

ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS IN LOUISIANA
BATON ROUGE CHAPTER BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization is the Association for Gifted and Talented Students in Louisiana (AGTSL), Baton Rouge Chapter.

ARTICLE II – ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

The Association for Gifted and Talented Students in Louisiana is incorporated under the laws of the State of Louisiana and is a nonprofit organization. The Baton Rouge Chapter is an unincorporated association of its members. Its "Articles of Organization" comprise these Bylaws, as from time to time amended.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES

Section 1. This chapter is organized, and it shall be operated, for the following objectives:

- a. To establish a local organization with the goal of developing to the maximum Louisiana's natural resource – GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS.
- b. To work with the State Superintendent of Education, State Department of Education, and State and Local school and government officials in developing plans to focus maximum available resources toward the education and enrichment of gifted and talented students.
- c. To support legislation funding, public and private, for the benefit of gifted and talented students.
- d. To involve leadership of communities, citizens and parents in planning and development of all facets of the effort.
- e. To develop criteria and expertise in finding and identifying gifted and talented students.
- f. To explore the experience of other states and communities in their work in helping these children.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES

(Continued)

- g. To organize the assets of the State and Local agencies in humanities and fine arts, science and industry, government and civic affairs toward the development of gifted and talented children.**
- h. To develop a program for education of parents, teachers and other interested members of the community to assist in the understanding of the needs of the gifted and talented students.**

ARTICLE IV – BASIC POLICIES

The following are basic policies of this Chapter:

- a. The organization shall be operated exclusively to work toward the Objectives as specified in Article III.**
- b. No part of the net earnings of the association shall accrue to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof.**
- c. The Chapter is nonpartisan, noncommercial, and nonsectarian.**
- d. The name of the Chapter or its officers in their official capacities may not be used in relation to an endorsement of a business or product or in relation to any partisan concern for any purpose not appropriately connected to promotion of the Objectives of the Chapter.**
- e. The Chapter shall not take part for or against a political candidate for public office or devote a major part of its activities to an effort to influence legislation.**
- f. The Chapter shall cooperate with elementary and secondary schools, colleges, and universities and with other organizations to support improvement of education and to promote the Objectives of the Chapter.**
- g. In the event of dissolution of the Chapter, its assets shall be distributed for one or more of the exempt purposes specified in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as from time to time amended.**
- h. The mailing list of our association may be released by the Board of Directors to parties interested in communicating with persons on the list concerning our interests and objectives as expressed in these Bylaws.**

ARTICLE V – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1 – Membership is available to any person who supports the Objectives and Basic Policies of the organization and who complies with the Bylaws. Membership is open without regard to race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.

Section 2 – The Chapter shall have an annual membership drive for members, but persons may be admitted membership at any time upon payment of dues to the Chapter.

Section 3 – Members of a Chapter of AGTSL are also members of the State Association and are entitled to all benefits of such membership.

Section 4 – Only members in good standing may participate in business meetings or serve in any elective or appointive positions.

Section 5 – The annual membership dues shall be set by the Executive Board. The state portion of the dues paid by each member of the Chapter shall be set aside by the Chapter and remitted to the State AGTSL through such channels and at such times as the state bylaws may provide.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

Section 1 – The officers of this Chapter shall be a President, a President-Elect, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 2 – All of these officers, except President, shall be elected annually at a regular meeting in May by a majority of those members present and voting.

Section 3 – Officers shall assume their duties immediately following their election at the May meeting and shall serve for a term of one (1) year and until the election and qualification of their successors.

Section 4 – A person shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 5 – Nominations

- a. There shall be a Nominating Committee composed of not less than three (3) members, not more than two (2) of whom shall be members of the Executive Board (see Article VIII), appointed by the President at a regular meeting at least one month prior to the election of officers.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall select its own Chairperson.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

(Continued)

- c. The Nominating Committee shall nominate one eligible person for each office to be filled and report its nominees at the regular meeting in May at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor.
- d. All nominations will be accepted only if the nominee is eligible and has expressed his consent to run.

Section 6 – A vacancy occurring in the office of the President shall be filled by the President-Elect for the remainder of the unexpired term. The President-Elect who assumes such duty shall continue as President during the term for which he was elected to serve. If the office of the President-Elect is made vacant, by the President-Elect assuming the Presidency in order to fill an unplanned vacancy, the office of President-Elect shall remain vacant until the next election.

