CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, LOCAL 1610

The name of this organization shall be the United Professors of Marin, American Federation of Teachers, Local 1610 (hereinafter referred to as UPM/AFT or Union).

ARTICLE 2

PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be to safeguard zealously, the better interests of the students of our schools in every manner and by every means within our power; and to raise the standards of teaching procession by protecting and advancing the economic and professional interests of our members. These objectives can be achieved by establishing and maintaining; (1) academic freedom in the classroom; (2) high standards for teachers; (3) schools in which teachers share with administrators the determination of curriculum and policy; (4) class sizes and teaching loads which will enable the faculty members which are consistent with their professional training and responsibilities; and (7) provide fair and safe working conditions.

ARTICLE 3

MEMBERSHIP

All non-administrative certificated employees of the Marin Community College District are eligible for membership in UPM/AFT Local 1610, American Federation of Teachers.
ARTICLE 4
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTIONS

SECTION 1:
The officers of this organization shall consist of the nine (9) members of the Executive Council, which shall include no fewer than six (6) and not more than seven (7) members of the permanent/probationary staff and not fewer than two (2) and not more than three (3) members of the temporary staff. The six (6) permanent/probationary members shall be chosen from a list of nominees who are members of the permanent/probationary staff and shall be elected by a vote of the permanent/probationary members of the union. The two (2) temporary members shall be selected from a list of nominees who are members of the temporary staff and shall be elected by a vote of the temporary members of the Union. One member shall be chosen from a list of nominees who may be members of either the permanent/probationary or temporary staff and shall be elected by a vote of all members.

SECTION 2:
A. All officers and delegates to affiliated organizations shall be elected for a term of two (2) years or until their successors have duly elected, qualified and installed. Elections shall be held each year. The seats held by the officers elected by the permanent/probationary members shall be number 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; the seats held by the officers elected by the temporary members shall be numbered 7 and 8; the seat held by the officer elected at large shall be numbered 9. Officers holding the odd numbered positions (1, 3, 5, 7, & 9) shall be elected in odd years. Officers holding even numbered positions shall be elected on even numbered years.

B. All newly elected officers shall be installed at the regular Executive Council meeting in July.

SECTION 3:
The above-mentioned officers shall constitute the Executive Council of the local and shall represent the local between meetings of the union when urgent business requires prompt and decisive action.
SECTION 4:
At a June meeting of the Executive Council the officers of the Executive Council shall by majority vote select from the members of the Executive Council a chairperson (hereafter referred to as the “President”), who shall serve at the will of the majority of the Executive Council and shall, with the approval of the Executive Council, delegate duties to other Union members in keeping with the various functions of the Executive Council and the Union (cf. Article 6, Sections 1-8 of the By-Laws).

ARTICLE 5
MEETINGS

General membership meetings shall be held at least once during the spring and fall flex period of the school year.

ARTICLE 6
SOURCE OF AUTHORITY

SECTION 1:

The organization shall be conducted in a democratic way with the final authority for all actions vested in the will of the majority of the members, except as provided for in Article 6, Section 2 and Article 7, Section 3. All votes will be by open ballot held during official union meetings, except for the election of the Executive Council members as provided for in Article 7, Section 2 of the By-Laws. However, at the direction of the voting majority of the executive council, or at the request of a union member supported by a vote of more than 50% of the voting members at any official meeting, a secret mail ballot may be conducted.

SECTION 2:

Contracts between the United Professors of Marin and the Marin Community College District may be revised or modified at any time during the lifetime of a contract. Any modification of the contract involving salaries, fringe benefits or pay rates (as specified in Articles III or IV of the Collective Bargaining Agreement) must be submitted for ratification to the membership at an official meeting. No vote for ratification can be held at the same meeting at which the motion is introduced. At least 5 working days must elapse before the first meeting at which such a previously introduced motion can be voted on. All other modifications shall be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Council unless one-third of the voting members of the Executive Council elect to place the said proposals before a general of special meeting of Union members. In this case a two-thirds vote of the voting members shall be required for passage. The proposed revisions must be provided to all members of the Executive council at least one week prior to
consideration by the Executive Council. At least ten (10) days prior to a consideration of a proposed contract change by a general or special meeting of the membership, a notice of the specific proposed revision or modification shall be provided to each member of the Union.

ARTICLE 7
AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1:
An amendment shall be proposed at a regular or special meeting and must be approved by a majority vote of those attending such regular or special meeting.

SECTION 2:
Such proposed amendment shall be submitted to each member and voted upon at the next regularly scheduled or special meeting. Such notice shall precede the meeting by a minimum of five working days.

SECTION 3:
A favorable vote of two-thirds of those attending this regular or special meeting shall cause proposed amendment to take effect.