

# A Family Membership Form 2018-2019

## VALLEY HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Please read in full the attached Statement of Purpose, Statement of Faith, and Bylaws (Version ratified 2018) of the Valley Home School Association. After signing this document, please retain those copies for your reference, and submit this form for application for membership.

While it is not required that you be in full agreement with the attached Statements to be a member of VHSA, by choosing to become a member you subject yourself to the aforementioned statements and bylaws and agree to honor VHSA as a Christian organization and agree not to teach, engage in discussion, or act in contradiction to these Statements while participating in VHSA activities. Those desiring to be in VHSA Leadership (such as Chair, Vice-chair, or Secretary) must agree unreservedly with the Statement of Faith (Option #1). The offices of treasurer, librarian, and co-op director are not considered VHSA Leadership positions (may sign Option #1 or #2) but those accepting such responsibility must agree not to speak/act against the Statement of Faith while performing their duties.

Options #1 or #2 of this form must be signed by at least one parent in order for a family to apply for membership. Option #1 must be signed by ALL adults who plan to teach at any VHSA sponsored activity. As provided by the bylaws, those signing only Option #2 may teach only after being approved with specific permissions to teach, by vote at a VHSA monthly parent meeting.

### Statement of Faith and Statement of Purpose Signature Form

#### Option #1

***I have read the VHSA Statement of Purpose and Statement of Faith, and agree with them without any reservation. With my signature I agree that as a member of VHSA I 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. I further agree that my conduct, language, dress, and media and that of my family will be appropriate and respectful in keeping the above Statements while participating in VHSA activities, either in person or online.***

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's signature

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Signature

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Option #2

***I have read the VHSA Statement of Purpose and Statement of Faith, and while I object to one or more parts of this Statement, with my signature I agree that as a member of VHSA I 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. I further agree that my conduct, language, dress, and media and that of my family will be appropriate and respectful in keeping the above Statements while participating in VHSA activities, either in person or online.***

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's Signature

X \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Father's signature

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**Photo/Video Release Form:** I give permission for the use of photographs and video including me/my child(ren) or articles written by me/my child(ren) to be used in publicity including the Valley Home School Association newsletter and internet sites promoting or reporting about Valley Home School Association. Any exceptions to this waiver are listed below. *If I choose to abstain, I will contact the VHSA leadership and provide a photo of my children, so they can be identified and excluded from photos. (email VHSA at [valleyhsa@gmail.com](mailto:valleyhsa@gmail.com)).* I recognize that I am responsible for communicating these wishes to event coordinators and anyone else taking photos at events.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date:

Parent's or Guardian's

More Information: We understand that there may be some exceptions to your willingness to allow us to use photo and video of your children.

Examples may include: children that you are fostering, no pictures on facebook, or a group trip to the lake with children in bathing suits. We want you to feel that your children are safe physically and online, so please include any situations and/or the names below of anyone that you do not want published.

If you abstain from signing above, please indicate if you want your children to participate in group photos.

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# YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FORM - Valley Home School Association

Please complete and return with payment by September 1st of the current school year to: VHSA, PO Box 1028, Scottsbluff NE 69363-1028. For PayPal please direct your payment to: valleyhsa@gmail.com. This form can also be completed online at www.valleyhomeschool.org. If you choose to do so online, please bring to a parent meeting or mail the signature portions of this form.

Parents/Guardians: Please print clearly and items with an \* are required.

PRIMARY CONTACT\* (First and Last Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone Number\*: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number (if different than primary phone number): \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE CONTACT\* (First and Last Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Phone Number\*: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

(Include this email in the newsletter? Y / N)

Mailing Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Family's Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Curriculum/Teaching Style: \_\_\_\_\_ Year

You Started Homeschooling: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose a Username\* for our website: \_\_\_\_\_ And a

Password\*: \_\_\_\_\_

List all children below (including graduates and preschoolers, please):

Name\*: Age\*: Birthdate\*: Grade: School:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies or special concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies or special concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies or special concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

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Allergies or special concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

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Allergies or special concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

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Allergies or special concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies or special concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

Your membership is only active once your Payment is received. **Membership Fees are \$25 per school year (\$15 if joining after January 1st of the school year).**

**Current Membership benefits include:** communications from the Association, association with our liability insurance where applicable, access to co-operative classes, first choice on event seats, a directory of members, and a discount with HSLDA.

Please check all that are appropriate:

Payment options: I am enclosing a check  I am going to use Paypal to pay my fees

Discounts: Our family is interested in becoming HSLDA members, please send us the discount information

## Waiver and Release Agreement

IN CONSIDERATION of being allowed to participate in any way in Valley Home School Association (VHSA or Releasee) related events and activities, the undersigned (Releasor) does:

1. Recognize and acknowledge that Valley Home School Association is a group of volunteer members and their families. The VHSA leadership team is comprised of members within our organization who have volunteered to guide activities and lead group discussions. This Agreement is intended to hold harmless those volunteer members in leadership and all volunteer members who help organize events, field trips, co-ops, parties, etc.
2. Acknowledge that they are responsible for themselves, their children, and their guests AT ALL TIMES. Any damage or liability to persons or property are the sole responsibility of the person (or in the case of minors, parents/legal guardians of minor child) responsible for said damage or liability. The Releasor does agree that the member/participant should inspect the facilities and equipment to be used, and if the Releasor/participant believes anything is unsafe, he or she should immediately advise a supervisor (advisor, manager, etc.) of such condition(s) and refuse to participate. By undersigning and participating the Releasor does acknowledge and fully understand that each member/participant will be engaging in activities that involve risk of serious injury, including permanent disability and death, and severe social and economic losses which might result not only from their own actions, inactions, or negligence but the action, inaction, and negligence of others, or the condition of the premises or of any equipment used. Further, that there may be other risks not known to us or not reasonably foreseeable at this time. Therefore, the Releasor does assume all the foregoing risks and accept personal responsibility for the damages following such injury, permanent disability or death.
3. Understand that VHSA is not required to maintain any insurance policy covering any circumstance arising from participation in these events or any activities associated with VHSA, and VHSA will not be responsible for any medical costs associated with an injury sustained by themselves, their children, and their guests.

By signing my name to this Waiver and Release Agreement, I, as agent for myself and family members, (the 'Releasor), being of lawful age, in consideration of being permitted to participate in home school support group meetings and home school activities scheduled for the 2018-2019 school year which are run and/or organized by member volunteers of VHSA, do WAIVE, RELEASE, and DISCHARGE and will be forever prevented from suing or otherwise claiming against any members of Valley Home School Association's volunteer members and their families and, if applicable, teachers, volunteers, agents, and owners or lessors of premises used to conduct the event, all of which are hereinafter referred to as "Releasees," from any and all liability to each of the undersigned, his or her heirs and next of kin for any and all claims, demands, losses or damages on account of injury, including death and damage to property, caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise while participating in or preparing for the above noted activity(s).

I have been given the opportunity and have been encouraged to seek independent legal advice prior to signing this Waiver and Release Agreement. I understand that this Agreement is binding on me, my spouse, my heirs, my executors, administrators, personal representatives and assigns. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties to this release and the terms of this Agreement are contractual and not a mere recital. This Agreement will be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska, and it is acknowledged by the Releasor to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of this jurisdiction. I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE AGREEMENT, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS WHICH I OR MY HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS AND ASSIGNS MAY HAVE AGAINST THE RELEASEE(S) BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Releasor:

\_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

Releasor:

\_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

Named Dependents/Participating Minors in Care of Releasor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# 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 5:23-24; 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.