

West Georgia Home School Association (WGHSA)

Statement of Purpose and Philosophy

The purpose of WGHSA is to inform, inspire, encourage, and edify Christian educating families. The sole purpose of WGHSA is to provide support with a spiritual dimension to Christians that are home educating.

It is understood that WGHSA does not monitor the progress of the students. It is each parent's responsibility to educate. Any advice, opinions, or suggestions given are just that—advice, opinion, and suggestion. WGHSA is not liable. WGHSA is a home educators' support group designed to encourage and utilize the participation of its members.

Statement of Faith

- We believe the **Bible** is the inspired, infallible, authoritative, and inerrant Word of God. 2 Tim 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, Revelation 22:18-19
- There is only **one God** eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God is the **only** Creator. John 1:1-2, John 1:14, John 1:18, John 10:29-30, John 17:22, Dt 6:4, 1 John 5:7 (NKJ)
- Jesus Christ was God in human flesh, being fully God and fully man but without sin. Jesus Christ was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, suffered a vicarious and atoning death, was bodily resurrected, ascended to the right hand of God the Father, and will return personally in power and glory. 1 Tim 2:5-6, Luke 1:31, Heb 2:17, Heb 7:26, Heb 9:28, Matt 27:46, Phil 2:8, 1 Cor 15:4
- Salvation is offered as a gift. We are saved by trusting the shed blood of Jesus Christ and turning from our sinful ways, believing and receiving Him as our Lord and Savior. We are saved by grace through faith. John 1:12-13, Ezek 36:26, John 6:44, Eph 2:8-9, Eph 1:7, 2 Cor 5:21, Rom 5:19, Gal 2:16
- God desires **all** members of His body to dwell in unity with each other regardless of race, gender, social, economic, or denominational differences. Matt 22:37-39, Rom 12:10, Rom 13:8, Ps 67:1-2
- Children are precious and a direct blessing from God. Prov. 22:6, Deut. 11:18-21

Membership Requirements

- To agree with and sign the statement of faith
- Agree to educate your child(ren) in accordance with your state's regulations in a loving atmosphere and to diligently strive to develop within them outstanding character qualities **as well as** upholding excellence in education.
- Not to be involved in any activity that would reflect negatively on WGHSA.
- To uphold and live a Biblical family lifestyle with high moral standards.
- Agree to use the membership roster for home support purposes only. Giving out names and numbers of members without permission is a breach of trust.

I agree with WGHSA's Statement of Faith

**I do not agree with WGHSA's Statement of Faith. Please contact me about the *possibility* of my family being accepted as Provisional Members
(Give detailed explanation of disagreement on back of this form)**

West Georgia Home School Association

Compliance Agreement

About our Attendance Law:

We are admonished in Scripture, both by example and by command, to obey the laws of our country. *Romans 13*

Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore, he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For it is a minister to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath upon the one who practices evil. Wherefore, it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake. (Romans 13: 1-5 NAS, cf. Deuteronomy 28, Daniel 1, I Timothy 2:1-3)

In Georgia, God has blessed us at this time with a supportive home schooling law. West Georgia Home School Association supports this law and expects its members to abide by it. If we fail to comply with the law that God has given us, we risk the judgments that he promised to Israel when they doubted the wisdom of His guidance and turned to their own ways. The failure of a few to comply hurts the reputation of our group and home schooling as a whole.

Our state law requires a yearly Declaration of Intent be filed and students to be tested for grades 3, 6, 9, and 12, keeping scores available for 5 years. Failure to file Declaration of Intent will effectively withdraw the student from the home study program. Monetary fines are also included within our law.

Among home schoolers, as in every community, there are those who fear to follow God's guidance too closely, lest our enemies interpret our obedience as weakness. Some have suggested that we should not comply with the reporting requirements of the attendance law, fearing that the information will be used for harassment or worse. West Georgia Home School Association does not condone or encourage this. If a few home schoolers give school officials the impression that the present law is not working, our opponents (and we DO have them) will have the excuse they are seeking to change the law. There are some influential people who would like to eliminate home schooling altogether. Those who fought for the present law have seen the power of these people and do not wish to repeat the experience soon. Please visit www.ghea.org or www.hsllda.org for more home schooling information and the latest requirements and laws.

Virtual Public School/Charter School Users

If you are using an online charter or government funded program for your home school curriculum, please be aware that you are not legally considered to be home schooling and, therefore, will not need to file a Declaration of Intent. You will not be allowed to attend any WGHSAs field trips requiring a Declaration of Intent. According to HSLDA, which WGHSAs observes, "Attending a virtual public school means accepting the bureaucracy and government supervision that are linked to receiving tax dollars". HSLDA expounds upon this at http://www.hsllda.org/docs/nche/Issues/F/Federal_Charter_Schools.asp WGHSAs will default to HSLDA policies and if, by utilizing a virtual public or charter school, conflicts arise for WGHSAs, dismissal from WGHSAs may be necessary.

Signature