



TEACH CHARTER

I. Name/Mission

A. The organization shall be known as TEACH (Tarheel Educational Association for Christian Homeschoolers), an unincorporated, nonprofit association as defined and governed under The Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act, North Carolina General Statute, Chapter 59B.

B. TEACH is a local community of Christian believers who endeavor to equip, educate, and train their children through homeschooling to serve God, their families, and the community.

C. TEACH will endeavor to conduct all of its activities from an Evangelical Christian perspective to the honor and glory of God.

II. Purpose

A. The purpose of TEACH is to provide support, information, encouragement, and fellowship to Christian homeschool families in Eastern North Carolina.

B. Our focus is to apply Biblical principles that our children may know Christ and become effective tools in His hands. (Jeremiah 1:5)

III. Definitions

A. Christian homeschools are non-public, non-government funded schools in which one or more children of not more than two families or households receive academic oversight from a Biblical viewpoint from parents, legal guardians, or a member of either household.

“This is what the LORD says, ‘Stand at the crossroads and look, ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls...” Jeremiah 6:16 (New International Version)

“These words, which I am commanding you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.” Deuteronomy 6:6,7

B. Godly education recognizes the spiritual, educational, emotional and physical needs of the student as a whole person and seeks to meet them from a Biblical viewpoint. The following points should characterize the goals of such an education:

- 1. To encourage a relationship with God.** Our primary goal in educating our children is not that they merely master skills and information, but that they truly know God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ and His Word.
- 2. To teach and develop the character of Christ.** Many modern teaching materials were developed to create a 21st century, industrialized, “ideal” American. Our “ideal” man is Jesus Christ and it is His image we are laboring to see formed in our children. We are

called to be transformed by the renewing of our minds and to be able to prove the good acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:2)

3. **To emphasize our place in His eternal plan.** We are encouraged to both “Remember the days of old...and to tell the next generation of the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done.” (Psalm 78:1-7)
4. **To address the heart as well as the head.** We can possess all knowledge and still miss the mark if we lack the proper heart attitude. (Proverb 2:10)
5. **To prepare children for the Biblical responsibilities of adulthood.** (Proverbs 19:21)
6. **To involve fathers.** In the Judeo-Christian tradition, a father is obligated not only to instruct his children in the ways of the Lord, but is also responsible for their education and proficiency in a trade. (Prov.22:6, Eph. 6:4)
7. **To appreciate our youth and children as the gifts of God’s undeserved kindness that they are.** (Psalm 127:4)
8. **To instruct our youth and children in the Word of God** (Deuteronomy 6:6-7, 31:12-13, Psalm 34:11, 78: 1-8, Matthew 19:14, and Mark 10:14) **developing Bible literacy skills and study habits so that they may learn to find knowledge, comfort, and inspiration from the Word of God.**
9. **To listen to and respond to our youth and children’s questions and concerns.** (Exodus 12:26, Joshua 4:6, 21-22)
10. **To encourage and affirm our youth and children, with genuine affection and compassion, helping them to develop a sense of belonging, and helping them to understand the perfect and unconditional love that is offered to them from Our Father in Heaven, with the objective of leading them to acceptance of the free gift of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.** (John 3:16)
11. **To develop the Godly character of our youth and children, promoting holiness by both word and example.** (1 Timothy 4:12)
12. **To lead our youth and children to become committed disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.** (Ephesians 6:4)
13. **To encourage our youth and children to develop a deep, meaningful, and abiding prayer life.** (James 5:16)

IV. Leadership

- A. TEACH is guided by a Board of Advisors, hereinafter called the Board.
- B. The Board will consist of three to five couples.
- C. To qualify for a position on the Board, both husband and wife must:

1. Have signed and initialed, where designated, all the TEACH documents pertaining to membership
2. Display Christian maturity
3. Be willing and available to serve
4. Be active members of TEACH

In addition, a couple should also manifest:

1. A commitment to homeschooling
2. Hearts for service
3. A husband who abides within the guidelines prescribed in 1 Timothy 3:17
4. A wife who abides within the guidelines prescribed in Ephesians 5:22-24 and Titus 2:3-5
5. A desire to encourage and promote homeschooling
6. Leadership qualities
7. Strong consideration will be given to couples who have been active members of TEACH for at least one year and have homeschooled at least two (2) years.

"It is a trustworthy statement: If any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil." 1 Timothy 3:17

"Wives, be in subjection unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, and Christ also is the head of the church being Himself the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives also be to their husbands in everything." Ephesians 5:22-24

"Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God." Titus 2:3-5

D. Officers

The offices of the TEACH Board shall at least consist of President, Secretary and Treasurer. One office should be held jointly by a married couple.

The duties of the PRESIDENT are:

1. Create the agenda for each board meeting with input from board members.
2. Call and preside over all meetings of the Board of Advisors.
3. Delegate responsibilities in the event of absence.

