ARTICLE I  
Membership

SECTION 1.  
Amount of Dues  
1. The SCTA dues shall be as established by CTA and NEA.  
2. A membership application shall accompany the dues.

SECTION 2  
Receiving Dues  
Membership status shall not be official until dues and accompanying membership information are received by the SCTA state office.

SECTION 3  
Chapter Dues and Rebates  
1. Chapters may not charge additional dues for SCTA membership.  
2. Officially recognized chapters will receive a portion of the SCTA dues as a rebate.

SECTION 4  
Ethnic and Underrepresented Minority Member Participation  
1. The SCTA Executive Board shall be committed to attaining a diverse and representative membership and leadership at all levels of SCTA.  
2. The SCTA Executive Board shall promote ethnic and underrepresented minority member participation through:  
   a. Newsletter articles which encourage diversity.  
   b. Informing members of special conference grants and scholarships  
   c. Recruiting and supporting ethnic and underrepresented minorities in the form of visitations.  
   d. Encouraging qualified ethnic minorities and underrepresented members to run for local, state, and national positions.

ARTICLE II  
Chapters

SECTION 1  
Faculty Advisors  
1. The SCTA staff person shall serve as the primary contact for chapter faculty advisors.  
2. The faculty advisors role is to mentor and to advise the chapter leaders in their duties while allowing the student leaders to make independent decisions for the benefit of the chapter.  
3. Members shall be responsible for keeping advisors informed of financial matters and upcoming events.
SECTION 2
Chapter Status
To be officially recognized as a SCTA chapter the following four requirements must be met:
1. Must obtain official club status on campus.
2. Must have elected officers.
3. Must have at least one faculty or staff advisor.
4. Must submit governing documents to SCTA Executive Board.

SECTION 3
Chapter Accountability
1. The local chapter governance documents shall be consistent with the SCTA, CTA, and NEA governance documents, including the following:
   a. An acknowledgement that the chapter (local) is affiliated with the Student California Teachers Association (SCTA) and the National Education Association Student Program (NEA-SP).
   b. A description of officers and their duties, method of election, term of office, and how vacancies are filled.
   c. A provision that all officers of the chapter (local) shall be and remain currently enrolled members of SCTA as a condition for nomination to and service in their respective positions.
   d. A provision for calling meetings, their frequency, and quorum.
   e. A current adoption and/or revision date including presiding officer’s name.
   f. Provisions for amending the constitution, bylaws, or both.
   g. Provisions that the disciplining of members by the chapter shall be subject to the use of a due process hearing including an appeals process.
   h. Provisions for accountability of chapter funds.
2. Each chapter shall apply the one-person-one-vote principle of representation to its governing bodies.
3. The chapter shall have the same membership year as that of SCTA and NEA-SP, September 1 through August 31.
4. Each chapter shall conduct elections with open nominations and a secret ballot. If the number of candidates nominated does not exceed the number of positions to be filled, then they may be elected by acclamation.
5. The local chapters shall complete an annual chapter update form to be submitted at the SCTA Representative Assembly.
6. The Board shall encourage local chapters to send a copy of their newsletters and other communication to the board and other chapter presidents.
7. The local chapter shall be encouraged to establish and maintain relationships with nearby CTA Service Center Councils and local CTA, CCA, and CFA chapters.
8. The local chapter shall submit reports upon request to the Executive Board stating the status of the local chapter and its officers.
SECTION 4
Revoking or Suspending Chapter Charter
1. Suspension or revocation of a chapter's constitution and/or charter may be based upon the chapter’s failure to carry out the expressed purpose and aims of the Association as stated in Article II of the Constitution.
2. In order to suspend a chapter’s constitution and/or charter a petition signed by seventy five percent (75%) of the chapter’s membership must be submitted to the Executive Board.
3. To revoke a chapter’s constitution and/or charter a ¾ vote of the Executive Board is required.
4. The decision of the Executive Board, in such cases, may be appealed, in writing, by the chapter to the board. The CTA Board of Directors has the final decision.

