

BYLAWS

THE AWESOME BEAR SOCIETY

ARTICLE I

Name, Location, And Purpose

1. Name and Location: The name of this corporation shall be the AWESOME BEAR SOCIETY, hereinafter referred to as "The Society." Its principal office and place of business shall be located in Readfield, in the County of Kennebec and State of Maine.

2. Purpose: The purpose of The Society shall be to support the co-curricular activities of Maranacook Community High School and Middle School, said schools being part of Maine School Union 42 serving Readfield, Manchester, Wayne, and Mount Vernon. Said support shall be exclusively charitable and benevolent and shall include, but not limited to the following:

A. Supporting, enhancing, encouraging, and advancing the co-curricular activities of Maranacook Community Schools, which activities include but not limited to, athletic programs, debate, drama, music, science and math teams, student senates, and similar activities. The Society will act as an additional source of funding for such programs but not as a substitute for required school budget funding of these programs.

B. The promotion of projects to improve facilities and equipment which otherwise has not been funded through normal budget sources.

C. In carrying out these purposes, the Society shall not seek to direct or influence the carrying out of the school administration's responsibility to conduct the operating affairs of the school. However, the Society may recommend and propose to the various school boards and management teams programs and policies, which it deems appropriate.

D. Relationship of Society with coaches and/or advisors:

The respective coaches or advisors for each co-curricular activity will be encouraged to attend all Society meetings and to promote the Society with the members of their teams or activity and their parents. Each co-curricular activity will be expected to nominate an individual each year to actively represent that specific activity through participation and attendance at meetings of the Governing Board.

ARTICLE II

Organization

1. Officers and Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee shall be established consisting of President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Chairs and the Director of Student Services. Terms of the President and Vice Presidents shall be three years, initially staggered at 1, 2, and 3 years respectively. The Secretary shall have a term of one year. The Treasurer shall have a term of three years. Members of the Executive Committee shall have reached the age of nineteen (19) years of age.

A. The Executive Committee shall conduct the day-to-day business of the Society consistent with the goals set by the Governing Board. The Executive Committee shall appoint committees and committee chairs as needed to carry out the programs of the Society.

B. Officers shall be elected by the members and by ballot at the regular annual meeting. The Governing Board shall present a nominated slate. Nominations shall be received from the floor in addition. It shall require a majority of all votes cast to elect officers. Should a vacancy occur at any time, the Executive Committee shall have the power and the authority to fill such vacancy by appointment until the next annual meeting.

2. Governing Board:

A Governing Board shall be established consisting of one member from each high school and middle school co-curricular program, and the Executive Committee. Individuals may represent only one activity and shall have reached the age of nineteen (19) years of age.

- A. It shall be the purpose of the Governing Board to receive and approve requests for financial assistance, review fund raising proposals, and set both short-term and long range goals of the Society. Any participating co-curricular program may request financial assistance from the Society provided such requests are first presented to the Director of Student Services who will then make a recommendation to the Governing Board.
- B. The Governing Board shall meet at least quarterly.

ARTICLE III

Duties of Officers

The President shall preside at all meetings of The Society, whether regular, annual or special. The President shall represent the Society at special functions and events and oversee that the purposes and goals of the Society are met. The 1st or 2nd Vice President respectively shall perform these duties in the absence of the President.

The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of the proceedings at all meetings of the Society and shall keep permanent records of said meetings. A report shall be rendered at each meeting.

The Treasurer shall keep detailed records showing money received, money expended and the purpose for which expended. The Executive Committee shall designate the type and/or amount of any expenditure the Treasurer may make without its approval. The books shall be open for inspection by either the Executive Committee or Governing Board at any time, and shall remain the property of the Society. All books of account, computer data files, and programs will be delivered to the Society at the end of the Treasurers term of office, or sooner if requested by the Society Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall render a report in open meeting at every regular meeting or more often if requested to do so.

The Executive Committee shall have the authority to make expenditures on credit of the Society in an emergency.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

The regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at least monthly, at a time determined by the Executive Committee.. All regular and annual meetings shall be open to the public. The annual meeting shall be on the fourth Saturday of April or at such other time as the Executive Committee and Governing Board, acting together, shall vote. The time and place shall be given reasonable public notice at least two weeks prior to the date of the annual meeting. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee at its discretion or by the President.

ARTICLE V

Membership in the Society

Any persons contributing money or services to the Society and its activities during the school year prior to the annual meeting, shall be considered members.

ARTICLE VI

Voting Privileges and Quorums

Members, as defined in Article V, shall have voting privileges at the annual meeting. At any membership or annual meeting, a quorum shall consist of 10 members. At any Governing Board meeting, a quorum shall consist of 10 board members.

ARTICLE VII

Removal of Officers or Advisory Board Members

Officers or members of the Governing Board may be removed for cause, which cause shall include failure to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without prior arrangement or communication with their respective committees or boards. Removal shall be by a majority vote of the membership in attendance at a special meeting called for such purpose.

ARTICLE VIII

Audit

The President and 1st Vice President shall act as an auditing committee. The responsibility of this committee is to audit the books of the Secretary and Treasurer prior to the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments/Alterations

Amendments to the by-laws or any alterations thereto may be made at any regular, special, or annual meeting providing said amendment or alteration has been proposed at the previous meeting. A majority vote of all members with voting privileges is necessary to amend or alter the by-laws.