The duties of the SECRETARY are:

1. Record and distribute minutes of Board meetings to board members.
2. Keep current listing of Board members and their positions
3. To assist the Treasurer with keeping up with applications and keeping directory current.
4. Delegate responsibilities in the event of absence.

5. Maintain record book of Board meeting minutes and TEACH historical documents and pass on to successor.

The duties of the TREASURER are:

1. Keep record of income and expenses for the organization.
2. To assist the Secretary in keeping up with applications.
3. Present financial reports to Board at each meeting.
4. Maintain financial record book and make available to members upon request.
5. Delegate responsibilities in the event of absence.
6. Pass financial record book on to successor.

E. Terms, Elections, Vacancies

1. New Board members are appointed by the existing Board. The members of the Board should serve until the selection and qualification of their successors. It is suggested that Board members serve no more than three (3) consecutive years.
2. Any TEACH member may nominate a qualifying member couple for Board service. The Board will request such nominations as positions become available.
3. The Board of advisors shall elect a President annually from its own number. It is suggested that the President have prior experience serving on the Board.
4. If the Board of advisors drops to less than three (3) couples, a nominating committee of 3-5 couples comprised of the remaining Board and others elected by the membership shall be formed. This nominating committee shall be responsible to appoint sufficient Board members for the group to meet the charter requirements.
5. It is recommended that a Board member couple provide written notification, with specified resignation date, to the Board when they are no longer able to serve.
6. If a Board couple is unable to fulfill their responsibilities to the group for any reason, the couple should resign their position. Board members will not be removed from the Board by vote.

F. Board Duties

1. To uphold this charter.
2. To delegate responsibilities and tasks among the members using preferences indicated on the membership applications.
3. To approve routine expenses within the limits of the budget.
4. To develop, approve, and publish the charter, Statement of Faith, Policies, Membership application, Budget, Calendar, Activity Guidelines, and to review them at least annually.
5. If a member wishes to propose amendments to this charter or Statement of Faith, they should do so in writing to the Board. The Board shall discuss all proposals and if a change is deemed necessary, it shall be submitted to the entire membership for comments before any changes are made. The Board will seek a vote of approval from $\frac{2}{3}$ of the membership on the proposed changes. Changes to the Charter and Statement of Faith shall be by unanimous vote of the Board.

G. Meetings

1. The Board shall meet at least quarterly and as otherwise deemed necessary to carry on the business of TEACH.
2. Both husbands and wives agree to be active participants of the Board meetings.

3. To constitute a Board meeting, a representation of the majority of couples must be present. It is the intent of the Board to come to a unanimous consent on decisions.
4. Each couple will have one vote. If a vote is required, it will be passed by a simple majority vote. In the event of an absence of a husband or wife, the attending partner has full voting power. Proxies shall be allowed.

H. Steering Committees

The Board may create such steering committees as it deems necessary to promote activities and carry on the work of TEACH as set forth by this charter.

1. Steering committee coordinators shall be selected by the Board.
2. No committee work shall be undertaken without the consent of the Board.
3. Since a steering committee is created and approved for a specific purpose, it shall be automatically dissolved when its work is complete and a final report submitted.

V. Membership

- A. Membership in TEACH is offered on a household basis to homeschool families. We believe that God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. TEACH concurs with the definition of marriage as stated in the Bible (Genesis 1:26-28, Genesis 2:24, Eph 5:25-31, 1 Cor 7:2-3) and also with the following HSLDA policy:

“HSLDA believes that the foundation of the freedom to homeschool is built, in part, on the traditional family. Marriage is between one man and one woman. We have consistently lobbied for the preservation of traditional marriage in our law and constitution. Accordingly, to avoid a conflict of interest, HSLDA will not accept into membership any persons involved in same sex “marriage”, civil unions, or polygamy.”

- B. TEACH is open to any Christian individual or family who wishes to be or are connected with homeschooling and concur with this Charter, our Statement of Faith and policies, and have signed (and initialed) where necessary.

This will apply to all TEACH members and leadership. The TEACH Board reserves the right to withdraw the membership of any TEACH member found not to be in accordance with this membership policy.

VI. Conflict Resolution

A peacemaker council of at least two (2) people shall be established by the Board at the beginning of each TEACH year. This council will ideally be comprised of current and past TEACH veterans. In the event of unresolved issues, the peacemaker council will be consulted by the TEACH Board.

VII. Dissolution

In the event that TEACH ceases to have members, the organization will be dissolved. In such event, all liabilities and obligations of TEACH shall be paid, satisfied, and discharged or provisions made from the organization's funds. Any remaining funds will be donated to North Carolinians for Home Education (NCHE). Any items belonging to TEACH shall be offered to former members. Any unclaimed items shall be donated to other homeschool support groups. Any persons holding TEACH items will be responsible to disperse them accordingly.