SECTION 5
Chapter Funds Responsibilities
1. Each chapter shall include in its governing documents provisions addressing chapter financial matters.
2. Each chapter shall develop a system of accounting for income and dispersal of funds.
3. Any impropriety in handling of chapter funds shall immediately be reported to the SCTA Executive Board for review.

SECTION 6
Event Participation
1. Any time a local SCTA member is funded to attend a SCTA or CTA sponsored event and the member is unable to attend the member must contact his/her local chapter president or designated contact person and SCTA staff.
2. In cases that are deemed preventable and without just cause by the SCTA Executive Board the local chapter will be responsible for any costs incurred due to the last minute cancellation that prevents an alternate from attending.

ARTICLE III
SCTA Representative Assembly

SECTION 1
Planning
1. The RA shall be planned and coordinated by the Executive VP in conjunction with SEMAC and is responsible for:
   a. Agenda
   b. Newsletter article
   c. Theme
   d. Coordination with Elections Committee
   e. Elections Chair will receive training prior to RA
SECTION 2
RA Expenses
All SCTA delegates, Executive Board Members, State Council Representatives, NEA Standing Committee members, local advisors, and designated observers shall be reimbursed for travel and accommodations within CTA guidelines.

SECTION 3
Location
The RA shall alternate annually between the Northern and Southern regions.

ARTICLE IV
Executive Board

SECTION 1
Annual SCTA Goals
1. The Representative Assembly shall be used as an opportunity for the SCTA Executive Board to discover the needs and expectations of our membership which will be used for goal-setting.
2. The new President shall send the goals to
   a. CTA Board
   b. NEA-SP Chairperson
   c. Local chapter officers
   d. Local chapter advisors, and
   e. SCTA Communications Editor, for publishing
3. The goals shall be reviewed periodically by the board to determine the extent the goals are being realized.

SECTION 2
SCTA Budget
1. The Executive Committee and the Staff Consultants shall evaluate the budget at least annually and adjust it as necessary.
2. Spending shall be closely monitored by the Executive Committee and the Staff Consultants to ensure it is kept within the current budget.

SECTION 3
Duties and Responsibilities
1. The Executive Board shall have the power to call special Executive Board meetings upon a unanimous vote of its members.
2. The Executive Board may establish or abolish Association standing committees, task forces and permanent or ad hoc committees.
3. The Executive Board shall adopt the Standing Rules of the Association.
4. The Executive Board shall have the power to make any grammatical changes to the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules as are necessary for the purpose of clarification.
5. The Executive Board shall appoint the Past Officer immediately following the Representative Assembly. Both outgoing and incoming board members shall vote for the Past Officer.
6. All members of the Executive Board shall be SCTA members in good standing by the September Board Meeting of the current year or otherwise deemed to have resigned their position.

7. Board members will provide unofficial transcripts to SCTA staff by the June and January board meetings.

8. The State Council Representative votes will be tallied at the Representative Assembly. The Elections committee will require the applications to be submitted 1 month prior to the Representative Assembly, and ballots will be returned 1 week prior to the Representative Assembly, where the winners will be announced.

9. All members of the Executive Board shall actively recruit new members.

SECTION 4
SCTA Executive Board Recommendations
The SCTA Executive Board may choose to recommend CTA and NEA candidates. This shall be done by majority vote. The president shall then write a letter to the candidates informing them of the Board’s recommendation.

SECTION 5
SCTA Executive Board Time Commitment and Resignations
1. Board members must attend all meetings and events. If a board member is unable to attend a meeting or will need to miss any part of a meeting, notice shall be given to the President and Staff at least one week in advance. If the President and Staff are not notified, the board member may be required to pay for expenses incurred.
   a. Extreme cases shall be examined by the Board, such as travel complications, accident, serious illness, or death in the family.
   b. Any voting SCTA Executive Board member or Past Officer that misses two meetings will be asked to resign his/her position or send written justification for their absences.
   c. When two partial meetings or events are missed, the President will write a letter reminding the board member of their duties to the SCTA Executive Board. If the problem persists, upon a ¾ vote of the board, a letter asking for resignation or justification of the partial absences will be sent.

