



# Constitution of

# Christian Home Educators' Support System

## Article I

### Name

The name of this organization will be Christian Home Educators' Support System, abbreviated CHESS.

## Article II

### Statement of Purpose

Section 1. Our purpose is to provide a ministry to meet spiritual, academic, and social needs within our Christian homeschool group.

Section 2. Our purpose is to provide spiritual support, choosing to provide any counsel through wisdom (which comes beginning by the fear of the Lord.) In order to be sensitive to God's leading, we will stop and pray at our meetings when we see anyone in need or have decisions to make, so that everything we do will be to the glory of God.

Section 3. Our purpose is to provide encouragement and moral support to be accomplished by being with other homeschoolers and sharing common experiences.

Section 4. Our purpose is to share information about homeschooling and related upcoming events with each other and with those interested in getting started in homeschooling.

Section 5. We also wish to provide educational opportunities that would be difficult for parents to provide on their own. This will be accomplished through computer sharing, projects, field trips, etc.

Section 6. We desire to represent homeschooling in a positive light to our community.

Section 7. This ministry will not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race or ethnic origin.

Section 8. This ministry, although providing spiritual encouragement and support, is not meant to replace church of each member. We will not teach, attempt to convert, or condemn any matters of specific doctrinal issues. We will be tolerant of all Christian demonstrations and encourage the free expression of the joy you receive in your personal relationship with the Lord and encouraging others in the same. Those causing conflicts or disturbances with the group will be confronted according to the biblical procedure outlined in Matthew 18:15-17.

## Article III

### Statement of Faith

Section 1. We believe the Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative written word of God.

II Timothy 3:16

Section 2. We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Matt 3:16-17; II Cor 13:14; I Peter 1:2; Rev 1:8; Matt 28:19

Section 3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His Miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection and His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His future return to earth in power and glory to rule forever. John 1:1, 1:14; Luke 1:30-35; Heb 4:15; I Cor 15:3-4; Eph. 1:20

Section 4. We believe the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. I Peter 3:1-8; Titus 3:5; Acts 3:19; Romans 3:21-26; Titus 3:4-7

Section 5. We believe in the resurrection of both, the saved and the lost, one to everlasting life and the other to eternal damnation. John 5:28, 29; I Thes 4:16-17.

## Article IV

### Membership and dues

Membership is available to Christian homeschooling families. Perspective members must complete an application and agree with the Statements of Faith and Purpose. Membership will be contingent upon the approval of the board. The board decision will be final. Applicants who have scriptural reasons to disagree with the Statements of Faith and/or the Purpose can appeal

to the board and their request will be prayerfully considered. The Board reserves the right to terminate membership as deemed necessary.

Dues shall be assessed by the board with a two thirds vote. The dues shall cover the cost of printing and mailing a monthly newsletter and other expenses dictated by the board.

## Article V

### Officers

Section 1. The officers of CHESS will be President, Vice President, Contact Person, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the election meeting for a term of one year and any officer may succeed themselves. Absentee votes will be accepted.

Section 3. An officer must agree to the Statements of Faith and Purpose. They will be asked to agree with the Statement of Faith section by section at the election meeting.

Section 4. No one in their first year of CHESS membership may be elected to be an officer of CHESS.

Section 5. The current officers shall be the nominating committee and will present a slate of nominations in writing to the general membership before the election meeting which will be held at the end of the school year. The date, time and place of this meeting must be announced to the general membership in advance. The summer shall serve as a transition period with new officers taking over by September.

Section 6. Nominations shall be received from the floor at the election meeting.

Section 7. Officers shall meet at the call of the President.

## Article VI

### Committees and Appointed Positions

Section 1. The President shall appoint a Resource Person, Phone Tree Coordinator and Field Trip Coordinator as needed.

Section 2. The Vice President may appoint a Newsletter Committee, and will print and mail a monthly newsletter to the general membership August through May with June and July being optional.

Section 3. The President shall appoint special committees as needed.

## Article VII

### Duties of Officers and Committees

Section 1. The President shall call and conduct CHESS meetings, make scheduling decisions, call for the phone tree to be activated, act as liaison when conflicts arise, welcome new members, promptly appoint a current member as a buddy, and give general direction to the other officers and members.

Section 2. The Vice President shall assist the President as needed, ensure that a newsletter is published and mailed each month (June and July optional), and ensure that a directory of CHESS members is published twice a year.(suggested October and February). A copy of old newsletters will be preserved on file to serve as a record of our history.

Section 3. The Contact Person shall mail information, Statement of Faith and Purpose and registration forms to interested families, place information about CHESS along with her phone number in the public libraries, pick up mail at our post office box, and keep informed of events of interest to homeschoolers. She will let the President know about new members and will give the completed registration forms to the Secretary.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall receive and record dues and pay bills as they come in.

Section 5. The Secretary shall keep minutes of board meetings and coordinate membership services. A current membership roster will also be maintained along with all membership forms.

Section 6. The Phone Tree Coordinator (appointed by the President) shall contact those members who wish to be notified of activities and issues. She will make every reasonable effort to make sure that every member is contacted. The phone tree will be activated only on the decision of the President.

Section 7. The Field Trip Coordinator (appointed by the President) shall coordinate the schedule of field trips as members plan them. It is recommended that two be offered each month. The President will fulfill this job when there is no Field Trip Coordinator.

## Article VIII

### Amendments

The constitution may be amended by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of members present any meeting. Proposed amendments must be presented to the membership in writing prior to the meeting. Date, time, and place of the meeting must be announced in the same communication.

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