

Campaign Ethics and Professionalism

IT IS EXPECTED THAT ALL CANDIDATES WILL CONDUCT THEIR CAMPAIGNS IN AN HONEST AND ETHICAL MANNER, WITH PARTICULAR CONSIDERATION FOR THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF THEIR FELLOW CANDIDATES.

The purpose of ANSA's campaign Regulations is to assist members running for state office and attending the ANSA convention to conduct their campaign in a way that will provide equal opportunity for candidates to inform members of their qualifications.

1. Campaigning is defined as the use of verbal or written materials for the purpose of :

- A. presenting the personal qualifications and accomplishments of the candidate;
- B. discussing a candidate's stand on an issue
- C. discussing a candidate's goals and objectives.

Campaigning does not prohibit a candidate from addressing an issue other than their candidacy at appropriate hearings, forums, caucuses or meetings.

2. Candidates and campaign managers

- A. A candidate may choose to have one campaign manager and one alternate to handle his/her campaign.
- B. Only one campaign manager at a time is permitted to assist the candidate in Campaign Headquarters.
- C. No campaign manager may work for more than one candidate.
- D. All campaign managers must be ANSA members.

Penalty for violation: removal of campaign materials and campaign managers from campaign headquarters.

- E. All candidates, campaign managers and alternate campaign managers must sign the campaign resolution statement.

3. Pre-convention campaigning

- A. Prior to the selection of the slate of candidates, potential candidates are permitted to solicit support only at their own school meetings.
- B. Slated candidates may campaign via mail, phone and Internet. ANSA takes no responsibility for publicity materials mailed by a candidate. A candidate who mails

materials or places materials on the Internet does so at her/his own risk.

C. The ANSA Board neither encourages nor prohibits pre-convention campaigning by candidates on the slate.

4. Candidates nominated from the floor

A. Individuals who become interested in running for state office during the convention are encouraged to run from the floor. Persons anticipating nomination from the floor are not permitted to campaign prior to being nominated, and are not permitted to release any campaign materials until such time.

B. A candidate nominated from the floor must give his/her application for state office and supporting credentials for eligibility to a member of the Nominations and Elections Committee. These documents must be verified prior to being nominated.

C. Candidates who are transferring schools, and graduates of associate degree and diploma schools who are planning to enter baccalaureate programs, must have written proof of acceptance to the new school.

D. Candidates may be nominated from the floor at either of the business meetings on Thursday for any elected office. At the last business meeting on Thursday, only positions with fewer than two (2) slated candidates will be available for nomination from the floor. Nominations will be closed after the last business meeting on Thursday.

5. Write-in Candidates

Although not permitted to campaign, write-in candidates are allowed. Write in candidates must obey all rules of Campaign Regulations and Ethics. Write-in candidates must meet eligibility requirements as specified in the ANSA bylaws.

6. Candidates as delegates

The ANSA Board places no restriction on the dual of candidate-delegate.

7. Candidates' biographies

Each candidate's application form will be available for inspection throughout the convention and will be posted in Campaign Headquarters place. Candidates on the slate will be presented in appropriate ANSA publication.

8. Addendum to application

All candidates may complete a poster which will be displayed in campaign headquarters.

9. Campaign Headquarters

There will be a room in the convention hall or hotel designated as Campaign Headquarters. All candidates, whether placed on the slate by the Nomination and Elections Committee or nominated from the floor, will be assigned a place in Campaign Headquarters.

A. Each candidate may have two (2) posters, no larger than 36" x 44" which will be placed in Campaign Headquarters and other designated areas set by the Nominations and Elections Committee.

B. During the convention, campaigning is prohibited in the Registration area, program sessions, and House of Delegates. Boundaries where campaign is prohibited will be set by the Nominations and Elections Committee prior to the candidates' first meeting.

C. ANSA and the convention properties will not be responsible for materials left in Campaign Headquarters or elsewhere in the hotel. Candidates must be responsible for the removal of their campaign materials.

