2020 MSEA Representative Assembly

**PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT 1:**

Article IV-Membership

d. Sustaining membership shall be open to any person ~~not otherwise eligible for membership who subscribes to the furtherance of education~~ **who was previously an Active member and is no longer eligible for that or any other category.**

**e. Community ally membership shall be open to any person interested in advancing the cause of public education, who supports the mission, vision, and core values of the Association, and who is not eligible for any other MSEA membership category. Community Ally members shall not have the right to nominate or vote for candidates for elected office or vote for delegates to the Representative Assembly, or hold any elected office or appointed committee position in the Association.**

Article V- Dues

d. The annual dues of Sustaining Members shall be fixed by the Representative Assembly ~~not to exceed~~ **as**one-half the dues of an Active Member.

**e. Dues of Community Ally members shall be established through the MSEA budget process.**

***Submitted By****:  The MSEA Board of Directors. Contact person: Doug Prouty*

***Transition****: The Bylaw amendment shall take effect immediately following adoption.*

***Intent****: The proposed amendment will serve to align MSEA’s Bylaws with NEA Bylaw Amendment #1, approved at the 2019 NEA RA.*

***Rationale****: NEA approved adding this membership category at the 2019 RA in Houston. MSEA would benefit from increased opportunities for outreach to and support from Community Ally members who are also NEA Community Ally members, as well as those who choose to only become MSEA Community Ally members. We already work with numerous coalitions on a number of public education and social justice issues. This membership category would allow those coalition partners to work more closely with us. Specifically, we will need to work with numerous partners on several fronts to present the case for raising revenue to increase spending on public education significantly over the next decade as envisioned by the Kirwan Commission. The Community Ally category would help enable that work.*

*As the RedforEd movement and growing support for community schools have made clear, there are thousands of allies in every state that support our mission of ensuring a great public school for every student and community. Under federal law, MSEA and NEA cannot communicate and share information on political and lobbying campaigns with nonmembers. This new category creates a pathway for ongoing contact with our community allies about pro-public education political candidates, education policies, ballot measures, and organizing to advance MSEA and NEA’s mission and priority work.*