2. If a SCTA Executive Board member must resign his/her position, s/he shall contact the Executive Committee (President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer) immediately in a verbal and written form. The letter of resignation will be presented to the Executive Board.
   a. The Executive Board must evaluate the vacancy and decide whether or not to fill it.
   b. If the resignation is from a State Council Representative, a formal letter of resignation shall also be sent to the CTA President with copies sent to the SCTA President, Staff Consultants, and the Chairperson of the State Council Committee.
   c. If the resignation is from the CCTC Liaison, a formal letter of resignation shall be sent to the CTA President, with copies to the SCTA President and SCTA Staff Consultants.
SECTION 6
Board Reports
SCTA board members are expected to submit a verbal report at each board meeting. If the Executive Board member is unable to attend the board meeting s/he must submit the board report in writing.

SECTION 7
Public Presentations
1. Executive Board members shall be encouraged to do public presentations in their area.
2. Prior to a presentation, board members shall submit an email to the entire Executive Board, including the staff consultant, NEA Liaison and the CTA Liaison. Following the presentation the board member shall submit a report and expense report within 30 days for reimbursement.
3. Prior to the presentation the Executive Board members shall submit an email stating their expected expenses.
4. President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer are required to complete 2 public presentations each.

SECTION 8
Reimbursement of Board Expenses
SCTA board members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred at Executive Board meetings and those expenses related to any official SCTA business (presentations, phone calls, postage) per CTA guidelines which are stated on the back of Member Expense forms.

SECTION 9
Appointments
1. Liaison to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
   a. Applications shall be submitted for review of the SCTA Executive Board prior to RA.
   b. Applications shall be ranked in order of preference. The SCTA president shall submit the list to the Board Liaison for appointment by the CTA Board of Directors.
2. Past Officer
   a. Any experienced Board member may announce his/her interest in the position and shall present a brief synopsis of why s/he is qualified to hold the position. This occurs immediately following the SCTA RA, or as determined by the Board.
   b. The current Past Officer shall formulate a few questions that will be posed to all candidates.
   c. Both incoming and outgoing Executive Board members shall select a Past Officer by secret ballot.
   d. The Past officer shall be notified of their appointment on the day of the election.
   e. The Past Officer may not return to an elected SCTA Executive Board position after his or her term is completed.

SECTION 10
Guidelines for Committees
1. Membership Committee  
   a. Members shall include all SCTA Executive Board members.  
   b. The committee shall be responsible for membership promotion, recruitment and retention.

2. Student Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee (SEMAC)  
   a. The committee shall be responsible for recruitment of ethnic and underrepresented minorities.  
   b. SEMAC members shall be assigned by the co-chairs to join and attend CTA caucuses and report their attendance to the board.  
   c. SEMAC shall address issues of equity, human rights and representation of underrepresented groups (issues of gender, sexual orientation, ethnic bias, differently-abled, etc).  
   d. SEMAC shall be responsible for providing input into coordination of SCTA events.

SECTION 11  
The Committee Chairs shall:  
1. Prepare typed agendas for each meeting.  
2. Give oral reports to the Executive Board.  
3. Make motions on behalf of the committee at Executive Board meetings.  
4. Prepare a typed report of committee recommendations and minutes for each meeting that shall be submitted to the SCTA Secretary/Treasurer.

ARTICLE V  
Additional Duties of the Executive Board

SECTION 1  
Duties of the President  
1. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and its policy leader. The president shall:  
   a. Call and preside at all meetings of the SCTA Representative Assembly and Executive Board.  
   b. Communicate with the NEA Student Program State Chairpersons and the NEA-SP Chair.  
   c. Represent SCTA at national meetings of the NEA Student Program.  
   d. Work with CTA to encourage involvement in SCTA membership recruitment.  
   e. Attend all SCTA conferences. Responsible for planning a Fall Leadership Conference in conjunction with SEMAC.  
   f. Attend the CTA President’s Conference and Summer Institute trainings (if applicable).  
   g. Appoint committee and task force members and chairpersons between Executive Board meetings.  
   h. Recommend the names of SCTA members for appointment to CTA committees and conferences in consultation with the CTA Director, J-HE.  
   i. Be familiar with the governance documents of the SCTA, CTA and NEA.  
   j. Suggest policies, plans and activities for the SCTA and be responsible for the progress and work of the Association.
k. Work to help all members of the Executive Board with their respective duties.
l. The President may assign Executive Board members to committees.
m. Attend CTA Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarship Committee and the CTA Equity & Human Rights Conference Planning Committee upon appointment by the CTA Board of Directors.
n. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.
o. Shall conduct a minimum of two visitations per year.

