

**Golden Corridor Association for the Education of Young Children  
GoAEYC  
BYLAWS**

**Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Golden Corridor Association for the Education of Young Children, hereafter also referred to as GoAEYC.

**Article II: Purpose**

**GoAEYC's Vision:**

To increase the quality of care for young children and the people who work with them.

**GoAEYC's Value Statement:**

GoAEYC values the impact early childhood professionals can make through public awareness, advocacy, professional development and networking to achieve positive outcomes for all children and their families.

GoAEYC is a membership organization in the North-Northwest suburban Cook County and Lake County area whose mission is to:

1. Educate, support and collaborate with individuals and organizations working in direct or indirect service to young children.
2. Provide services, which attract and involve a diverse and active membership.
3. Advocate on behalf of the needs, rights, and well-being of young children and their families.

**GoAEYC's Goals are:**

1. To improve the professional practice of early childhood education.
2. To uphold high standards for professional development and working conditions for early childhood educators.
3. To increase the understanding and support for high quality programs for young children and their families.

**Article III: Membership**

1. Anyone interested in promoting the purpose of this Association may become a member upon payment of annual dues..
2. All members of GoAEYC are also members of the Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children (ILAEYC) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and are entitled to the privileges of membership in accord with the membership categories of those respective associations.
3. The categories of membership shall be Comprehensive Affiliate, Regular Affiliate and Student Affiliate.
4. All members upon payment of annual dues shall become eligible for all rights, benefits and responsibilities of membership. Members are entitled to: one vote on the annual ballot, selected/elected as a member of the Governing Board, to serve on committees, receive issues of Young Children, Illinois News, GoAEYC news, reduced fees at conferences and workshops, insurance and credit card options, and all NAEYC and ILAEYC materials and discounts.
5. Membership will be valid for one year or three years from the time of enrollment, based on membership option selected.
6. Geographic boundaries for members are flexible and include:
  - A. The villages of Inverness, Rolling Meadows, Mount Prospect, Schaumburg, Wheeling, Arlington Heights, Hoffman Estates, Elk Grove Village, Palatine, South Barrington, Prospect Heights, Streamwood, Des Plaines
  - B. The Cook County portions of Barrington, Barrington Hills, Buffalo Grove, Hanover Park, Roselle
  - C. All of Lake County

## **Article IV: Governance and Administration**

### **A. Governing Board**

1. The administering body shall be called the Governing Board.
2. The Governing Board shall have supervision, control and direction of the affairs of the Association, shall determine its policies or changes therein within the limits of the bylaws, shall actively promote its purposes, and shall have discretion in the disbursement of its funds. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable, and may, in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such agents as it may consider necessary.
3. The Governing Board shall consist of the Executive Board members, Board officers, and a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 8 At-Large Governing Board members elected by the local membership of the Association.
4. No person shall serve on the Board unless that person is a member of the Association. In order for the Golden Corridor AEYC to carry out its mission, a high degree of involvement in the decision-making process is required of Board members. Expectations of Board members participation shall include:
  - a. Support and endorsement of the GoAEYC mission
  - b. Regular attendance at Board meetings. An elected member of the Governing Board who misses half of the regularly scheduled meetings in a fiscal year may be removed from office by majority vote of the Board.
  - c. Participation in at least one Standing Committee of the Board.
5. Except for the initial year, three or four at-large Governing Board members shall be elected each year.
6. The Governing Board term of office shall be two years, with three or four positions elected each year.
7. There shall be at least four meetings of the Governing Board during each calendar year. Meetings will be open to all members. Notice of meetings shall be made through newsletter and website.
8. A simple majority of the Governing Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. There shall be no proxy votes.
9. Any action required to be taken at a meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting, through mail or email vote, if proper notice of the proposed action is given in writing to the Governing Board. Thereafter consent in writing approving the action is signed by all Board members.
10. An officer or member may resign at any time. The resignation shall be made in writing and shall take effect at the time specified.
11. An officer or Board member may be removed by a Governing Board majority vote if the officer or Board member's responsibilities are not fulfilled. No officer or Board member shall be removed at a meeting without prior written notice explaining that the purpose of the vote is to remove the persons named in the notice.

### **B. Board Leadership**

1. The Executive Board of GoAEYC shall consist of:

President  
President Elect  
Past President  
Vice President of Organizational Development  
Vice President of Professional Development  
Treasurer

2. The Board Officers of GoAEYC shall consist of:  
Secretary  
Membership Chairperson

C. Executive Board & Board Officers

1. The duties of the board leadership shall be such as are usually performed by these offices.
2. The President may serve one term. Other Governing Board members may not succeed themselves in any office more than once, except when the first term is by appointment to fill an unexpired term created by a vacancy of office.
3. Except for the initial year, Governing Board members will be elected as follows: Vice President of Organizational Development, and Secretary shall be elected in even-numbered years for service in odd-numbered years. Vice President of Professional Development, Treasurer, and Membership Chairperson shall be elected in odd-numbered years for service beginning in even-numbered years. The President-elect shall be elected every other year.
4. The President-elect shall serve one year in that office, two years as President and one year as Past President. All other terms of office shall be two years. All terms of office shall begin on January 1 and extend to December 31 of the final year of the term.
5. Vacancies among the Governing Board members shall be filled by appointment of the President or election by the Governing Board and shall extend until the end of the term of office being held.

