



## **EDMONDS COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL**

### **BYLAWS**

Approved May 15, 2007

### **Article 1. Name**

The name of this nonprofit corporation is "Edmonds Cooperative Preschool". The corporation will be referred to as the "cooperative" in these Bylaws.

### **Article 2. Principal Offices**

The principal office for the transaction of the business of the cooperative is located at Edmonds Community College - Family Life Education Department, 20000 68<sup>th</sup> Ave. W, Lynnwood, Washington, 98036. The Board of Directors may change the principal office from this location to another location within this city.

### **Article 3. Purpose & Powers**

This cooperative, in conjunction with the Edmonds Community College of Lynnwood, WA, is organized to support families with young children by providing programs where children and parents learn together as participants in a college laboratory setting. The preschool shall provide a flexible, stimulating environment in which each child may freely experience, at his or her own rate, a broad range of physical, social and intellectual activities. The preschool shall provide parents with an opportunity to be directly involved in the education of their children and to get instruction in the skills of

parenthood. In furnishing services to its members, the cooperative's operations shall be so conducted as nearly as possible at cost and not for profit. The cooperative shall have all of the general or specific powers conferred on this cooperative by the laws of the State of Washington, all of which are hereby expressly claimed.

## **Article 4. Membership**

**Section 4.1 One Class of Members; Joint Membership:** The cooperative shall have one class of members, which shall consist of the parents of a child or children enrolled in the preschool. The mother and father of an enrolled child(ren) shall be considered joint members of the cooperative. A single parent or guardian of an enrolled child(ren) shall be considered a member of the cooperative.

**Section 4.2 Eligibility for Admission and Membership:** The Edmonds co-op preschool admits students of any race, color, gender, religion, national and ethnic origin, handicap, or sexual orientation and does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, or other school administered programs. Provided, however, a condition of the admission of any child(ren) is that said child(ren) must be of appropriate age as specified in the parent guide, and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of such child(ren) shall agree to be member(s) of the cooperative and to be willing to comply with all of the responsibilities, policies, rules and regulations of the cooperative as specified in the parent guide.

**Section 4.3 Voting Rights:** Each member or joint member shall be entitled to one undivided vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the membership. A joint member vote may be cast by either of the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child(ren) enrolled in the school.

**Section 4.4 Termination of Membership:** The Board of Directors, by an affirmative vote by a majority of the Directors present at any regular meeting at which a quorum is present, may suspend or expel any child(ren) and terminate any member for cause after appropriate notice and hearing, upon determination that the member is no longer in good standing. To be in good standing, the member must be current in their compliance with the responsibilities outlined in the parent guide; including but not limited to: the payment of tuition, attendance at all parent meetings, and active participation in the classroom on their assigned workday.

**Section 4.5 Powers of Members:** The membership shall annually elect a Board of Directors and Officers at an annual membership meeting. The membership may rescind any action of the Board of Directors by majority vote of the members at a regular monthly membership meeting at which a quorum is present.

**Section 4.6 Admission and Membership Eligibility Criteria:** The cooperative may establish tuition requirements and admission standards for students and membership

requirements for parents/guardians, which shall be set forth in the standing rules included in the Parent Guide, which shall be available to all members and potential members.

**Section 4.7 No Personal Liability.** No Member shall be liable to third parties for this Cooperative's acts, debts, liabilities, or obligations. A Member will, however, be liable to this Cooperative for tuition and fees as provided by these Bylaws and for other contractual obligations of the Member to this Cooperative or as may otherwise be agreed to by this Cooperative and the Member.

## **Article 5. Meetings of Members**

**Section 5.1 Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting of the members shall be held in the month of April of each year. Monthly meetings of the membership shall be held for dissemination and discussion of current cooperative business throughout the school year. Such meetings shall be held at such place(s) and time(s) as designated by the Board of Directors.

**Section 5.2 Special Meeting:** Special meetings of the members may be called by the Chairperson, or a majority of the Board of Directors, or not less than 50% of the members.

**Section 5.3 Notice of Meetings:** All notices of meetings of members shall be sent or otherwise given not less than ten (10) days before the date of the meeting. Such notice shall state the nature of the business expected to be conducted and the time and place of the meeting. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting other than that referred to in the notice. Provided, the failure to give notice or of any member to receive notice shall not invalidate any action taken at the meeting if a quorum was present.

**Section 5.4 Quorum:** At any meeting of the members of the cooperative a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for any and all purposes; provided that if a quorum is present, thereafter, the meeting may be conducted until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum, provided that not less than one-third of the members are present.

## **Article 6. Board Directors and Officers**

**Section 6.1 Number and Qualification of Officers and Directors:** The authorized number of Directors shall be no less than three (3) and no more than eleven (11). The Executive Officers of this cooperative shall be a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, a secretary, and a treasurer, each of whom shall be Directors. Any two or more of the foregoing offices may be held by the same person, except the offices of chairperson and secretary. Any member in good standing is eligible to be elected as an Officer and/or

Director. Membership in the cooperative shall be a continuing qualification to hold office as an Officer and/or Director. Any Officer or Director who ceases to be a member shall be deemed to have resigned as an Officer and/or Director and his/her position shall be deemed vacant.