SECTION 2
Duties of the Executive Vice President
1. The Executive Vice President shall:
a. Preside at all meetings at which the President is unable to preside and shall perform all duties of the President in her/his absence.
b. Attend all meetings of the Executive Board.
c. Chair the Membership Committee and be responsible for the coordination of state membership programs.
d. Coordinate the annual SCTA Representative Assembly in conjunction with SEMAC.
e. Attend all SCTA conferences.
f. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board or the Representative Assembly.
g. Attend the NEA-SP Connections Conference.
h. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.
i. Shall conduct a minimum of two visitations per year.

SECTION 3
Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer
1. The Secretary/Treasurer shall:
a. Be responsible for recording minutes of Executive Board meetings and shall distribute these minutes to Board members and staff within two weeks of the meeting. A summary of the Board’s actions must also be distributed to the general membership by means of the newsletter and website.
b. Shall collect the following reports to be included in the approved minutes: Board, CCTC, committee(s), and other pertinent reports.
c. Submit major motions passed and committee report summaries to the Communications Editor for inclusion in the newsletter.
d. Be responsible for recording minutes of the Representative Assembly and shall distribute these minutes to the delegates of the Representative Assembly.
e. Keep an accurate roster of all committees.
f. Provide a budget update at each Executive Board meeting.
g. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board or the Representative Assembly.
h. Attend the NEA-SP Connections Conference, if the budget allows for additional participants.
i. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.
j. Shall conduct a minimum of two visitations per year.
2. The Secretary is responsible for compiling a year end report that shall consist of:
   a. Executive Board Reports
   b. Committee Reports
   c. CCTC Liaison Reports
   d. State Council Reports
   e. Resolutions
   f. An accurate RA attendance list
   g. Any other necessary documents

3. SCTA RA Minutes
   a. Unapproved RA minutes shall be copied and distributed to the following year’s Executive Board. Originals shall be kept on file at the SCTA office.
   b. Approved minutes shall be included in the RA packets and at the following RA.
   c. The current Secretary shall make necessary corrections to the previous year’s minutes and submit approved minutes to the SCTA Support Staff.

SECTION 4
Duties of the Communications Editor
1. The Communications Editor shall:
   a. Be responsible for SCTA publications.
   b. Plan a newsletter timeline and provide assistance to Executive Board members on topic ideas to be included in the SCTA newsletter.
   c. Attend the CTA Summer Institute Communications strand.
   d. Attend all meetings of the Executive Board.
   e. Maintain and update membership publications and website.
   f. Participate in a newsletter exchange within the NEA Student Program.
   g. Encourage SCTA members to contribute to the SCTA newsletter by sending a formal email to the SCTA membership with assistance of the CTA staff.
   h. Publicize the SCTA/CTA scholarships and conferences in the newsletter.
   i. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board or the Representative Assembly.
   j. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.

SECTION 5
Duties of the Regional Vice Presidents
1. The Northern and Southern Regional Vice Presidents shall:
   a. Assist the Executive Vice President in the coordination of state membership recruitment and retention.
   b. Attend all meetings of the Executive Board.
   c. Attend all statewide SCTA conferences.
   d. Work directly with the local chapters and members in their region to provide resources, support, leadership, mentorship and guidance.
   e. Other duties may be assigned by the Executive Board after consultation such as the planning of regional events.
   f. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.
SECTION 6
Duties of the Ethnic Minority Representatives

