliamentarian shall:

- (a) Effectively assist the President and the membership by being thoroughly familiar with the Chapter's constitution and parliamentary procedures, and by providing advice and rulings, when requested, on all actions involving the constitution and/or parliamentary procedures.
- (b) Ensure that all rulings are founding in fact and are incontrovertible so that the matter at issue can be thoroughly debated and expeditiously resolved.
 - (c) Serve as a member of the Constitution Committee.
- (d) Perform such other duties as normally pertain to the Parliamentarian or as may be assigned by the President/Executive Board or ordered by this constitution.
- **Section 13. Immediate Past President:** The Immediate Past President shall be an advisor of the Executive Board and perform such duties as may be assigned by the President, Executive Board, or required by this constitution.

1 2	ARTICLE VI MEETINGS
3 4 5 6	Section 1. Regular business meetings of this Chapter shall be held each month. A tentative schedule of such meetings shall be established in January of each year for the succeeding 12-month period and shall be provided to the membership.
7 8 9 10	Section 2. Special meetings of the Chapter may be called by the Chapter President as deemed necessary, or shall be called by a vote of 2/3 of the Executive Board or upon petition to the President of 20% of the Chapter membership.
11 12	Section 3. Meeting Notices:
13 14 15 16 17 18	(a) Regular Meetings . Unless otherwise specified herein, a meeting notice shall precede all Chapter meetings at least five days in advance to allow members a reasonable opportunity to attend. Said notice shall include a summary of the business to be acted upon, and the time, date and place of the meeting.
19 20 21 22 23	(b) Special Meetings . Notice for special meetings shall include the specific topic(s) for discussion/action at said meeting, and unless otherwise required herein, a notice of less than five days, but not less than 24 hours in advance, may be given in ar emergency situation.
24 25	Section 4. Unless otherwise ordered by 2/3 vote of the members present, the order of business at regular Chapter meetings shall be:
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	 (1) Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag (2) Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting (3) Report of Executive Board Actions & Officer Reports (4) Treasurer's Report (5) Committee Reports (6) CSEA Staff Reports (7) Unfinished Business (8) New Business (9) Good of the Order (10) Adjournment
38 39 40 41 42	Section 5. Quorum for Meetings: It shall require at least twelve (12) members in good standing in attendance at any Chapter meeting for business to be conducted.
43 44	ARTICLE VII CONTROL OF FUNDS / BUDGET
45 46	Section 1. All funds received shall be deposited in the name of Santa Monica

Section 1. All funds received shall be deposited in the name of Santa Monica College Chapter No. 36, CSEA, in such bank or other financial institution as approved by the Executive Board. The use of Chapter debit cards is strictly prohibited. No funds

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shall be disbursed except by check, duly authorized and signed by the Treasurer and the President. In the event of absence of, inability to act by, or vacancy in the office of Treasurer, funds shall only be disbursed upon signature of the President and one of the following: Vice President, Recording Secretary.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall prepare an annual budget for approval of the Chapter membership no later than January of each year, which shall contain itemized estimated receipts and expenditures, and amounts to be set aside as a reserve fund, if any. The approved budget shall then regulate the expenditures of the Chapter, except that the Treasurer shall submit any single expenditure in excess of \$100 to the Executive Board for prior approval. Any expenditure in excess of those approved in the budget must have prior approval of the Chapter membership.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees: The President shall appoint the following standing committees, which appointment shall be subject to the ratification of the Executive Board:

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22	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Section</u>
23	Auditing	2	10
24	Benefits	3	11
25	Certification	3	12
26	Constitution	3	13
27	Elections	4	14
28	Fundraising	3	15
29	Grievance	# of Union Stewards	16
30	Hiring Watch	3	17
31	Membership	3	18
32	Merit/Board Rules Review	3	19
33	Political Action	3	21
34	Publicity	3	22
35	Research & Negotiations	3	23
36	Resolutions	3	24
37	Safety	3	25
38	Scholarship	3	26
39	Social/Hospitality	3	27
40	Technology Maintenance	3	28
41	Committee of Chairs	n/a	5

(a) In addition, a Negotiating Team shall be elected by the membership.

