

# Bylaws of the Valley Home School Association

## I. Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this organization is to support the efforts of Christian home educators by providing opportunities for fellowship, encouragement, education, and the exchange of ideas and information from a Biblical perspective.

## II. Statement of Faith

The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God and constitutes His completed and final revelation to man. The Bible in its original autograph is without error in whole and in part, including theological concepts as well as literal geographical and historical details, from a six day creation to the physical return of Christ. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21; Genesis. 1:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

God has existed from all eternity in three persons God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ was God come in human flesh being fully God and fully man, except without sin. (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-2; John 10:30, 37- 38; Hebrews 4:15)

All men are in violation of God's righteous requirements and His holy character both by nature and act, and are therefore under His wrath and just condemnation. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:2)

The central purpose of the coming of Jesus Christ was to pay the penalty for man's sin through His substitutionary death on the cross, the successful accomplishment of which was attested to by His subsequent visible, bodily resurrection. ( 1 Corinthians 15:3-7; Hebrews 7:26-27; 1 Peter 3:18)

Salvation is offered as a gift, free to the sinner. This gift must be responded to in individual faith, not trusting in any personal work whatsoever, but in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ alone. (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9)

God created human beings male and female from the beginning, only those two genders. One of these biological genders, which are identifiable by chromosomes, is assigned by God to each individual at the moment of conception and cannot be changed. Marriage is the union of two people, one male and one female, according to God's plan and design. (Genesis 1: 27, 2:18, 2:21-24; Ephesians 5:23-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-2; Psalm 139:13)

## III. Organization

### 1. Support Group Leadership

- 1.1. Defined support group roles shall consist of Chair, Vice or Co-Chair, and a Secretary who will work together to provide overall coordination of the group's activities. They are referred to as the VHSA Leadership.
  - 1.1.1. The Chair shall schedule and oversee Parent Meetings, communicate with other leadership, present the members with opportunities that support the Statement of Purpose as they arise, represent the group in both federal and state concerns, provide information to the group on issues related to homeschooling, and respond to people interested in homeschooling.
  - 1.1.2. The Vice or Co-Chair shall assist the Chair with their duties. The Vice or Co-Chair shall schedule and oversee Parent Meetings at such times as the Chair is unable to do so.
  - 1.1.3. The Secretary's duties may include, but are not limited to, assisting with meeting minutes, maintaining records including membership, and assisting Chair and Co-Chair as needed.
  - 1.1.4. These positions shall be filled within the current membership of VHSA with nominations being taken and a vote (see section 2.5) being held to affirm those who have accepted for the coming year at the last Parent Meeting of the school year.
  - 1.1.5. In the event that no member can be found willing to accept one of these positions, those who have accepted for the coming school year shall continue to operate the group, fulfilling all of the responsibilities to the best of their abilities with the help of the general membership until someone can be found who is willing to serve in the vacant positions.
  - 1.1.6. Service shall be for the period of one school year with no limit regarding how many years an individual may serve if they are willing to serve and are affirmed by annual vote (see section 2.5).
  - 1.1.7. Those chosen to serve in the VHSA Leadership positions must agree unreservedly with the VHSA Statement of Purpose and Statement of Faith.
  - 1.1.8. The VHSA Leadership may form committees or enlist volunteers to whom they delegate these responsibilities based upon the needs of the group each year.
- 1.2. A Treasurer shall be chosen from within the membership of VHSA
  - 1.2.1. Treasurer shall receive and disburse funds, and shall maintain financial records.

