

# **The Sudanese American Community Cultural School – Maryland, Silver Spring**

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## **CONSTITUTION – proposed draft**

### ***ARTICLE 1: NAME***

The name of this school shall be the SUDANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CULTURAL SCHOOL, MD SILVER SPRING, here in referred to as the school.

### ***ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE***

The school is organized exclusively for educational purpose. It is to provide opportunities for all interested individuals regardless to race, color, nationality, and creed to study the Sudanese culture and languages. The school shall promote and teach Sudanese culture and language, and shall maintain high standings in its members.

### ***ARTICLE 2: SCOPE***

The scope of the school shall encompass all aspects of Sudanese culture and languages; and also its teachings, studying and promotion. The school shall be a non-political, and non-sectarian educational institution.

No part of the activities of the school shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the school shall not participate in, or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of the candidate for public office.

The school shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempted from federal income tax under section 501( c ) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### ***ARTICLE 4: BOARDS OF DIRECTORS***

The board of directors, herein referred to as the board, shall be composed of five members, one representative from each of the following school families:

- a) Three members shall be representatives from the current school family
- b) Two members shall be representatives from the broad school family and friends
- c) Stagger elections of members is encouraged to guarantee stability and continuity – elect one member every year for a five year term.

The board has the authority to amend the constitution and bylaws, to appoint and dismiss any officer of the school.

The quorum is composed of at least two third of the board of board of directors.

The chairman of the board of directors is elected among the directors by a majority vote. The term of the chairman of the board is one year and shall be eligible for re-election, but not eligible as the school principle during his/her term. The chairman of the board shall call meetings at least twice every year.

### ***ARTICLE 5: MANAGEMENT***

The school shall be managed by paid/volunteered officers appointed by the board of directors according to the bylaws.

### ***ARTICLE 6: MEMBERSHIP***

The membership of the school is composed of all the currently registered adult students and the parents or guardians of the students who are minors. Members have privileges and responsibilities according to the bylaws.

### ***ARTICLE 7: FINANCE***

The school shall maintain its financial status as a non-profit organization according to the section 501 ( c ) ( 3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

No part of the net earnings of the school shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the school shall pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

The board shall have the sole authority and responsibility to obligate the funds and assets of the school, and any authorized officer or representative thereof may take such obligations and commitments provided they are within the terms of properly approved budget.

The school budget as well as any changes to the budget must be approved by the board. The school may collect dues, tuitions, fees, and donations from its members. The school may raise revenue by other means with the approval of the board.

### ***ARTICLE 8: AMENDMENTS***

Amendments to the constitution may be initiated by at least three members of the board of directors accompanied by a motion for the scheduling of a special meeting to consider the proposed amendment. Any such motion and proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the board of directors at least thirty days in advance. Amendments shall be approved by two thirds of the board of directors.

Amendments to the bylaws shall be initiated by at least one member of the board of the directors and subject to the approval by the majority of the quorum of the board.

### ***ARTICLE 9: CHANGE OF STATUS***

Merger, dissolution, subordination, affiliation or any other change of status of the school shall be approved by two third of the board.

## ***ARTICLE 10: DISPOSITION***

Upon the dissolution of the school, the board of directors shall after payment of all liabilities, dispose all the remaining assets of the school to one or more organizations exclusively for charitable, education, or scientific purposes as qualified for tax exemption under the section 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.