(b) Committee members should be chosen so as to provide the strongest possible group for the handling of any task that may arise within the providence of the committee.

- **Section 2. Special Committees:** The Executive Board or the Chapter membership may establish other committees as necessary for the welfare of the Chapter. The Executive Board shall determine the composition of such committees and the duration of appointment, which shall not extend beyond the close of the calendar year.
- (a) Special committee members should be chosen so as to provide the strongest possible group for the handling of any task that may arise within the providence of the committee. The purpose for which a special committee is established should affect the size and composition as follows:
- (1) **Action Committees:** When a special committee is appointed to implement an order of the Chapter, it should be small and should consist only of those in favor of the action to be carried out. If anyone not in sympathy with the action is appointed, s/he should ask to be excused.
- (2) **Research Committees:** When a special committee is appointed for deliberation or investigation, it should often be larger than an action committee, and it should represent, as far as possible, all points of view of the Chapter so that its opinion will carry maximum weight. When such a committee is properly selected, its recommendations most often reflect the will of the Chapter. The usefulness of this committee will be greatly impaired if any important faction of the Chapter is not represented.
- (3) Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised will also provide further information on proper committee composition.
- **Section 3. Other Committees:** Unless otherwise specified, the President shall appoint CSEA representatives to any committee or group where CSEA has representation. All appointments shall be subject to the ratification of the Executive Board.
- **Section 4.** Committee Chairs: Committees whose members are elected by the Chapter shall elect their own chairperson. Unless otherwise specified herein, the President shall appoint one (1) person on each committee to be chair for those committees appointed by the President/Executive Board.
- (a) Each chair shall submit written committee reports to the Committee of Chairs monthly.
- (b) Chairs who wish to make a presentation must make a timely request to the President prior to the Chapter meeting.
- **Section 5.** Committee of Chairs: This committee is chaired by the Chapter President and is composed of all of the chairs of the Chapter committees. The 1st Vice President is an ex-officio member.

- (a) **Purpose:** The purpose of the Committee of Chairs is to have a center that connects all of the Chapter committees.
- (b) **Duties:** The Committee of Chairs shall connect all Chapter committees by allowing the free exchange of information. Each member shall make available reports of all meetings of his/her committee and shall report latest actions or concerns of his/her committee.
- **Section 6.** The 1st Vice President shall coordinate all standing and special committees.
- **Section 7.** The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Auditing, Certification, and Elections Committees.
- **Section 8. Quorum:** A majority of the members of any committee must be present at any meeting to constitute a quorum.
- **Section 9. Terms:** Unless otherwise provided herein, the term of office for all committees shall be from appointment until the end of the calendar year, provided that any committee member shall automatically forfeit the office if they cease to be an Active member in good standing.

Section 10. Auditing Committee:

- (a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Auditing Committee.
- (b) It shall be the duty of this committee to:
- (1) Receive and audit the books and records of the Treasurer immediately after the close of each fiscal year, and at such other times as may be directed by the President.
 - (2) Report its findings to the Chapter membership.

Section 11. Benefits Committee:

- (a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Benefits Committee.
- (b) It shall be the duty of this committee to:
 - (1) Gather input from membership on issues dealing with benefits.
- (2) Keep membership informed of new benefits issues through official Chapter publications.

Section 12. Certification Committee:

(a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Certification Committee.

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certify the results to the Chapter President.

- (2) Ensure that election procedures are in accordance with applicable provisions of the Association's Constitution & Bylaws and Policy, and this constitution.
- (3) Recommend to the Executive Board, for their ratification, a list of Active members in good standing to act as tellers.

Section 15. Fundraising Committee:

- (a) The Treasurer shall chair the Fundraising Committee.
- (b) It shall be the duty of this committee to conduct the Chapter's fundraising programs.