**Section 6.2 Election and Term of Officers and Directors:** Officers and Directors shall be elected by the members at the April meeting of the membership. The Officers and Directors so elected shall hold office for a term of one year beginning in June, after the official end of the current school year. Officers and Directors may also be elected at any special members' meeting subsequently held for that purpose. Each Officer and Director, including an Officer or Director elected to fill a vacancy or elected at a special members' meeting, shall hold office until expiration of the term for which elected and until a successor has been elected.

**Section 6.3 Nomination of Officers and Directors:** Beginning at the March meeting of the members, and at any point up to the time of the election in April, nominees shall be sought for Board positions. Any member in good standing of the cooperative at the time of the annual meeting may nominate himself or herself to be an Officer and/or Director. In addition, any member may nominate any other member to be an Officer and/or Director.

**Section 6.4 Vacancies:** Vacancies in the Board of Directors, whether caused by resignation, death or otherwise, shall be filled by a vote of the majority of the members of the Board of Directors. A Director thus elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of his predecessor and until his successor is elected. If there is a vacancy caused by resignation, death or otherwise of a Director who is also an Officer, any member, including the existing Officers and/or Directors may be nominated for the vacant Officer/Director position. If an existing Director is elected to fill the Officer/Director position of the departing Officer/Director, additional elections shall be held as may be needed until any vacant positions are filled.

**Section 6.5 Meetings by Conference Telephone or Similar Communications:** Except as may be otherwise restricted by the articles of incorporation or bylaws, members of the Board of Directors or any committee designated by the Board of Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors or committee by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence, in person, at a meeting.

**Section 6.6 Annual Meeting:** Following each annual meeting of the members, the Board of Directors is authorized to hold a regular meeting for the purposes of organization, and the transaction of other business without further notice of such meeting.

**Section 6.7 Regular Meetings:** Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly, or at such times and at such places as the Board of Directors may determine. Oral or written notice of such meetings shall be given not less than 24 hours

prior to the time of meeting. Such notice may be waived by all the Board of Directors, and their appearance at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice.

**Section 6.8 Special Meetings:** A special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held whenever called by the Chairperson or by a majority of the directors. Only the business specified in the written notice shall be transacted at a special meeting. Each call for a special meeting shall be in writing or by printed notice given by electronic transmission, stating the place, day and hour of the meeting. Notice of any such meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least two (2) days prior to the meeting.

**Section 6.9 Quorum and Failure of Notice:** A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. The failure to give notice or of any Director to receive notice of a Regular or Special Meeting shall not invalidate any action taken at the meeting if a quorum was present.

**Section 6.10 Powers and Duties of Directors:** Subject to the limitations provided in the articles of incorporation, other sections of these bylaws, and of Washington law, the business of the cooperative shall be exercised by the Board of Directors. Without limitation, the Directors' powers and duties include the following:

- 6.10.1 General supervision and control of the business and the affairs of the cooperative.
- 6.10.2 Subject to any applicable policies of Edmonds Community College, authority to admit and terminate members and to adopt rules and regulations to govern the operation of the cooperative and the members.
- 6.10.3 Authority to procure insurance covering general liability of the cooperative for accidents.
- 6.10.4 Directors shall provide for installation of an accounting system adequate to meet the requirements of the cooperative.
- 6.10.5 To select one or more banks to act as depositories of funds of the cooperative.
- 6.10.6 The foregoing enumeration of powers and duties is not intended to be exclusive and shall not limit or restrict the exercise of the general or specific powers conferred on this cooperative by the laws of the State of Washington.

**Section 6.11 Reimbursement and Compensation:** The cooperative may reimburse Officers and Directors for actual and reasonable costs of travel, meals, and lodging for attendance at conferences, seminars, and training sessions that are for the benefit of the cooperative provided that such expenses shall be approved by the Board Chairperson (preferably in advance) or if the expense is for the Board Chairperson by two other Board officers.

Directors serve in a volunteer capacity and will not be entitled to compensation for attendance at meetings or for travel to and from regular and special meetings.

No voting member of the Board of Directors, or member of the immediate family of any Board member, shall occupy any position in the cooperative on a regular salary.

**Section 6.12 Removal of Directors:** A Board member may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members. Any Board member who resigns or fails to attend at least three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without cause shall be deemed as having resigned from the Board of Directors.

## **Article 7. Officers and Committees**

**Section 7.1 Officers:** The following Officers of the cooperative shall be elected as Officer/Directors by the membership:

**Section 7.2 Chairperson:** The Chairperson shall: preside over all meetings of the cooperative and of the Board of Directors; plan the business agenda(s) for these meetings; call special meetings of the Board of Directors as needed; appoint such committees as the Board of Directors may deem advisable for the proper conduct of the cooperative; be responsible for employment agreements and facility arrangements; review and assist in revision of the budget and teacher contracts; present the budget; and perform all acts and duties usually performed by a presiding officer.

