

Harlingen Homeschoolers Bylaws

Purpose

We are a Christ-centered homeschooling organization whose main purposes include:

- Promoting an education with Christian Character, Biblical standards, and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Enhancing the education of our children
- Enhancing our own education
- Providing a social outlet and support group for homeschooling families

Statement of Faith

- We believe in the authority of God's Word, the Bible. (2 Tim. 3:16)
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the only way for salvation. We are saved by grace alone, and not by works. (Acts 4:12) (Eph. 2:8-9)
- We believe in the one true God, existing in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:16-17 & 28:19-20)

Executive Committee:

1. The Executive Committee will be made up of the officers of the Harlingen Homeschoolers (HH).
2. Officers will consist of a Coordinator, Co-Coordinator, Secretary and Treasurer and other members which may be designated by the Executive Committee as the need arises. At least one member of the executive committee must be a member of First Christian Church and must remain in communication with the Elders of the church to ensure that the organization is staying within the guidelines of a church ministry.
3. Officers will be selected by the Executive Committee and must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote.
4. Potential officers must be:
 - active members of a church within the Christian faith.
 - members in good standing.
 - mature Christians.
 - committed to serving a minimum of one year.
 - supported by their families before accepting an office.

Jobs of the Executive Committee Members:

Coordinator: The Coordinator will, in general, supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the organization. The Coordinator will preside over all meetings and may sign, with the Secretary, any checks or financial papers for the group.

Co-coordinator: The Co-coordinator will perform all of the duties of the coordinator in her absence and will perform others duties which might be assigned from time to time.

Secretary: The secretary will keep the minutes of all Executive Committee Meetings and Business Meetings and be custodian of the organizations' records. She will perform all duties of an acting Secretary as well as other duties which might be assigned from time to time.

Treasurer: The Treasurer will have charge and custody of all funds for the organization. She will deposit money in the name of the organization and be responsible for collecting dues and writing reimbursement checks for pre-approved funds spent. From time to time, the Treasurer will perform other duties which might be assigned.

Membership

1. To be considered for membership, all potential members must
 - submit a Membership Application, filled out in its entirety.
 - pay the membership dues by September 1st or when they join.
2. All members must be Christians.
3. All members must be approved by the Executive Committee.
4. Any potential member can be refused by the Executive Committee without explanation.
5. Membership can be terminated by the Executive Committee if members are not in compliance with the outlined Bylaws/Conduct Guidelines.

Duties and Responsibilities of Members:

It is our desire that the Harlingen Homeschoolers and its members function together for the mutual benefit of our children by the involvement of all members. Therefore, all members are expected to contribute to the group.

Examples:

- For all meetings and/or activities, each member should be part of the set-up or clean-up committee.
- Members may volunteer to plan a fieldtrip or help coordinate other functions as they find an area of interest.
- Members may volunteer to serve on a committee.

Visitors:

First time non members may participate in activities for four consecutive weeks before joining, provided they understand and abide by the Bylaws and Conduct Guidelines.

Meetings:

Executive Committee meetings will be held monthly, when necessary.

General Business meetings will be held twice a year.

1. The meetings will be announced via the email group at least 5 days prior to the meeting date or by phone calls organized by the Executive Committee at least 2 days prior to the meeting.
2. All voting issues will be made by any number of members attending a regular meeting, except in the event that the bylaws are to be amended or changed.
3. The bylaws may not be amended unless a 2/3s majority of the active membership is present at the meeting.

Conduct Guidelines

While we are participating in Harlingen Homeschooler (HH) meetings, fieldtrips, and activities or events, we will be representing the Lord Jesus Christ, HH, and homeschoolers in general. We will be judged by our attitudes, behavior, and dress. To be the representatives we desire to be, the following guidelines will be followed while participating in HH meetings, fieldtrips, and activities or events:

- Members should be aware of the reflection they are placing on HH by the way they dress. Clothing should be conservative and inoffensive (no profane language or graphics on clothing, and no bare midriffs).
- Member families will act in such a way that their words and actions promote the unity and encouragement of other HH families.
- Member families will avoid acting in such a way that is considered disrespectful, offensive, immoral, intimidating, rude, or in any way which may bring reproach on the organization or home education.
- Member families will be responsible for their own children's behavior to ensure they are acting in accordance with these conduct guidelines.

Any members or leaders of HH who persist in violating these conduct guidelines are considered to be conducting themselves in a way that is contrary to the specific and primary purpose of HH and may have their membership revoked by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee.