



Advancing Art Education

Electronic Balloting

In today's increasingly digital world, many associations are transitioning their voting, balloting, and elections to an online electronic process. A recent survey conducted by the Kushner Companies, a non-profit management group, identified the many benefits to online voting and elections, including a savings of time and money, as well as the ability to reduce an organization's carbon footprint.

Associations that transition to online voting increase voter response—making it more convenient for members to be actively engaged in association work, including the election of leaders and vetting policy, issues, and trends. Online voting provides secure transactions that prevent election fraud and invalid responses, and ensure high levels of confidentiality, accuracy, and integrity.

The 2010 Delegates Assembly recommended that the Board of Directors consider implementing an online voting process that would provide NAEA the opportunity to streamline the election procedures, reduce balloting expenses, and increase voter participation. The Board has taken action to propose an amendment to the NAEA Constitution/Bylaws for consideration and vote by the membership. Two-thirds of the votes cast are required for passage of an amendment. The following amendment is being proposed [new language in bold]:

NAEA Constitution, Article V, Section 3 to read:

VOTING: Active, Retired Active, Student, Honorary, and Life members of NAEA shall be eligible to vote for the President-Elect. Members of each Region shall be eligible to vote for the Regional Vice President-Elect for their own Region. Members in each Division shall be eligible to vote for the NAEA Division Director-Elect in their division. The election shall be conducted by **electronic mail or other authorized means of electronic transmission**. Ballots must be **distributed** by January 15 of the election year and must be received by the Elections Clerk within 40 days after that date.