1. The Ethnic Minority Representatives shall:
   a. Identify and monitor ethnic and under-represented minority concerns regarding educational issues and Association activities and report pertinent information to the SCTA Executive Board for action.
   b. Attend all meetings of the SCTA Executive Board.
   c. Focus on recruitment of ethnic and underrepresented groups.
   d. Serve as the Co-chairs of the Student Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee (SEMAC).
   e. Pass all information concerning minority teaching incentives, programs and scholarships on to the next Ethnic Minority Representatives.
   f. Shall attend additional conferences.
      i. Human Rights/Women’s Issues Contact Training
      ii. Equity and Human Rights Conference
   g. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board or the Representative Assembly.
   h. One Ethnic Minority Representative shall be recommended to serve on the CTA Good Teaching Conference Planning Committee.
   i. Ethnic Minority Reps will be designated as either a CTA Human Rights Contact or Women’s Issues Contact, respectively.
   j. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.

SECTION 7
Duties of Regional Social Justice Advocates

Description: Social justice, from the standpoint of the oppressed in the United States is a process and struggle against injustice, oppression, interpersonal violence, and cultural domination. The Social Justice Advocates shall actively work towards the attainment of collective freedom in education, which is the medium and outcome of social justice. This in turn necessitates a grass-roots organized social movement.

1. The Northern and Southern Regional Social Justice Advocates shall:
   a. Identify and monitor under-represented minority concerns (not addressed by EMR and those that may arise in the future) regarding educational issues and Association activities and report pertinent information to the SCTA Executive Board for action.
   b. Attend all meetings of the SCTA Executive Board.
   c. Focus on recruitment of ethnic and underrepresented groups.
   d. Serve as the Co-chairs of the Student Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee (SEMAC).
   e. Pass all information concerning minority teaching incentives, programs and scholarships on to the next social justice advocates.
   f. Shall attend additional conferences.
      i. Human Rights/Women’s Issues Contact Training
      ii. Equity and Human Rights Conference
      iii. GLBT Conference, when held by CTA (regionally)
iv. Regional social justice conferences (non-CTA), budget permitting

g. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board or the Representative Assembly

h. Social Justice Advocates will each be on a separate CTA caucus that advocates for social justice, acting as its contact person.

i. Shall write a minimum of 2 contributions to the newsletter.

SECTION 8
Duties of the CCTC Liaison

1. The CCTC Liaison shall:
   a. Attend all California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) meetings.
   b. Attend the CTA Liaison meeting and Credentialing and Professional Development Committee meetings at State Council.
   c. Attendance at statewide conferences is optional.
   d. Promptly submit CCTC meeting reports to the SCTA Executive Board.
   e. Prepare articles for SCTA’s newsletter on pertinent issues relating to future teachers.
   f. Attend all meetings of the Executive Board.
   g. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board or the Representative Assembly.
   h. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.

SECTION 9
Duties of the Past Officer

1. The Past Officer shall:
   a. Attend all meetings of the Executive Board.
   b. Serve as Chair of the Elections Committee. Election duties are outlined in the Elections Policy.
   c. Serve as the Parliamentarian.
   d. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board or the Representative Assembly.
   e. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.

SECTION 10
Duties of State Council Representatives

1. State Council Representatives shall:
   a. Attend all meetings of the State Council of Education.
   b. Attend all Executive Board meetings.
   c. Participate actively in the work of the State Council committee to which he/she is assigned.
   d. Submit a full written report of CTA State Council and committee issues and actions to the entire SCTA Executive Board except as excused for State Council duties.
   e. SCTA State Council Representatives will submit an article after each State Council meeting about issues impacting students.
   f. Attend at least one meeting of the local CTA Service Center.
g. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Executive Board, Representative Assembly or State Council.

h. Shall write a minimum of two articles for the newsletter.

SECTION 11
Composition of Regional Teams
1. The Northern Regional Team shall consist of:
   a. Northern Regional Vice President
   b. Northern Regional Social Justice Advocate
   c. Ethnic Minority Representative from the northern region.

2. The Southern Regional Team shall consist of:
   a. Northern Regional Vice President
   b. Northern Regional Social Justice Advocate
   c. Ethnic Minority Representative from the northern region.