(Husband's Name)
President

(Wife's Name)
President

(Husband's Name)
Secretary

(Wife's Name)
Secretary

(Husband's Name)
Treasurer

(Wife's Name)
Treasurer

(Husband's Name)
Board Member

(Wife's Name)
Board Member

(Husband's Name)
Board Member

(Wife's Name)
Board Member



TEACH POLICIES

I. Application Information

- A. TEACH shall conduct an annual enrollment of members. The membership year for TEACH shall begin July 1 and end June 30. Families may be admitted to membership at any time.
- B. Families must annually complete and submit all required forms and application.
- C. Each family belonging to TEACH shall pay yearly dues to cover the cost of special events, printing, workshops, speakers, website, paper goods etc.
- D. Dues for annual membership shall be published on the application form and reviewed annually by the board.

II. Member Responsibilities

- A. All first time applicants without homeschooling experience are highly encouraged to attend a new members orientation.
- B. Listen to any homeschool material (available free from our TEACH library)
- C. Members must complete and submit all required forms including TEACH application, Statement of Faith and Waiver and Liability Exclusion Agreement Release, Waiver and Indemnity Form..
- D. TEACH is a gathering of families that share each other's gifts and talents. We ask that all members help in some capacity. We do understand that there will be extenuating circumstances for some families, but please remember that without active member participation, TEACH, can not operate to it's fullest potential. This is not intended to burden any family, but to support each other as we organize and execute various activities and duties within the group.
- E. Each family needs to have access to the internet. It is a member's responsibility to access communications made available by TEACH, such as newsletters, email, website, directory and facebook. However, please note that "e-chain (email) is the main form of communication for TEACH.
- F. Members may contact any Board member if they have any questions or concerns needing to be addressed.
- G. Any TEACH member who, during the year, is convicted of a criminal offense or is under investigation for involvement in any illegal activity may, at the discretion of the Board, be removed from membership completely.

III. Benefits of Membership

TEACH provides a variety of benefits and services to its members which will continually change to meet current needs. Some benefits include:

1. Group activities/events
2. Community service opportunities
3. Regular support meetings
4. Parent encouragement
5. Experience of veteran homeschoolers
6. Regular e-mails promoting events and opportunities
7. Homeschool resources
8. Access to TEACH Library
9. Opportunity to participate in educational events and competitions
10. Fellowship with like-minded families
11. TEACH website.

IV. TEACH Activity Policies

A. TEACH depends on its members to develop activities. Any member with a specific desire or new idea that hasn't been addressed as a group should contact a Board member to explore the possibilities.

B. An activity may be canceled if it fails to generate sufficient interest in leadership or participation.

C. Activities specified for "Parents only" are open to any adult who wishes to attend including non-TEACH members unless otherwise stated

D. Any TEACH activities designed for children are considered closed to participants from outside the TEACH membership. Exceptions may be considered by a board member, if contacted in a timely manner prior to the start of the event.

E. Every TEACH member attends TEACH activities at their own risk. (see waiver on application)

F. If a child attends a TEACH activity the parent/guardian is also expected to attend, unless the activity/event restricts adult supervision numbers. In the rare case that a parent/guardian is unable to attend an event or activity, the parent/guardian must make arrangements with a responsible individual attending the event to provide supervision for their children. The responsible individual should inform the activity leader if they are supervising someone else's child.

G. During TEACH activities, it is the responsibility of the parent to take steps to correct inappropriate behavior of their children. If other parents first become aware of such behavior they are at liberty to remove the child from the situation and should immediately inform the child's parent.

V. Community Activity Policies

A. Other organizations invite the TEACH group to take part in competitions and other events. TEACH encourages such invitations and will, as appropriate, provide the means for liaison and information distribution to TEACH members.

B. When organizations request a specific number of participants from the entire group, TEACH will endeavor to select a team fairly and without partiality.

C. When participating with other organizations, TEACH will organize its member families as either independent and autonomous schools OR as a single collective entity, whichever provides the greatest collective benefit to its members.

VI. Legal Matters

A. The information provided by TEACH, either written or implied, is not provided as legal advice. A qualified attorney or The Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) should be consulted for the purpose of legal counsel if necessary.

B. The name TEACH or the names of any members in their official capacities, shall not be used for any purpose that is not related to the promotion or the purpose of TEACH. Prior Board approval is required.

C. TEACH may cooperate with other organizations and agencies, however, any statements made by TEACH members to such organizations shall not bind TEACH.

D. TEACH shall function and remain as an independent organization.

E. TEACH recognizes that each member family represents a separate and autonomous school in its own right.

VII. BUSINESS PROMOTION

The following rules apply to members of TEACH owning home businesses

A. Any home business promotions at official TEACH functions must be approved in advance by the Board.

B. A listing of company name, product or service, phone number and a slogan/promotion may be submitted for inclusion in select publications, space permitting.