Section 16. Grievance Committee:

- (a) The Chief Union Steward shall chair the Grievance Committee, with all of the Union Stewards as committee members.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the Grievance Committee to supervise and assist the operation of the Chapter's Union Steward program. The committee shall ensure that all grievances are handled properly in their investigation and filing, and consistent in their resolution.
- (c) The committee shall be empowered to review proposed settlements of grievances undertaken by individual members of the bargaining unit to ensure they are consistent with the contract.
- (d) The committee shall review all grievances being considered for arbitration and file a report with the Executive Board.

Section 17. Hiring Watch Committee:

- (a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Hiring Watch Committee.
- (b) It shall be the duty of this committee to:
- (1) Strive to attend all meetings of the Personnel Commission and Board of Trustees.
- (2) Regularly scrutinize District documents (e.g., Board of Trustee and Personnel Commission meeting minutes, agendas, SMC budget, DPAC and Budget Committee minutes) for deletions/additions to classified hiring lists.
- (3) Regularly scrutinize District documents for contracting out of classified work.
- (4) Research and suggest language to justify retaining/re-instating dropped classified positions.

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Policy 618.

Two (2) members of the team shall be elected in the even-(1) numbered years; and two (2) members of the team shall be elected in the oddnumbered years. The nominees who receive the first (1st) and second (2nd) highest number of votes shall be the elected team members. The nominees who receive the third (3rd) and fourth (4th) highest number of votes shall be the designated alternates for the next calendar year.

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(d) The elected team members shall take office and assume their duties on the January 1 following their election and shall continue to serve for two (2) years. A team member shall automatically forfeit his/her position if s/he ceases to be an Active member in good standing who is an elected or appointed officer of the Santa Monica College Classified Senate (by whatever name).

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Vacancies shall be filled by the elected alternates for the remainder of the (e) original term only. If there are simultaneous vacancies, the alternate receiving the higher number of votes shall serve the longer term.

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If a vacancy occurs and no alternates remain available to fill the position, a special election shall be called to fill the vacancy/vancancies (including alternate vacancies) for the remainder of the term(s).

(f) **Duties:** It shall be the duty of the Negotiating Committee to negotiate the contract (including reopeners and modifications) for and on behalf of the Chapter with assistance from CSEA field staff.

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Section 21. Political Action Committee:

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(a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Political Action Committee.

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It shall be the duty of this committee to: (b)

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(1) Keep the members informed about the legislative program of the Association.

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May recommend to the Chapter membership legislative proposals it deems desirable for submission to the Association's annual conference or to the Association's Board of Directors for consideration and inclusion in the Association's legislative program.

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Develop and implement a Chapter alert system (telephone tree) (3)designed for emergency contact of the membership when immediate Chapter action is necessary on contract matters, legislative and political issues, and other items of importance to the Association and Chapter.

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Keep abreast of political activities affecting the Chapter and the (4) Association as relates to school board elections, appropriate state assembly and senate districts, support of candidates for statewide offices, support or opposition of initiatives and propositions.

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Gather input from membership on safety issues.

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ratify all appointments.

Keep membership informed a new safety issues through official 1 (2) 2 Chapter publications. 3 4 Section 26. Scholarship Committee: 5 6 (a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Scholarship Committee. 7 8 It shall be the duty of this committee to provide information to the (b) 9 membership, through Chapter newsletter and/or bulletins/flyers and functions, about 10 financial assistance available to members and their dependents. 11 Section 27. Social/Hospitality Committee: 12 13 14 (a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Social/Hospitality Committee. 15 16 (b) It shall be the duty of this committee to: 17 18 Coordinate events and activities for Classified School Employee (1) 19 Week (CSEW). 20 21 (2)Build unity and friendship among the membership through social 22 events, gatherings, and activities. 23 24 (3)Coordinate CSEA social clubs. 25 26 (4) Send appropriate cards/messages to members during personal 27 special occasions. 28 Section 28. Technology Maintenance Committee: 29 30 31 (a) The President shall appoint the chair of the Technology Maintenance Committee. 32 33 34 (b) It shall be the duty of this committee to: 35 36 (1) Research and review new technologies for efficient Chapter 37 communications. 38 Maintain CSEA website and other mediums of electronic 39 communication for the Chapter. 40 41 **ARTICLE IX** 42 43 UNION STEWARDS 44 45 **Appointment**: The President shall appoint Union Stewards in Section 1. sufficient numbers to serve the needs of the membership. The Executive Board shall 46

