



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

**Educators Of Library Media Specialists (ELMSS)
Policies**

Name

The name of the organization shall be the Educators of Library Media Specialists Section of the American Association of School Librarians, A Division of the American Library Association.

Purpose

The general purpose of the Educators of Library Media Specialist Section (ELMS) shall be to focus attention on education of personnel preparing for and/or serving in careers in school library media programs.

Specific purposes of ELMS are:

- a. To promote and nurture research relevant to the education of school library media specialists.
- b. To provide opportunities for the exchange of information relevant to the education and career paths of library media specialists and educators.
- c. To provide opportunities for the development of leadership among educators of school library media specialists.
- d. To provide optimal opportunities for the professional development of educators of library media specialists, and
- e. To provide opportunities among educators of school library media specialists to discuss and recommend curriculum components of programs for library media personnel.

Membership

Active membership. Any individual interested in promoting the purposes of the Section may become a member by paying the prescribed dues to the American Library Association and American Association of School Librarians.

Organization membership. Library schools, libraries, publishers and other interested agencies may become members of the Section by paying the prescribed dues to the American Library Association and American Association of School Librarians.

Officers

Officers of the ELMS Section shall be the chair, the vice-chair/chair-elect, the past chair, an elected delegate to the AASL Board, and a secretary. The Executive Committee shall be composed of elected officers and the chairs of standing committees.

Election of officers will be conducted annually as a component of the ALA/AASL balloting procedure.

Terms of officers shall be one year beginning at the end of the ALA annual meeting except for the ELMS member elected to serve a three-year term as the ELMS delegate to the AASL Board.

The chair shall serve as presiding officer at all meetings of the Section and shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

The vice-chair/chair-elect (1) shall perform all the duties of the chair in the absences or incapacity of the chair, (2) shall appoint all members of standing committees, ad hoc committees, and task forces with the approval of the Executive Committee, and (3) shall serve as an ex-officio member to all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Executive Committee

Members: The Executive Committee shall be composed of Elected officers, the ELMS delegate to the AASL Board, and chairs of the standing committees.

Meetings: Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at the ALA conference and at the Midwinter Meeting of ALA, or meetings may take place as conference calls.

Additional meetings may be called by the ELMS chair with the approval of the Executive Committee, or at the written request of at least one-half of the ELMS Executive Committee.

Committees

Committees may be formed at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Four kinds of committees may exist: standing committees, ad hoc committees, special committees and task forces.

Committee chairs and member of committees will be appointed by the chair-elect with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Standing committees of ELMS shall be: (1) Bylaws and Handbook Committee, (2) Nominations Committee, and (3) Program Committee.

Standing committees will consist of at least three members each serving two years, with one or two new members appointed annually on a rotational basis. No individual may serve more than two consecutive terms on the same committee.

Ad hoc committees may be formed at any time by the chair-elect. The size and tenure of the ad hoc committee will be determined by its goals and objectives as directed by the chair-elect and the Executive Committee.

Special committees may be appointed at any time by the ELMS chair-elect with the approval of the Executive Committee. Special committee members shall be appointed for two-year terms with two replacements made annually. No individual may serve more than two consecutive terms on the same committee. Responsibilities of each special committee shall be defined in writing by the Executive Committee prior to committee appointments. The chair of each committee shall receive a copy of the document at the beginning of his/her tenure.

Task forces may be established at any time by the chair-elect with the approval of the Executive committee. Size, duration and responsibilities will be concomitant with the mission of the task force. The chair of the task force will be provided with a written statement of objectives, responsibilities, and a target date for completion. Members of task forces will be appointed by the chair-elect with the approval of the Executive Committee.

In the event that any committee incumbent cannot complete the tenure of his/her appointment, the chair-elect will appoint a replacement. Replacement incumbents will serve until the expiration of the original committee member's term unless reappointed. Replacement committee members may serve a maximum of four consecutive years.

Membership Meetings

Membership meetings will be held during the ALA Annual Conference.

Special meetings may be called by the ELMS chair with the approval of the Executive Committee, or, by petition of 25 or more ELMS members. A minimum of thirty days notice including an agenda, shall be provided to each member. Only business included on the agenda may be transacted at a special meeting.

Nominations and Elections

Elections shall be conducted as a component of the ALA/AASL election ballot.

At least two candidates shall be nominated for each office and that slate shall be submitted in accordance with AASL election procedures.

Candidates may be nominated by a petition bearing at least fifteen signatures of members of ELMS. A signed consent document of the candidate must be filed with the AASL office at least three months prior to the annual membership meeting.

A plurality of legal votes cast will determine a candidate's selection. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined by lot by the Election Committee of ALA.

Amendments

Amendments to the Bylaws of ELMS will be voted by mail ballot. Amendments may be proposed by the Bylaws and Handbook Committee or submitted by petition of at least fifteen members of ELMS to the ELMS Executive Committee for ballot consideration.

Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the membership or published in the official AASL publication at least thirty days prior to voting.

Proposed amendments must receive a minimum of two-thirds of the votes cast. Amendments become effective at the beginning of the following term of office unless otherwise stipulated.

Parliamentary Procedure

Parliamentary authority shall be that defined by Robert's Rules of Order, current edition.

The chair may appoint a parliamentarian to attend any or all meetings. The parliamentarian serves in a non-voting resource capacity.

As a Section of AASL which is a division of ALA, ELMS will approve and endorse only activities consistent with the structural documents of its parent organization.