**Section 7.3 Vice Chairperson:** The Vice Chairperson is responsible for the oversight of members' job and committee assignments, facilitating the program evaluations in January, and reviewing and assisting in revising the budget. In the absence or disability of the chairperson, the vice chairperson shall perform the duties of the chairperson, provided, however that in the case of death, resignation, or disability of the chairperson, the Board of Directors may declare the office vacant and elect any eligible person chairperson.

**Section 7.4 Secretary:** The secretary shall keep a full and complete record of all meetings of the cooperative and of the Board of Directors and shall have general charge and supervision of the books and records of the association. The secretary shall sign papers pertaining to the cooperative as authorized or directed by the Board of Directors. The secretary shall be responsible for correspondence, will serve all notices required by law and by these bylaws, and shall perform such other duties as may be required by the cooperative or the Board of Directors. Upon the election of a successor, the secretary shall turn over all books and other property belonging to the cooperative.

**Section 7.5 Treasurer:** The treasurer shall be responsible for the keeping and disbursing of all monies of the cooperative, and shall keep accurate books of accounts of all transactions of the cooperative. The treasurer shall perform such duties with respect to the finances of the cooperative as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. At the expiration of his term of office, the treasurer shall promptly turn over to his successor all

monies, property, books, records, and documents pertaining to his office or belonging to the cooperative.

**Section 7.6 Other Officers:** The Board of Directors, as they may deem for the best interest of the cooperative, may provide for the appointment of additional officers to manage the activities and affairs of the Cooperative.

## **Article 8. Miscellaneous Provisions**

**Section 8.1 Books and Records:** The Cooperative shall maintain current copies of the following, at its principal or registered office: (a) current copies of the Bylaws, Parent Guide, and Articles, if any; (b) copies of correct and adequate records of accounts and finances, including the approval budget; (c) minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors, Members and any committees; (d) records of the name and address of each of the Members; and (e) such other records as may be necessary or advisable, including copies of all contracts of the Cooperative.

**Section 8.2 Fiscal Year:** The Cooperative's fiscal year shall end on June 30.

**Section 8.3 Rules of Procedure:** To the extent that it is not inconsistent with the Articles, these Bylaws or applicable law, the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all questions of parliamentary procedure at meetings of the Board of Directors or the Members.

**Section 8.4 Conflict of Interest/Compensation:** No Officer, voting Board member, or Member of the Cooperative shall have any personal financial interest, direct or indirect, in any activity undertaken by the Cooperative. No Board member, committee member, or Officer shall receive compensation for their service, but may receive reimbursement for approved expenditures incurred on behalf of the Cooperative. Board Members, Officers, and Members of the Cooperative shall be eligible to apply for tuition scholarships.

**Section 8.5 Dissolution:** Should the Cooperative be dissolved, the Board of Directors shall be responsible for liquidation and disposition of all assets, including equipment and cash on hand. Upon dissolution, all assets remaining after payment of all liabilities shall be distributed to another nonprofit.

**Section 8.6 Standing Rules:** The Board of Directors may adopt such standing rules, to be set forth in the Parent Guide, relating to the amount and payment of tuition and all other matters which the Board of Directors deems appropriate, as the Board of Directors may deem beneficial to the fulfillment of the purposes of the cooperative.

**Section 8.7 Amendment of Bylaws:** These Bylaws amend and restate in their entirety the Bylaws of the Cooperative heretofore adopted, as same may have been

revised. These Bylaws may be further altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members.

**Section 8.8 Indemnification, Limitation on Liability and Insurance.** The cooperative may indemnify any director, officer, or former director against all judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, in connection with any proceeding to the maximum extent authorized under RCW 23B.17.030, subject to the provisions of Chapter 23B.08.560 RCW, as now enacted or hereafter amended. The risks covered by this indemnification may be protected against by the purchase, maintenance, and payment of premiums for such insurance as in the discretion of the Board is deemed to be appropriate.

**Section 8.9 Non Discrimination.** The cooperative will comply fully with all applicable state or federal statutes and regulations forbidding recipients of state or federal financial assistance from discriminating on the ground of race, color, gender, national origin, age, handicap, or sexual orientation.

**Section 8.10 Hiring of Employees** The cooperative shall provide equal employment opportunities without regard to race, color, gender, national origin, age, handicap, or sexual orientation. Any prospective employee shall be interviewed by the Board and a designated Hiring Committee. The final hiring decision will be made by a vote of the hiring committee, and be ratified by the Board. The contract of each employee will outline the duties to be performed.

I hereby certify that the forgoing Amended and Restated Bylaws of Edmonds Cooperative Preschool are duly adopted by the Board of Directors at the meeting held on May 15, 2007.

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Kimberly Baca, Secretary