

Homeschooler Link

Policies and Procedures

Homeschooler Link is an inclusive organization supporting homeschoolers in St. Charles County and surrounding areas. We are a diverse group with various social, economic, political, religious, racial, and ethnic backgrounds. We have high standards for the moral and ethical character we display toward our community and to those in our group.

We expect all who attend and participate in our group to abide by the following Code of Conduct. By participating in Homeschooler Link, you agree to this Code of Conduct.

Mission Statement

To link together homeschool families through clubs, activities, field trips, classes and other common interests to create, encourage, and support a community and to provide social and academic activities for children.

Membership

Section 1 – The qualifications for membership in this organization are: each potential member must be currently homeschooling a child between 5 and 18 years old, and the membership request on the website has to be filled out completely.

Section 2 –Membership shall be a fee based membership. Membership dues and privileges are determined by the Board. Only those persons whose membership is paid for the current year will be members in good standing. The Board has the authority to establish differentiated membership fees for different categories of members, e.g., pastoral, other co-op leaders, specialty teachers, etc. Fees will be reviewed and set annually by the Board to meet requirements needed for budgetary needs.

Section 3 – Membership shall be for one year beginning on May 1st and ending on April 30th. Any dues not paid by July 31st will cancel your membership.

Section 4 - Homeschooler Link shall have power to reprimand, suspend, expel, or otherwise discipline any Member for committing any violation of the Policies and Procedures or the Enrichment Thursday Handbook; or for disruptive conduct or conduct unbecoming a Member; or for any action taken which Homeschooler Link believes to be against the best interests of the group; or for other cause determined by the Board of Directors of Homeschooler Link.

Conflict

Section 1 – Conflict resolution between members shall be brought before the Board of Directors if matters cannot be resolved between the members themselves. The Board will then attempt to mediate the conflict between the members. The Board has the power to revoke membership if the conflict cannot be resolved.

Funds

Section 1 - As a 501(c)3, the Board may accept on behalf of the organization any contribution for its granted purposes or any particular special purpose directed by the donor.

Amendments

Section 1 - These Policies and Procedures, our bylaws and handbooks may be amended when deemed necessary by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of the Board of Directors and approval by the Founders. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the secretary and sent along with regular board meeting notices.

Code of Conduct

Respect

Be respectful of others and the property of others:

- No physical or verbal abuse, coercion, stalking, intimidation, harassment (verbal or sexual), threats of violence, cyber bullying, or discrimination.
- Members will avoid the use of divisive or inflammatory comments, symbols, gestures, or actions of any kind.
- No profanity, gossip, lewd or vulgar language.
- No use of tobacco products or vapors of any kind on the premises.
- Leave all events and facilities better than you found them. Respect the premises and help clean up.
- Please arrive at classes, events, and activities in a timely manner.

Dress and Appearance

Dress and grooming will be the responsibility of the individual and parents/guardian.

Members shall not wear the following:

- Clothing that reveals too much cleavage, your chest, your stomach or your underwear is not appropriate
- Low cut shirts, muscle shirts, backless apparel, sagging pants, or extremely short shorts/skirts
- Clothing which promotes drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and/or its products
- Clothing with sexually suggestive messages, profanity, or messages of a vulgar nature
- Clothing with holes in inappropriate places or exposing undergarments

Public Displays of Affection

Our group ranges in beliefs, ages, and family guidelines. Members will respect each other by refraining from inappropriate displays of affection. In addition, pornography and sexual communication, whether verbal, written, or electronic, are prohibited between students and at any Homeschooler Link activity.

Substances

- Use or possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, e-cigarettes, and other related products by students is strictly prohibited.
- Tobacco and alcohol may not be used on the premises of our co-op or field trips.

Safety

Safety is of utmost importance to our members, therefore:

- Weapons of any sort, including but not limited to firearms are forbidden in the Church facility or on The Church owned property. This includes legally licensed concealed weapons.
- Adults who choose to bring weapons on field trips must be in accordance with all federal, state, and local regulations as well as respect the guidelines of the facilities we use. Carriers bear full responsibility for securing those weapons at all times.
- No student will be allowed to bring weapons of any kind to Homeschooler Link events.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for the safety of their children at all Homeschooler Link activities.

Conflict

Should conflict arise between students, parents, or a member of the Homeschooler Link Board of Directors, the following guidelines should be utilized to resolve the dispute:

- Issues should be resolved in an appropriate time, place, and manner.
- Students are encouraged to work out differences with each other, with parental guidance.
- If there is a problem with a child's behavior, it will be addressed privately with the parent/guardian.
- If a conflict between adult members arise, members are expected to first attempt to work through their differences respectfully and privately.
- If a situation cannot be resolved between students or adult members, it should be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors.

Noncompliance:

Should any member choose to not follow any Homeschooler Link Code of Conduct, the issue should be brought to the attention of the Homeschooler Link Board of Directors.