D. Verbal campaigning may not be done at mandatory delegate meetings or programs sessions, with the exception of official meetings scheduled for the purpose of campaigning.

E. During the convention, no campaign materials may be distributed at any time in the House of Delegates or in the candidates' presentations.

F. As ANSA is a student organization and is to provide equal opportunity for all eligible members from every chapter, the Nominations and Elections Committee strongly suggest limiting expenses on campaigning.

G. ANSA Board members running for office must abide by all campaign regulations. The primary obligation of the ANSA Board member is to their present offices and duties. Their roles as a Board member and candidate must be kept separate.

10. Candidate presentations

A. Following the close of nominations, the candidates are presented to the House of Delegates. This includes candidates already on the slate and those nominated from the floor.

B. Candidates for all offices, except the president, will have a total of one (1) minute to present their personal statement and one (1) minute to answer an impromptu question pertaining to the office for which they are running. The president shall have two (2) minutes for a personal statement and one (1) minute to answer an impromptu question.

11. C. Candidates may use notes for their own statement but not to answer the impromptu question.

D. Only candidates may speak on their own behalf, unless there is an illness or an equally good reason for their absence. The Nominations and Election Committee will decide if the absence is justifiable and, if so, will present the candidate's remarks. If possible, a response to an impromptu question will be recorded and played.

E. This is mandatory for delegates.

12. **Procedure for dealing with campaign violation**

A. Penalties for violations include removal of campaign materials from campaign headquarters.

B. All campaign regulation violations should be reported to a member of the Nominations and Elections Committee.

C. Reports of campaign regulation violations should be submitted in writing to a member of the Nominations and Elections Committee. The committee shall be responsible for investigating all allegations of violations. A written copy of the report will be submitted to the Board of Directors.

D. In the Nominations and Elections Committee believes that a violation has occurred, a meeting will take place with the candidate and all persons involved. In the event that the Nominations and Elections Committee is unable to resolve the issue, a written report with recommendations shall be delivered to the Board of Directors.

E. At the Board of Directors meeting, the chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee shall present the charges of a campaign violation and the candidate shall present her/his side of the issue.

F. The Board of Directors shall decide the issue, the penalties to follow those set down in the campaign regulations.

G. No action shall be taken against a candidate and no publicity shall be given to the violation unless definite action is take by the Board of Directors.

H. Those who violate the campaign regulations more than once may be removed from the ballot by the House of Delegates upon recommendation of the Board of Directors.

13. **Questions and interpretations of campaign regulations**

The Nominations and Elections Committee will handle all questions.

14. Tellers

At least five (5) tellers are needed for the election. They cannot be from schools with candidates. They cannot be delegates, candidates, or campaign managers. The tellers monitor the election and count the ballots under the direction of the Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections, who will verify the election results. Announcements regarding tellers shall be made in the last business meeting of the House of Delegates on Friday.

15. Ballot

Pre-slated candidates shall be listed on the ballot before other candidates.

16. Election results

Election results will be announced during the House of Delegates meeting on the day of the elections.

17. Candidates' expenses

A board meeting of the newly elected officers will be held following the convention. If it is necessary to spend the night in Little Rock, any expenses incurred will be the responsibility of the newly elected officer.

18. Statement of Appropriateness

A. It is the sole responsibility of the Nominations and Elections Committee to verify the credentials of the candidates following criteria set forth in the ANSA Bylaws and policies. Prior to being slated or nominated, all candidate applications for state office are to be held in the utmost confidentiality.

B. It is expected that all Nominations and Elections Committee members and members of the Board of Directors will conduct themselves in an honest and ethical manner with particular consideration for the rights and privileges for all candidates.

C. It is suggested that the Nominations and Elections Committee and the Board of Directors refrain from verbal and non-verbal endorsement of any one candidate for state office,