

# Evergreen Classical Community By-Laws

*Evergreen Classical Community (ECC) is a Christian homeschool support group that exists to assist parents and others in their desire to homeschool. Evergreen operates to assist, not to fulfill that homeschool program. We are not, nor do we aspire to be, a school. The legal fulfillment of the homeschooling program that a parent chooses rests with the parent/guardian, not with Evergreen.*

*This principle of parental responsibility for a child's education and behavior is essential to our purpose and provides a basis for our by-laws summarized below.*

## **The Purpose of Evergreen Classical Community:**

- To reach out to Christian homeschoolers by providing classes, fellowship, and social activities.
- Create a Christ-centered community for homeschooling children to build a Christian worldview through an excellent education.
- Build lasting friendships from Kindergarten through twelfth grade and beyond.
- Provide support and encouragement for kids and parents on the homeschool journey.

## **An Overview of Evergreen Classical Community Framework and Policies:**

ECC is a board-run volunteer organization. The Board periodically evaluates the framework and policies necessary to fulfill our above-described purpose. The general framework may change and policies/requirements may be added or improved as needed by ECC By-Laws in the group warrant. Members are encouraged to give input as desired at any time through direct communication with the Board.

## **I. Membership Requirements:**

A. Open to anyone who is actively engaged in home education and who is willing to agree in writing to our policies including, but not limited to, the Statement of Faith and various liability waivers.

B. Enrollment is at the discretion of the Directors. The directors retain the right to terminate or to not extend membership to any family by a super-majority vote. The Directors will decide this in a manner that is consistent with Biblical principles and our Statement of Faith.

## **II. Leadership:**

### ***A. Requirements of Leadership:***

(Leadership positions are defined as Teachers, Directors & Board Members)

1. Leaders must have been an ECC member in good standing at least one full year prior to fulfilling a leadership position. In the event that a teacher does not have children at ECC, and therefore isn't a member, discretion of the Board is used in determining whether or not to accept this person as a teacher.
2. Leaders should be involved in a local church, unless special circumstances exist and the Board is notified.
3. Teachers need to have completed an application and been approved by the Board.
4. New Board members are appointed by the Board and must be a Christian.
5. Leaders must sign all necessary paperwork required to serve, including but not limited to, the Statement of Faith.
6. Leaders strive to maintain quality of leadership, the purpose of the group, and harmony among the community members.
7. In the event that the Board determines it needs a new board member, they will discuss and appoint a new member that is believed to have the best interests of ECC at heart, and is viewed as a leader that would glorify God in their position on the Board of ECC By-Laws.

## ***B. Directors Duties:***

1. Directors will manage ECC funds, and will determine to be good stewards of those monies. They will report financial statements to the Board at Board meetings or upon request.
2. Two Directors will oversee the management of ECC funds. Additionally, receipts must be kept and filed for all purchases using ECC funds. No reimbursement will be given for purchases made where receipts can't be provided.
3. Directors will approve the content that will be taught, hold quarterly meetings with Tutors, manage the day to day tasks of running the community including the community day.

## ***Board Duties:***

1. The Board will oversee the governance and functioning of ECC, and the carrying out of the above-described purpose statement.
2. The Board will consist of a minimum of three members, with the option to expand as the community grows. To facilitate decision making, the total number of board members should remain odd.
3. Keep all matters confidential and present a unified front to all.
4. Board members will not act unilaterally on an issue; they must have the agreement of a majority of the Board to act.
5. Meet regularly to ensure efficient management of ECC. Minutes will be kept, but will not be considered open for public viewing. Minutes can be released if the Board feels it is necessary for the harmony of the group.

6. The Board will periodically review and update by-laws.

### **III. How the Group Functions:**

**A. Finances:** Enrollment and Tuition are set. See Program Costs document and Handbook for refund policy.

**B. Liability:**

As described above, parental responsibility plays a vital role at Evergreen. Therefore, our Members and Leaders must sign our General Liability Waiver in order to participate at ECC. This waiver may be updated periodically by the Board.

**C. Behavior:**

1. All Members, both students and parents, and Leaders are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner, showing respect for those in authority. Student members should also show respect toward their elders in general.

2. All Members and Leaders will strive to be receptive to admonition from the Leaders as well as other Members.

3. All Members and Leaders will handle disagreements with others using the concepts taught in Matthew 18:15, related to addressing the offender privately *before* involving other parties.

4. The Board will only become involved in a matter after all other attempts at reconciliation have been exhausted. The Board will try to assist the parties involved in coming to a peaceful resolution.

5. If the behavioral principles outlined above are not followed, or a peaceful resolution is not met, the Board retains the right to terminate membership, or to establish conditions for an individual's on-going involvement and membership at ECC.

6. We have intentionally omitted a list of unacceptable behaviors, as it would need to be exhaustive in order to be effective. It is assumed that Members will comport themselves in a manner consistent with Biblical principles and the Statement of Faith.

7. Members and Leaders are required to comply with rules and restrictions established by Dryden Baptist Church, who graciously allows the use of their building.

***E. Child Abuse Prevention:***

1. ***All parents are to be on campus and responsible for their children at all times.*** In the event they must leave the grounds, they will appoint another adult to be responsible for their child/children in their absence, and let Directors know.

2. All classes must have two adults; one approved teacher, and one parent in attendance at all times.

***F. Termination of Membership:***

1. If the Board deems it necessary, they may terminate a family, parent/guardian, or a child from Evergreen membership at any time by use of a super majority vote.

2. Class fee refunds are at the discretion of the teacher if a Member is terminated.