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Section 2. Duties. The Union Steward(s) shall:

- (a) Educate bargaining unit employees about their rights under the contract and determine how problems arising under the contract can best be handled.
- (b) Investigate and prepare grievances for processing and handle grievances at the immediate-supervisory level, and be present as required during other steps of the grievance procedure.
- (c) **Preserve the confidentiality** of personal grievances, resolve differences among the membership in grievance handling; maintain a file on all grievances handled.
- (d) Act as the basic channel of communication between the employees and the Chapter and relay specific member concerns to the Chapter's Negotiating Committee for incorporation into the bargaining proposals.
 - (e) Recruit employees into CSEA membership.
- (f) Annually attend at least one (1) Union Steward training workshop conducted by the Association.
- **Section 3.** The authority of the Union Steward to settle grievances shall be determined by rule of the Executive Board or Chapter, consistent with applicable provisions of the collective bargaining agreement.
- **Section 4. Term of Office:** Term of office for Union Stewards shall be from his/her appointment to the end of the Chapter fiscal year, or until their successors are appointed, provided that any Union Steward shall automatically forfeit such office if they cease to be an Active member in good standing employed within the designated service area. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the President, ratified by the Executive Board, from among the qualified members in good standing employed within the affected service area, for the remainder of the original term only.

ARTICLE X RECALL OR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. Recall of Elected Offices

- (a) Any member of the Executive Board, Negotiating Committee and conference delegates and alternates, may be recalled from office upon a 2/3 secret ballot vote of Active members of the Chapter in good standing present and voting at a meeting called for the purpose of a recall action.
- (b) Recall may be initiated by a petition of 2/3 of the Executive Board or 30% of the members in good standing eligible to vote on the individual being recalled. The petition shall state the specific reasons in support of the recall, and the petition shall be presented to the Executive Board and to the individual.

(c) Upon receipt of the petition, the Executive Board shall arrange for a special meeting to be held not less than 15 days nor more than 30 days following its receipt, at which the charged person shall be afforded opportunity to rebut the charges, including presentation and cross-examination of witnesses as may be appropriate, and the secret ballot vote shall be conducted. Attendance at said meeting shall be restricted to members of the Executive Board and members of the Chapter in good standing who are eligible to vote on the particular recall action, authorized representatives of the Association, and such witnesses as may be pertinent to the action. Notice specifying time, date, and place and the specific nature/purpose of the meeting shall be issued to those eligible for attendance at least ten days in advance.

Section 2. Removal of Appointed Offices

(a) Any appointee of the President/Executive Board may be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the Executive Board, a quorum being present, provided such person shall be provided at least five days advance notice of the reasons for removal and the time, date and place where the Board will meet to vote on the matter. At said meeting the member shall be afforded an opportunity to provide rebuttal argument prior to the vote being taken.

(b) Any appointed committee chairperson or member failing to attend three consecutive committee meetings, unless excused for cause, shall be automatically removed from the committee.

Section 3. Resignation from Office

(a) A resignation by an elected officer is not effective until accepted by the Active members in good standing present at a Chapter meeting.

(b) A resignation by any appointee of the President/Executive Board is not effective until accepted by the President/Executive Board.

ARTICLE XI DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE

Section 1. Delegates: Voting delegates to an annual conference of the Association (and their alternates) shall be designated from among the Active members in good standing as follows:

(a) The Chapter President.

(b) Additional delegates in such number as may be authorized by the Chapter for attendance, but not to exceed the total number authorized by the Bylaws of the Association, shall be elected as provided in Section 2 below.

