



c/o Beecher Community Unit School District 200U • 538 Miller Street • PO Box 338 • Beecher, IL 60401

Constitution

ARTICLE I - NAME

The organization shall be known as the Beecher Community Scholarship Association.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. To encourage academic excellence in the Beecher school system.
2. To encourage graduates to continue their education by attending post-secondary education for training.
3. To provide first year scholarships for tuition and/or books at any accredited college, university, or other post secondary training for qualified graduates of the Beecher High School. The value and number of awards will be determined each year by the directors. (The scholarship is only awarded for one year; the school year immediately following graduation from Beecher High School.)

ARTICLE III - BOARD

The association shall have a board of administrators composed of:

1. Representative from the Village of Beecher
2. Representative of First Community Bank and Trust
3. Two Beecher businessmen, one to be chosen from the Beecher Chamber of Commerce and one by the scholarship director
4. Two representatives from the Beecher School Board, one to be the President of the Board
5. A representative from the Beecher Amvets Post #67
6. A representative from the Beecher Education Foundation
7. In the event a seated committee member has a child, grandchild or step-child eligible for a Beecher Community Scholarship, that committee member shall be required to send an alternative appointee from their organization for any year in which their child, grandchild or step-child is eligible for a scholarship.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

The Scholarship Association shall have officers appointed with titles and duties as follows:

Director

The director shall be the chief executive of the organization and shall preside at all meetings. He/she shall co-sign all contracts and other legal documents and all orders drawn on organizational funds, appoint committee chairman, and perform any additional duties necessary to administer and promulgate the organization. The director shall be the president of the School Board or his designee.

Secretary / Treasurer

The Secretary/Treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the organization. He/she shall co-sign all contracts and other legal documents and all orders drawn on the organizational funds, and shall render an account of all funds at the annual business meeting. The Secretary/ Treasurer shall be the President of the First Community Bank and Trust or its designee.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

The annual business meeting shall be held the on fourth Tuesday in January. The annual scholarship awards selection meeting will be held on the third Tuesday in May. The following items shall appear on the agenda: (a) financial statement, (b) number and type of scholarship awards, (c) determination of scholarship recipients, and (d) other necessary business.

Notification of meeting shall be given at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

Special meetings of the Board, committees, and members shall be called to perform the necessary business of the association.

ARTICLE VI - OPERATION

Section 1 Scholarship Advisor

The High School Guidance Counselor will serve as the Scholarship Advisor. The Advisor shall be qualified and employed in the area of administration and/or guidance; shall be responsible for distributing and administering such application and examination as the Board may deem desirable; and shall assist the Board in determining the recipients of the scholarships. The Scholarship Advisor shall be only advisory in determining the recipients.

Section 2 Determination of Scholarship Recipients

The Director will appoint two or three members to an Essay Committee. The Essay Committee will be given essays for judging that do not contain the names of the applicants. At the business meeting, the topic for said year will be determined.

Awards will be presented at the high school graduation by the president of the school board, designee, or appointed school board member.

Section 3 Membership and Fund Drive

The Director shall appoint a fund chairperson(s) at the business meeting in January. A fund drive will be conducted during the spring.

At the close of the drive, all funds collected will be deposited in the First Community Bank and Trust.

ARTICLE VII - SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

The following criteria may be used in part to help determine the scholarship recipient:

Criteria for Four-Year College

- Scholarship: Minimum grade point average of 2.80
A.C.T. score of 20 or higher
College prep sequence established by Beecher High School
Completion of Essay
Satisfies Beecher High School graduation requirements
- School Activities: Active participant in school clubs, student government, athletics, academic activities and others
- Character: Demonstrates the willingness to help create a positive climate in the school and community
- Service: Volunteers time to community, civic, and/or church organizations
- College: Application to a four-year institution of higher education

Criteria for Community College or Vocational Schools

- Scholarship: Minimum grade point average of 2.40
A.C.T. score of 18 or higher
Completion of Essay
Satisfies Beecher High School graduation requirements
- School Activities: Active participant in school clubs, student government, athletics, academic activities and others
- Character: Demonstrates the willingness to help create a positive climate in the school and community
- Service: Volunteers time to community, civic, and/or church organizations
- College: Application to a Community College or Vocational School

ARTICLE VIII - RECIPIENT DUTIES

Duties of Beecher Community Scholarship recipients are as follows:

1. Enroll as a full-time student in college or approved trade school
2. Maintain good academic standing as a full-time student at a college or vocational school
3. Notify Scholarship Association if #1 and #2 are not satisfied
4. Refund scholarship award if #1 and #2 are not satisfied

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

Amendments shall be changed a minimum of three (3) months before the regularly scheduled meeting by the Board.