 ARTICLE VI
CTA State Council of Education

SECTION 1
Board Procedures
1. All members of the SCTA Executive Board, excluding SEMAC members, shall attend the Higher Education Caucus meetings, unless they have prior approval from the President to attend another caucus meeting.

2. Board members are encouraged to attend the various ethnic and underrepresented minority caucuses whenever possible.

3. State Council Representatives are encouraged to provide representation in each CTA committee where pre-professional issues may be of concern.

ARTICLE VII
Nominations and Elections

SECTION 1
1. The SCTA board shall be responsible for the SCTA Elections Policy Handbook.

2. The Elections Policy Handbook should be reviewed annually for compliance with CTA and NEA elections requirements.

3. The Elections Committee Chair shall provide training or overview of election policies to the entire SCTA Executive Board prior to the SCTA Representative Assembly.

4. The Elections Committee Chair shall submit a formal request to schedule election committee training to the SCTA President.

ARTICLE VIII
Conferences

SECTION 1
NEA-SP Connections Conference
1. The SCTA President and Executive VP shall attend the NEA-SP Connections Conference.
2. The board shall determine an equitable process for selecting additional participants based on the current budget.

SECTION 2
NEA-SP Summer Leadership Conference
1. SCTA shall send the elected NEA-RA student delegates.
2. The current SCTA President shall attend the NEA-SP Leadership Conference if not elected as a NEA-RA delegate.
3. The board shall determine an equitable process for selecting additional participants if the budget allows.

SECTION 3
NEA Pacific Region Conference
1. The SCTA President shall work with the CTA Higher Education Director to seek appointment to this conference.

SECTION 4
Minority Incentive Grants
1. The Executive Board shall seek out leadership conference grants from various CTA sources for ethnic and underrepresented minority members.

ARTICLE IX
Constitution and Bylaws

SECTION 1
1. The SCTA President shall submit all amendments passed at the SCTA RA to the CTA President for ratification by the CTA Board by their June board meeting.
2. The constitution and bylaws are to be distributed to the SCTA Executive Board during their summer orientation.
3. Constitution, bylaws, and standing rules are to be current and posted on the SCTA website.

ARTICLE X
SCTA Awards

SECTION 1
Awards
1. Award applications shall be distributed to chapter leaders and Advisors at least two months prior to the RA.
2. Award applications shall be due at least two weeks prior to the Representative Assembly.
3. Award applications shall be judged by an ad hoc committee one meeting prior to the RA.
4. Award categories may include, but are not limited to: SCTA W.H.O; Student in Politics; Outstanding Chapter Advisor(s); Partners in Education; VirginiaAnn Shadwick Human Rights Award; Outstanding Local Chapter; Outstanding New Chapter.
ARTICLE XI
SCTA Newsletter and Website

SECTION 1
Website
The SCTA website shall provide local chapter leaders with access to membership recruitment tools and other resources.

SECTION 2
Newsletter
1. The name of the newsletter shall be "I Choose to Teach".
2. The newsletter shall be published 6 times per year.
3. Throughout the year the newsletter should address professional development, community outreach, political action and diversity.
4. Chapters shall be encouraged to contribute local news, ideas, and successes.

ARTICLE XII
Communication with the NEA-SP Office
The SCTA President will use discretion in selecting the information to share with NEA leaders. The NEA-SP office shall be kept informed of SCTA activities, projects and accomplishments. The “I Choose to Teach” newsletter will be sent on a regular basis.

ARTICLE XIII
Scholarships and Special Services

SECTION 1
Funding
The profits from the sales of SCTA merchandise or fundraising shall be returned to the SCTA membership in the form of scholarships.

SECTION 2
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Scholarships / Cesar Chavez Memorial Awards Program.
The SCTA President and the Ethnic Minority Representatives shall publicize these programs.

SECTION 3
SCTA Merchandise
1. The President may request a table at any conference as deemed necessary.
2. Tables shall be set up at the Fall Leadership and SCTA RA, as well as any other conferences, if feasible.