Section 2. Election:

- (a) Nominations for the authorized delegate positions, other than the President, shall be taken at the regular Chapter meeting in March, and election shall be by secret ballot at the regular Chapter meeting in April. Alternates in sufficient numbers for each of the authorized delegates shall also be elected in the same manner as for delegates, including an alternate for the President. In the event an elected delegate cannot attend, the Executive Board shall determine which alternate shall replace the authorized delegate.
- (b) Notification of nominations and election and all other procedural matters relating to delegate and alternate election shall conform to Association Policy 618 and shall be conducted under the supervision of the Elections Committee.
- **Section 3.** Responsibilities: Delegates shall attend all conference business and other sessions of importance to the Chapter. In addition, the delegates shall:
- (a) Attend at least one (1) orientation meeting at the regional or area level of the Association concerning the resolutions to the upcoming conference.
- (b) Submit a written report of expenses with receipts to the Executive Board within three (3) weeks after conclusion of a conference.
- (c) Render an oral report on conference activities to the Chapter membership at the first Chapter meeting following the conference, which shall also be set forth in written form and distributed to all members.
- **Section 4.** A discussion of and a vote on the allocation of delegate expenses shall occur no later than the May Chapter meeting.

ARTICLE XII CONTRACT RATIFICATION

Section 1. Contract ratification procedures will comply with the provisions of Association Policy 610.

Section 2. Initial Proposals:

- (a) The initial bargaining proposal will be determined by a vote of the membership.
- (b) Copies of the Chapter's initial proposal and the employer's initial proposal shall be submitted to the Field Director and Labor Relations Representative for review.

Section 3. Negotiated Agreement:

(a) When the Negotiating Committee has negotiated a contract, tentative agreement, or modifications to an existing contract, it shall immediately submit one copy to the CSEA labor relations representative assigned to service the Chapter, for review by the Association prior to membership ratification.

(1) All contract modifications shall be submitted to the labor relations representative for review by the Association. However, membership ratification shall not be required for those items listed as exceptions to the definition of "modifications" within the provisions of Association Policy 610, unless they are included as part of contract re-opener negotiations.

Section 4. Ratification Procedures:

(a) A copy of the tentative agreement or a summary of the tentative agreement shall be provided each CSEA member of the bargaining unit(s) prior to the ratification meeting. The Negotiating Committee shall include a statement recommending ratification of the agreement. If a summary only is provided, copies of the tentative agreement containing the exact language of the proposal shall be provided at the meeting.

(b) The Chapter President shall set the date, time and place for the ratification meeting, which shall be open to attendance by all employees within the bargaining unit(s), whether or not they are CSEA members.

(b) The Executive Board shall set the date, time and place for one or more "contract information" meetings, which shall be open to attendance by all employees within the bargaining unit(s), whether or not they are CSEA members.

(c) Notice of the "contract information" meeting(s) shall be issued to all bargaining unit employees no later than five working days in advance of the scheduled date. Distribution of said meeting notice(s) shall be at the discretion of the Chapter President, utilizing any of the following methods, which it determines to be most efficient:

(1) To individual bargaining unit employees utilizing the U.S. mail or the employer's mail system;

(2) Distribution by site representatives or others;(3) Posting in prominent locations at each work site.

Exception to the above: The Association's Executive Director, or designee, may approve a notice period of less than five working days upon request of the Chapter President, if it is deemed an expedited ratification is advisable.

(d) Conduct of Informational Meeting(s):

(1) The Negotiating Committee shall review the provisions of the tentative agreement and indicate its recommendations for ratification.

