

ICHE

Iredell County Home Educators, hereby known as ICHE, is a Non-Profit 501(c)(4) organization that operates in Iredell County. Donations to ICHE are not considered tax-deductible donations by IRS regulations governing 501(c)(4) organizations.

Statement of Purpose

Believing that we have a God-given responsibility for the education of our children and that this responsibility is best exercised by the individualized instruction of home education, we do hereby establish the Iredell County Home Educators (ICHE) support group. The purpose of ICHE is to serve as a resource of encouragement and information pertaining to home education.

ICHE will attempt to provide direction to home educators in areas ranging from curriculum to state regulations. ICHE will provide opportunities for social interaction of home-schooled children and their families. We will seek to provide a positive image for families choosing an alternative to traditional education, and in so doing, encourage participation in the state organization (NCHE).

Enacted: 18 December 1989

Revised: 16 May 2009

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ICHE Bylaws

Believing that we have a God-given responsibility for the education of our children and that this responsibility is best exercised by the individualized instruction of home education, we do hereby establish the Iredell County Home Educators (ICHE) support group. ICHE is Christian in orientation; however, no person shall be required to conform to any doctrinal statement or make any statement of faith as a condition of membership. ICHE is operated on the basis of Biblical principles, welcoming members of all races and nationalities.

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the support group shall be the Iredell County Home Educators.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the support group shall be; to provide encouragement and support to families choosing home education for their children; to provide information pertaining to home education; to provide opportunities for social interaction between home schooled children and their families; and to promote home education as an excellent educational alternative, and in so doing, to encourage participation in the state organization, North Carolinians for Home Education (NCHE).

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Classes of Membership – There is one class of membership.

Section 2. Eligibility for Membership – Any family residing in North Carolina that operates a home school in compliance with existing North Carolina law may join ICHE. All potential members will be screened using the state and federal Sex Offender Registry. ICHE reserves the right to deny membership to any applicant for reasons undisclosed to the applicant. In the case of denied membership, ICHE will issue a letter of denial along with a refund of registration fees received. The Board of Directors has the authority to require a minimum level of contributions or dues for membership. Each contributing family shall receive access to group activities, the ICHE newsletter, access to the lending library, and voting privileges (one vote per family).

Section 3. Membership Roll – Information in the membership directory, including but not limited to the membership roll, telephone numbers, and addresses, shall not be used for business purposes nor sold, published, or distributed for use outside of ICHE.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Directors

Section 1. Authority and Purpose of the Board – The governing body of the support group shall be known as its Board of Directors, and it shall have plenary powers to do all things necessary and proper to operate and control the support group. The purpose of the Board shall be to: uphold the purpose and guide the overall directions of ICHE; to make policy decisions as necessary; to provide and delegate administrative functions; and to serve as a nominating committee for the Board.

Section 2. Composition and Qualifications – The Board of Directors shall consist of at least four but not more than six members. The Board members shall be current home schooling parents who have home schooled at least one child for at least one full school year. Board members shall be members in good standing of the support group who have been members for at least one year.

Section 3. Term of Service and Fiscal Year – Each member of the Board of Directors shall be elected for a term of two years commencing with the beginning of the next fiscal year after election. The fiscal year shall be from July 1 to June 30. Terms shall be staggered so that the terms of two or three members shall expire each year. No member may serve more than four consecutive years on the Board. The Directors will be elected at an annual membership meeting held in the spring.

Section 4. Manner of Election – Nominations, in writing, for election to the Board of Directors may be submitted to the Board of Directors by members in good standing by the spring of each year. At the subsequent Board of Directors meeting in March or April, the Board will establish the number of openings and construct a list of nominees from those previously submitted and those suggested during the meeting. Two or three Board members will be elected by the membership at a regular meeting in the spring.

Section 5. Election of Officers – The Chairman for the subsequent year, called the Chairman-elect, will be elected by the Board from those Board members having served one year of their two year term. In the case that no such Board member is available for service, the Board may nominate another member for Chairman-elect, but this member must first be duly elected to the Board by the membership. When the new Board assembles for their first meeting, they will elect a Chairman if a Chairman-elect has not yet been elected.

Section 6. Vacancies – Vacancies in the Board of Directors caused by the death or resignation of a member may be filled by election by the Board of Directors of a qualified person to serve the unexpired term of the member who has died or resigned.

Section 7. Delegation of Authority – The Board of Directors may delegate to one or more support group members or to any of its officers, or to any of its committees such powers and duties as it may deem appropriate and proper. In the absence of such delegation, either generally or specifically, no member of the Board of Directors shall have any authority to act for the Board of Directors. Each member of the Board of Directors shall have status equal with that of each other member, and each member shall have the right to vote on any and all questions coming before the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V **Officers**

Section 1. Chairman – The Chairman shall be a member of ICHE in good standing who is serving on the Board of Directors at the time of nomination. The Chairman shall be the principal executive officer, and subject to the control of the Board of Directors, shall in general supervise and control all business of the support group. The Chairman shall chair all meetings of the Board of Directors and membership meetings, and shall determine the order of business for those meetings. The Chairman shall act as the spokesperson for ICHE and as the liaison between ICHE and NCHE, the Division of Non-Public Education (or the current North Carolina government body regulating home education), and other entities as directed by the Board. The Chairman shall have authority to authorize small expenditures, with a limit set by the Board. Expenditures exceeding this limit must be authorized by a majority of Board members. The Chairman shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of the membership meetings in one or more notebooks provided for that purpose; shall keep bylaws, standing rules, and other records in one or more notebooks as directed by the Board.

Section 2. Directors – The Board members other than the Chairman shall be referred to as “Directors”. They shall be members in good standing. They shall attend Board and membership meetings whenever possible and take on various responsibilities deemed necessary and appropriate by the Board.

ARTICLE VI **Meetings**

Section 1. Membership Meetings – The regular meetings of the support group shall be held at least once annually, in the Spring, with additional meetings to be scheduled at the discretion of the Board.

Section 2. Board Meetings – The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice annually.

Section 3. Quorum – The quorum for Membership Meetings shall be fifteen percent of the total number of voting member families. To be eligible to vote, each voting member family must have at least one adult member present at the meeting. The quorum for Board Meetings shall be a majority of Board members. If the quorum is not met, adjournment of the meeting relative to any formal proceedings is effected.

ARTICLE VII **Committees**

Section 1. Finance Committee – Annually in the Spring, a Finance Committee composed of the Treasurer, who is appointed by the Board, and two other members appointed by the Board, shall prepare a proposed budget for the following fiscal year, which begins the following first day of July. The Board will review and approve the budget by majority vote at their first meeting of the fiscal year.

Section 2. Audit Committee – An Audit Committee composed of three members shall be appointed by the Board to audit the support group accounts at the close of each fiscal year.

Section 3. Other Committees – Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the Board as deemed necessary to carry on the work of the support group.

ARTICLE VIII
Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the support group in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the support group may adopt.

ARTICLE IX
Amendment of Bylaws

All proposed amendments to these bylaws will be submitted to and reviewed by the Board. If approved by the Board, a proposed amendment will then be submitted by the Board to the membership. These bylaws may then be amended at any regular meeting of ICHE by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing to all members at least thirty days before the meeting.

ARTICLE X
Dissolution

In the event that the support group should be dissolved for any reason, then, in that event, all assets of the support group, if any, shall be transferred to another similar group within North Carolina or to North Carolinians for Home Education (NCHE). The provision of the bylaws is irrevocable and is not subject to amendment except if necessary to designate the name of any transferee under applicable income tax laws.