- 1.2.2. A statement of all funds shall be provided at each Parent Meeting and records shall be available for all members to examine at least once a month.
    - 1.2.3. Disbursement of any funds shall require 2 signatures on any financial instrument: one signature from the treasurer and one from a member of the VHSA Leadership.
    - 1.2.4. Treasurer and a minimum of one member of VHSA Leadership shall have online and physical banking account access at all times.
    - 1.2.5. Any expenditure over \$50 of VHSA funds must be approved by a vote (See Section 2.5). This approval may either be in advance of the expenditure in the form of a budget, or as ratification of reimbursement. VHSA shall not be obligated to reimburse anyone for expenditures made without prior approval.
  - 1.3. In the event of any position becoming vacant during the school year, nominations will be taken at the next Parent Meeting with a majority vote (see section 2.5) of attending members held the following month to affirm those selected.
2. Membership
  - 2.1. Membership with VHSA is open to those homeschooling at least one child, must be affirmed annually by completing a Membership form with its attached waivers, which are legally binding documents, and paying associated Fees.
    - 2.1.1. Members need not be in full agreement with the VHSA Statement of Purpose and Statement of Faith, but they must agree to honor VHSA as a Christian organization and will not teach, discuss, or promote anything that is in opposition to the above Statements, while participating in any VHSA activities, either in person or online.
    - 2.1.2. Members are agreeing to support the position of the association as stated herein. Members further agree that conduct, language, dress, and media will be appropriate, in keeping with the above Statements, while participating in VHSA activities, either in person or online. Members represent Jesus, VHSA, and homeschooling to the community at large.
  - 2.2. All members must be willing to assist the leaders in proportion to their desired level of participation in group activities.
  - 2.3. Members must agree to keep all contact information of the other members in strict confidence.
  - 2.4. Members with concerns and recommendations that need to be discussed at a parent meeting should contact the Chair at least two days prior to the meeting to have these things placed on the agenda. The agenda will be made available one day prior to the meeting.
  - 2.5. Decision making will be done by all VHSA members who attend the monthly Parent Meeting, facilitated by VHSA Leadership. Each adult member present shall have one vote. Simple majority carries, with the exception of amending bylaws, See section F.
    - 2.5.1. Members who are unable to attend may submit a private message to the Chair in writing prior to the meeting so that their comments and vote may be communicated at the Parent Meeting.
    - 2.5.2. In the event of misconduct or violation of these statements or bylaws by a member of VHSA, VHSA Leadership or other volunteer positions (elected or not) the VHSA Leadership shall seek Biblical reconciliation according to Matthew 18:15-20.
      - 2.5.2.1. In the event that removal of any individual is necessary, this shall be by majority vote of the attending membership at a parent meeting, after being noted in the agenda at least 1 day prior to the meeting.
      - 2.5.2.2. In the event that removal of any individual is necessary, and it needs to be done in a more timely manner than the next parent meeting, it shall be in the authority of the VHSA Leadership to meet and vote to do so, and to submit the minutes of that meeting at the next Parent meeting for accountability.
3. Fees
  - 3.1. There is a non-refundable annual membership fee to help cover the operating costs of the group.
  - 3.2. Members are responsible for underwriting their share of the cost of activities in which they participate.
4. Liability,
  - 4.1. Each family is responsible for its own family members.
  - 4.2. Leadership will not be held responsible for the behavior of parents or children of this association on an individual or group basis.
  - 4.3. Leadership is not liable for any injuries or damages incurred during association activities.
5. Disciplinary Procedures
  - 5.1. Parents are responsible for their children at all VHSA functions.
  - 5.2. If parents are unable to attend activities, they need to select a parent representative at least 18 years of age who will be physically present and responsible for their children. The children need to know that the representative has the same authority their own parents have.
  - 5.3. If a problem arises, and is not properly addressed by the parent or their representative, VHSA may take the child out of the activity for the duration of that particular activity.
6. Changes to these Bylaws
  - 6.1. If the VHSA Leadership or membership should see fit to amend these bylaws, the process shall be as such:
    - 6.1.1. A committee shall be formed at a parent meeting, and should discuss and draft such proposed changes.
    - 6.1.2. The proposed changes shall be read into the meeting minutes one monthly parent meeting ahead of when the vote shall be taken.
    - 6.1.3. The next month, when voting upon the changes, a quorum shall consist of 51% of the current member families, and a two-thirds majority of said quorum shall be required to pass any changes, according to the process in Section 2.5.1.