

EMACHE

Eagle Mountain Area Christian Home Educators

CONSTITUTION

P.O. Box 1218
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ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be Eagle Mountain Area Christian Home Educators (a.k.a. EMACHE), also hereinafter referred to as “the Association.”

ARTICLE II

Membership

EMACHE shall be composed of home educating families who desire to affiliate. By joining EMACHE, member families agree to operate their home schools in accordance with the Statement of Principles (Article VIII) and the Confession of Faith (Article IX), and agree to abide by this Constitution.

Membership dues will be exacted per family and will be determined each year by the officers with the approval of the membership in regular business meetings. Special provision will be made for those who desire to be members, but are unable to pay.

Those who cease to abide by the Constitution, cause disunity within the Association, or who otherwise bring disrepute on the Association shall be biblically confronted by the officers of the Association for restoration and if necessary will be removed from membership by unanimous consent of the officers (Matthew 18: 15-20; 2 John 9-11; I Corinthians 5:1-5).

ARTICLE III

Purpose

The purpose of the Association is to provide support to parents who educate their children at home.

Associational support will include services such as field trips, small group meetings, and fellowships for educational, academic, spiritual, and emotional encouragement. Regularly scheduled large group meetings will provide for such items as information on curricula, assistance in appropriate curricula, special speakers, workshops, and a newsletter.

The Association shall not infringe on the rights of parents to educate their children as they believe best. EMACHE is a service organization providing advice and help to members who may use the assistance as they desire.

ARTICLE IV

Officers

The officers of the Association are responsible for handling all administrative duties for the Association and shall consist of president, executive vice president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer (collectively, “the Board”).

The Association’s operations, activities, and functions shall be conducted by volunteers from the participating families, which are assigned to various responsibilities as deemed necessary by the Board.

The president must have served on a previous EMACHE Board for at least one year. The president shall provide an

agenda for and preside over Board meetings. He shall call Board meetings as he deems necessary. He is responsible for overseeing the filling of all volunteer positions for the various operations, activities, and functions of the Association. He is responsible for checking the post office box and delegating the handling of any correspondence. He shall receive and approve all newsletter material before its publication.

The executive vice-president and vice-president shall assist the president in the performance of his duties. In the absence of the president, his responsibilities shall fall first to the executive vice-president, then to the vice-president.

The secretary will be responsible for keeping a record of each meeting and forwarding a copy of such record to the newsletter publisher for publication in next newsletter.

The treasurer will receive funds, disburse payments, and provide at each Board meeting an accounting of this activity. He will be responsible for keeping accurate records of *the* financial accounts of the Association. The Board, or their designee, shall review these records annually, or more often as determined the Board. The treasurer should keep a current record of all applications of the members of the Association and update the newsletter publisher of any changes address or any new members.

Any officer and/or officers shall be subject to censorship or dismissal from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a General or Specific Membership meeting. Officers of the Association shall meet the following qualifications:

1. Officers shall be men. The reason for this is that the Association is composed of home educating families over which men are to provide the leadership according to the Scriptures. The Association is an extension of the home and should mirror the biblical pattern for the home.
2. Officers must have previously been members of the Association for at least one year and shall have home educated or have been committed to home education for at least one year. This allows for the inclusion of those who are not yet formally or structurally educating their children in the cognitive skills, but are committed to home education (e.g., father of infant, toddler, handicapped child).
3. Officers must be members of the Association which subscribe to the Statement of Principles and the Confession of Faith.
4. The term of office for Board members shall be one year, unless otherwise re-elected by a majority vote of the members present at the final spring General Membership meeting.
5. Elections for Board members will be held each year at the final spring General Membership meeting. Should a Board member resign or be otherwise removed from office during his term of office, the Board may appoint someone to complete his term.

ARTICLE V

Relationship of the Association to Associate Groups and Other Families

The Association may affiliate and cooperate, either formally or informally, with other persons, organizations, or institutions whose basic goals and objectives are harmony with this Constitution.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

The business portion of all General Membership meetings of the Association shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order in its most recent edition.

The Board shall be authorized to call a Special Membership meeting provided written notice is mailed to all members at least one week in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Execution and Amendment

This Constitution shall become effective upon approval by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at a General Membership meeting called for that purpose. This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members present and voting at a General Membership meeting of the association provided written notice of the proposed amendment is mailed to all members at least one week in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

Statement of Principles

Family

We believe that the family is the basic governmental, social, and spiritual community established by God. In it, the child gradually learns self-government, social relationships, and develops a relationship to the Creator and Savior (Ephesians 6:1-3; Colossians 3:20). The family also provides protection from intrusion by government and premature or inappropriate social influences.

We understand the family to be a father and mother (whether natural or legal) and their children, or a single parent or legal guardian(s) and the children under his and/or her care.

We reject homosexual marriages or homosexual orientation because it is contrary to Scripture and the intentions of God in creation (Romans 1:18-32). We also reject co-habitational heterosexual relationships which are not bound by marriage covenant as being in violation of God's laws and incapable of providing the long-term nurture and instruction needed by children and commanded by God (Proverbs 1:8-9; 2:1-11; Colossians 3:21; Ephesians 6:4). In view of this, no homosexual or merely co-habiting parents or guardians are eligible for membership.

Parental Rights and Responsibility in Education

We believe the ultimate responsibility for the education of children belongs to parents (Deuteronomy 4:9; 6:1-25; 4:1-4; Ephesians 6:4). Thus, we believe this is an inalienable right given by God which the State can neither create, destroy, nor alter. Parents may allow another to teach some of the cognitive information that children need to know, but all education should finally be under the control and supervision of the parents.

Though we have chosen to educate our children at home, we recognize that some parents cannot provide full education at home for various reasons, and we support the right of parents to send their children to alternative schools as they see fit.

Nature of Education

We believe that all education is religious in nature in that the instructor's worldview is inevitably communicated, either overtly or inconspicuously, through the process of instruction (Proverbs 2:1-8; 3:1-2; 6:20-23; Matthew 28:18-20). Every discipline of knowledge, whether it be a subject such as mathematics, science or history, or any other academic subject, will have, as its final reference point, an atheistic or humanistic view of reality (Colossians 1:15-20; 2:8-15): therefore there is no religiously neutral academic discipline.

We believe that all social, physical, and cognitive knowledge should have as its beginning the fear of God, and as its end the glory of God (Proverbs 1:7; Romans 11:33-36).

Rejection of Secular Humanism

We reject and oppose the anti-Christian tenets of secular humanism. These include the general theory of evolution, one-world government mandated sex education, government-mandated parenting courses, modern feminist ideology, and abortion.

ARTICLE IX

Confession of Faith

We affirm the following tenets of orthodox and historic Christian theology:

The Bible is verbally inspired, the only infallible and final authoritative Word of God, inerrant in the autographs (2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 3:16).

God is one Being who exists eternally as three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All of these Persons are equal in power and glory (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is fully God and man (John 1:1,14). He was born of a virgin (Matthew 1:18), and sinless in His life (Hebrews 9:15) He died vicariously on the cross as the substitution for sinful men (Hebrews 9:15). He rose bodily from the grave (John 20:1-9, 24.31; Acts 2:24) and now reigns with the Father (Acts 2:33; Hebrews 10:12). He will return visibly and personally to the earth both in salvation and judgment (Acts 1:11; Hebrews 9:28; Matthew 24:30).

All humans are sinful by nature (Romans 3:23; 5:12) and can only be forgiven through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior (John 3:16) and the cleansing work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration (Titus 3:5-7).

We believe in the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit by Whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (Romans 8:1-17).