

## Operations Handbook Appendix III.3

*Revised by the NASP Board of Directors, February 6, 2021*

### **The campaigning policies and procedures apply to all candidates as well as others who may be supporting a candidate.**

All campaigning must be positive. It is required that a candidate (and their supporters) only campaign about their own qualities and positions. Any reference to an opponent's qualifications or positions is forbidden.

Each candidate is asked to honor and respect fellow members and is asked to use caution in sending multiple messages or extensive documents as part of campaigning. All candidates will have ample opportunity to make personal statements to the membership through NASP mailings, postings on the NASP website, and emails sent by NASP. NASP will send at least two personal statements to the membership for officer candidates and at least one personal statement to state members for Delegates. More communications may be authorized by the Nominations and Elections Committee at its discretion. These might include virtual communications and video presentations. Virtual communications might include live Question and Answer sessions that are archived and linked to from the NASP Elections webpage (to provide members who could not participate in the session access to these discussions).

Candidates and their supporters may contact any member about the election. Individual contact is the preferred method of campaigning whether in person, by phone, or via email. However written communications may include more than one email address as long as the blind carbon copy (or “bcc”) option is used and recipients cannot see who else is copied on the email. It is important to mention that the bcc option also eliminates a “Reply All” as a response option. Additionally, the Chair of Nominations and Elections, and/or their specified designee, shall be included in the bcc. The Chair and/or their designee will check all such communications for factual accuracy and as indicated may require corrections to these communications be made.

Candidates or supporters may not use Listservs, NASP Communities, group emails, social networking (e.g., Facebook, Twitter), broadcast telephone message, or other communications sent to large groups to campaign. All campaigning should be individual communications from the candidate or the supporter to another member. The use of flyers, bumper stickers, buttons, or other promotional materials to campaign is prohibited.

To level the playing field and ensure that all candidates have equal access to NASP online membership and workgroup lists, all announced candidates will have “leader access” to the NASP website and the Leadership Tools webpage. As specified in the NASP website user policy for NASP leaders, leader access to the NASP website and Leadership Tools are restricted to only authorized individuals. A candidate’s login/password for the NASP website and access to Leadership Tools are intended for only the authorized individual; login and access may not be shared or transferred to others. All candidates may use these tools to find email addresses, postal mailing addresses, and phone numbers of members. They may **NOT** use these tools to “Export lists to Excel” or develop and send automated or group emails to the membership using the “Send an email to this group using an online form” or “Send an email to this group using your own email client” within the Leadership Tools site. All individuals acting in

their capacity as candidates will agree to use Leadership Tools for approved campaigning purposes and adhere to the NASP website user policy for NASP leaders. Those who use the restricted leader access to the NASP website or Leadership Tools in a manner forbidden by these Campaigning Policies or the NASP website policy may lose their access to Leadership Tools or may have additional sanctions placed on them by the Nominations and Elections Committee and the Board of Directors.

The use of the NASP logo, print or electronic mediums (such as the NASP website, *Communiqué*, email, or *NASP in Brief*), or NASP staff for campaign purposes is prohibited.

A candidate or their supporters may reference a personal website or social networking site, but a candidate may not use the site to campaign for the position they seek or make reference to the election. Reference to a website in candidates' messages will not be active links in printed or posted materials on the NASP website or in NASP materials. It is permissible to link from a personal website to the NASP website. Minimal expenditure of a candidate's own funds or those of other individuals or organizations for campaigning is acceptable. The maximum personal expenditure for an officer election is \$150, and in this day of electronic communication there is little need for personal expenditures for a Delegate race.

State school psychology associations and other professional associations should refrain from endorsing any one candidate for a specific position, but instead are asked to promote the NASP election process and to encourage their eligible members to vote. For example, a state association may facilitate the dissemination of all candidate statements or the link to the NASP website. State or other professional associations may facilitate Delegate candidate forums assuming that ALL Delegate candidates for a position are included in the event. They may not conduct officer candidate forums. Candidates should not make public statements promoting their candidacy unless it is within a public forum that includes all candidates. Again, the use of flyers, bumper stickers, buttons, or other promotional materials to campaign is prohibited.

Candidates are cautioned that anyone campaigning for them is responsible for following the campaigning procedures. Candidates are asked to advise their supporters of these procedures and supply them with copies of these procedures. Candidates should report any suspected irregularities or breaches by their supporters to the Nominations and Elections Committee Chair. Candidates and supporters are also advised to use care and ensure the NASP ethical principles and advisories issued by the Ethics Committee are followed when enlisting the support of graduate students, supervisees, coworkers, and others who may be in a subordinate role with the candidate.

If a candidate has a question or is uncertain if a planned campaigning activity is consistent with these campaigning rules, the candidate should contact the Nominations and Elections Committee Chair **in advance** of the planned activity.

Serious breaches of the campaigning procedures may lead to sanctions that may include a warning or even disqualification. When the Nominations and Elections Committee becomes aware of a possible breach of the Campaigning Policies and Procedures, for example, through a complaint reported by a NASP member or other means, the candidate or supporter will be contacted by the Nominations and Elections Committee Chair regarding the alleged breach of procedures. See #6 below to review the complaint procedures.