Section 7 – A vacancy occurring in any office except President shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. If the office of President-Elect becomes vacant, the person elected by the board shall serve on an interim basis and the appointment must be ratified at the next general meeting of the membership.

Section 8 – Any officer or member of the Board of Directors who fails to diligently and faithfully perform the duties of his office may be removed from office by a ¾ majority of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1 – The President shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter and the Executive Board, shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed in these Bylaws or assigned to him by the Chapter or by the Executive Board. He shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees of the Chapter in order that the Objectives may be promoted.

Section 2 – The President-Elect shall act as an aid to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer.

Section 3 – The Vice-President shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by the President.

Section 4 – The Secretary shall record and preserve the minutes of all meetings of the Chapter and of the Board of Directors, shall write letters and send notices as requested by the President or the Board of Directors and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated.

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

(Continued)

Section 5 – Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall be custodian of all the funds of the Chapter, shall keep a full and accurate account of receipts and expenditures, and shall make disbursements in accordance with the approved budget, as authorized by the Chapter or the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall report with a statement of finances at meetings of the Chapter and Board of Directors, and shall make a full report at the annual meeting. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of such books of account and records as conform to the requirements of Article XI, Section 3, of the Bylaws.
- b. An audit committee of three members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two weeks before the annual meeting to examine the Treasurer's accounts. If satisfied that the Treasurer's annual report is correct, the committee members shall sign a statement to that effect at the end of the report, this to be done for the mutual protection of the Treasurer and Chapter against fraud.

ARTICLE VIII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 – The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Chapter and three (3) other elected Executive Committee members. These other elected members shall serve three-year staggered terms. One member shall be elected at the regular election meeting each year. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Committee and the Chairmen of the standing committees. The Chairmen of the standing committees shall be elected by majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 2 – The Board of Directors shall conduct all business for and in the name of the Chapter, including the following:

- a. To appoint standing committees and special committees and approve committee plans of work.
- b. To plan the meetings and work of the Chapter.
- c. To develop the budget and approve the expenditures of the Chapter.
- d. To appoint an auditing committee at least two weeks before the annual meeting to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

Section 3 – Regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at least every other month. A majority of the Executive Board members shall constitute a quorum. Special

ARTICLE VIII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Continued)

meetings of the Executive Board may be called by the President or by a majority of the members of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IX – MEETINGS

Section 1 – Ten days notice shall be precede all regular Chapter Meetings.

Section 2 – The meetings of the full membership shall be in September and May, and at other times as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – Ten members shall constitute quorum for the transaction of business in any meeting of the Chapter.

ARTICLE X – STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 1 – The Executive Board may appoint such standing committees as necessary to promote the Objectives and carry on the work of the Chapter. The term of each chairperson shall be one year or until the appointment and qualification of his successor.

Section 2 – The chairperson of each standing committee shall present a plan of work to the Executive Board for approval. No committee work shall be undertaken without the consent of the Executive Board.

Section 3 – Special committees for a specific purpose and limited time may be formed by the Executive Board.

Section 4 – The President shall be a member ex officio of all committees except the nominating committee.

ARTICLE XI – RELATIONSHIP WITH AGTSL

Section 1 – This organization is a chapter of the Association of Gifted and Talented Students of Louisiana. It is organized and chartered under the authority of the AGTSL.

Section 2 – The Bylaws of this Chapter may not conflict with the Bylaws of the AGTSL. Any provision of the Bylaws of the Chapter that conflicts with the Bylaws of the AGTSL shall be null and void.

Section 3 – The Chapter shall keep such permanent books of account and records as shall be sufficient to establish the items of gross income, receipts, and disbursements of the Chapter, including, specifically, the number of members, the dues collected from its members, and the amount of dues remitted to AGTSL. Such books of account and

ARTICLE XI – RELATIONSHIP WITH AGTSL

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records shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by an authorized representative of the AGTSL.

Section 4 – The status of this organization as a chapter shall be subject to termination and its charter as a chapter shall be subject to withdrawal, in the manner and under the circumstances provided by the Bylaws of the AGTSL.