**Article VI: A Nominations and Elections**

1. Annually, the Governing Board shall select a nominating committee.
2. The nominating committee shall request suggestions for nominations from the membership no later than 6 weeks prior to the date that the slate is presented for voting.
3. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of Governing Board members and at-large Governing Board members and shall notify the membership of the composition of the slate no later than four weeks to the date that the slate is presented for voting.
4. New GoAEYC members slated on the elect ballot shall be slated as an at-large governing board member. Candidates slated for the Board Officers position shall have one year experience serving on the GoAEYC Board. Candidates slated for the Executive Board positions shall have two years experience serving on the GoAEYC Board.
5. Nominations of additional candidates may be made by petition of ten current GoAEYC members in the case of mailed ballot, or by a majority vote of the membership at a meeting called for the purpose of voting.
6. Elections shall be determined by a majority of the members voting.

7. Elections shall be accomplished by November 1 of each year by mail, vote at a membership meeting or conference, or by secure online survey as determined by the Governing Board. Election results shall be published in the first issue of the newsletter following the accomplishment of the election.

#### **Article VI: B Appointments to the Board**

1. As needed, the Governing Board shall make appointments to fill vacant Member-at-large positions on the board.
2. Prior to appointment, the member candidate shall submit the following to the Nominating Committee:
  - a. Three (3) letters of recommendation
  - b. Submit a biography which includes experience and education
  - c. Submit a letter of interest reflecting commitment to board meetings and events, with the understanding that they are expected to attend monthly meetings, participate on a committee and attend conferences and other GoAEYC sponsored events.
  - d. A signed letter of commitment.
3. Upon acceptance by the Nominating Committee, a motion to appoint this candidate will be made to the Governing Board. The candidate will be appointed by simple majority vote.

#### **Article VII: Committees**

The president, with the approval of the Governing Board, shall appoint a Finance, Accreditation, Organizational Development, Nominations & Elections, Public Policy / Advocacy, Professional Development, Membership, Conference and special committees as are determined necessary to fulfill the purpose of the Association. Supervision of the committees may be delegated to the Vice President of Organizational Development and the Vice President of Professional Development.

#### **Article VIII: State of AEYC Delegates**

GoAEYC shall be represented in the State Affiliate by any member(s) of the Governing Board. The president may authorize substitutions of the appointed delegates if such persons cannot attend a scheduled meeting.

#### **Article IX: Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year shall be January 1 through December 31.

#### **Article X: Budget**

The Governing Board shall be empowered to establish, monitor and change the Association budget.

#### **Article XI: Meetings**

1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Association, the date, time and place to be determined by the president. A general report to the membership regarding financial status and programs and services of the organization will be made at the time. The membership shall be informed of the date and place of the meeting by newsletter or website no later than 6 six prior to the meeting date.
2. A majority of the membership present shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Association.

#### **Article XII: Dissolution**

The Golden Corridor Association for the Education of Young Children may be dissolved at a membership meeting called for that specific purpose by a majority vote of the Governing Board after written notification to NAEYC and

Illinois AEYC. All members will be given written notification of dissolution. Upon dissolution of the Association, any funds remaining shall be distributed by the Governing Board to one or more 501c(3) organizations working in the field of early childhood education and care.

**Article XIII: Parliamentary Authority**

Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority of the Association.

**Article XIV: Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part (a) by a majority vote at any meeting of the Association provided that a copy of any amendment proposal for consideration shall be made available to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting, or (b) by approval of the members through mail vote.

Revised June, 2010

Approved October, 2010

## **Proposed Amendments as of July 2016**

**Text in black if the current text in the bylaws. Text in red is the proposed changes.**

### **Article II: Purpose**

#### **GoAEYC's Vision:**

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#### **GoAEYC's Value Statement:**

~~GoAEYC values the impact early childhood professionals can make through public awareness, advocacy, professional development and networking to achieve positive outcomes for all children and their families.~~

1. We value the opinions and wisdom of individuals who work with young children.
2. We value model programs for young children.
3. We value ethical codes of conduct among all early childhood educators and those who work with or for young children.

#### **GoAEYC's Mission:**

~~GoAEYC is a membership organization in the North Northwest suburban Cook County and Lake County area whose mission is to:~~

1. Educate, support and collaborate with individuals and organizations working in direct or indirect service to young children.
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  - ~~B. The Cook County portions of Barrington, Barrington Hills, Buffalo Grove, Hanover Park, Roselle~~

~~C. All of Lake County~~

- A. The following townships of Cook county, Illinois:
  - a. Barrington, Palatine, Wheeling, Northfield, New Trier, Hanover, Schaumburg, Elk Grove, Maine, Niles, and Evanston.
- B. The following townships of Lake county, Illinois:
  - a. Moraine, West Deerfield, Vernon, Ela, and Cuba

**Article IV: Governance and Administration**

C. Board Leadership

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  - President Elect
  - Past President
  - ~~Vice President of Organizational Development~~
  - ~~Vice President of Professional Development~~
  - Treasurer
- 2. The Board Officers of GoAEYC shall consist of:
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