- (2) If the Association recommends rejection of the tentative agreement, an Association representative shall be in attendance at the meeting and shall be provided ample opportunity to outline the recommendation for rejection and the reasons therefore.
- (3) Adequate opportunity for discussion, debate, and answering of questions shall be provided. Non-CSEA members of the bargaining unit(s) in attendance shall be granted the right to participate in the discussion and debate. **They shall not, however, have the right to make motions or vote.**

(e) Ratification Vote:

- (1) The ratification vote shall be conducted by secret ballot at designated voting sites. The location and number of voting sites and the date and times for conducting the balloting shall be as determined by the Chapter President, except that the balloting shall not be earlier than the day following the informational meeting(s).
- (2) Only Active CSEA members in good standing employed within the bargaining unit(s) shall be entitled to vote. Members shall be notified of the date, time(s) and location where the balloting will be conducted for their designated site. Such notice shall be issued at least five working days in advance unless an exception is granted by the Association's Executive Director under provisions of Policy 610.
- (3) The balloting process and vote tally shall be conducted in accordance with procedures proscribed by Association Policy 610. It shall require a majority vote to ratify.
- (4) The results of the balloting shall be provided to the membership no later than five days following the vote tally, and shall be announced at the next following Chapter meeting.
- **Section 5. Executed Agreement**: Every collective bargaining agreement shall be executed by both the Association and appropriate representatives of this Chapter. No contract shall be valid which has not been ratified by the Chapter membership.

ARTICLE XIII CONCERTED ACTIVITIES

Section 1. No concerted withholding of service shall be instituted by this Chapter unless such concerted action has been approved at a regular or special membership meeting, advance notice having been given, by secret ballot vote of not less than 65% of the Active members in good standing present and voting; and approval for such concerted activity has been granted by the Association's Board of Directors.

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Section 2. If the dispute relates to contract negotiations, no concerted withholding of service shall be instituted unless the last offer of the employer has been submitted to the Chapter membership in accordance with Article XII of this constitution and has been rejected, and the requirements of Section 1 above shall have been met.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

- Section 1. This Constitution shall at all times conform to all provisions of the Association Constitution & Bylaws and Policy, and where any conflict should occur, the Association Constitution & Bylaws and/or Policy shall prevail.
- Section 2. Any member in good standing of the Chapter (or the Executive Board) may submit a written proposal to amend this constitution (containing the exact text of the proposed change) at any Chapter meeting, which shall constitute a first reading. The Chapter President shall then cause the proposed amendment(s) to be placed on the agenda of the next regular or a special Chapter meeting where the matter will be read a second time and acted upon, and shall cause written notification of the proposed amendment(s) and the date, time, and place of the designated Chapter meeting to be issued to all members in good standing at least ten days in advance of said meeting. Said notification shall include at least a written summary of the proposed changes. The exact text of the proposed changes shall be made available for review by members upon request prior to the second reading if not provided with said notification, and shall be distributed to all members in attendance at the second reading.
- Section 3. Approval by 2/3 of the Active members in good standing present and voting at the second reading shall be required to adopt the amendment(s). If the amendment relates to a revision of Chapter dues, the vote shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- All amendments shall be submitted to the Association's Executive Section 4. Director immediately following their adoption by the Chapter. No amendment shall become operative until approved by the Executive Director, or designee, or action of the Association's Board of Directors in accordance with Article III, Section 8 of the Association's Constitution.

ARTICLE XV DISBANDMENT OF CHAPTER

Section 1. Should the Chapter disband for any reason, all financial accounts shall be transferred to the control of the Association, and a final audit of the financial books and records of the Chapter shall be made in conjunction with the Association's Financial Analyst/Auditor. Upon conclusion and certification of such audit, final distribution of funds shall be as follows:

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1	(a) All outstanding obligations of the Chapter shall be promptly paid.			
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3	(b) All funds due and owing the Association shall be promptly remitted to the			
4	Association's general fund.			
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6	(c) Funds then remaining shall then be distributed for purposes as			
7	appropriate and authorized in accordance with provisions contained in Association			
8	Policy 612.			
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11	ARTICLE XVI			
12	PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY			
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14	The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly			
15	Revised shall govern the Chapter in all cases in which they are not inconsistent with this			
16	constitution, the Constitution & Bylaws or Policy of the Association, and any special			
17	rules the Chapter may adopt.			
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20	ARTICLE XVII			
21	FISCAL YEAR			
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23	The fiscal year of this Chapter shall extend from January 1 through December			
24	31, inclusive.			