



(Updated March 30, 2023)

Reservoir Area Christian Home Educators

PO Box 4052 Brandon, MS 39047

www.reache.org

Policies and Regulations for Members

Mission Statement Reservoir Area Christian Home Educators {ReACHE} exists to glorify God by providing information, inspiration, fellowship, support, and encouragement to Christian home-educating families. {Deuteronomy 6:1-25; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4}

This handbook is a guide to help our members understand our guidelines and policies.

Enrollment in membership is an understood agreement to abide by these guidelines and policies.

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Policies and Guidelines:

ReACHE Board of Directors-

The Board of Directors is made up of ReACHE members who have received Jesus Christ as Savior. They serve in a position of responsibility, authority, and service. They serve as a team to oversee the administration and responsibilities of the organization. Board members will consist of a husband and wife. Board members will take office at the August meeting and will consist of a selection of individuals, all of whom have been home schooling for at least two years and members of ReACHE for no less than one year. The Board will meet quarterly or as needed. Current Board members must approve, by a majority vote, any new nominees for Board Positions. Board members will serve for a minimum of two years and no more than four consecutive years. Approaching the end of their last year of service, a Board member will mentor their replacement and provide a job description handbook at the end of their term. It is the current position holder's responsibility to ensure that their replacement is fully trained. Anyone who fails to keep their commitment or resigns their position early (excluding extenuating family circumstances) without a replacement will not be eligible to hold a Board position in the future. Board Members will jointly plan and execute membership meetings each school year. The Board of Directors may be exempt from paying membership dues or given a discount on membership dues for the school years they serve. Board meeting minutes will be taken at each meeting, and shared upon request.

A majority vote by the Board of Directors is the deciding authority in all ReACHE matters.

Activities Director: Plans and oversees enrichment activities and educational opportunities designed to equip and support ReACHE students and their families; oversees various activities for which members sign up to direct in fulfillment of their membership requirements. Facilitates High School Graduation Ceremony if applicable. Manages the ReACHE calendar alongside the Communications Director. Continues communicating with parents through the ear to complete their service and remind members of activities.

Communications Director: Maintains group communications through websites and email; works with the Co-op and Director to oversee co-op and credit class registration; communicates regularly with Membership Director and Activities Director concerning removal of expired member's access and parks members who have failed to renew or fulfill membership requirements including service activities; oversees and maintains the website and Board email account.

Co-Op Class Director: Plans and carries out all co-op planning meetings, sign-up opportunities, and co-op updates at member meetings; is available for questions or conflict resolution for co-op teachers, helpers, and parents when needed. Oversees all schedules and policies for the co-op school term. Communicates with the staff at the host church and communicates with teachers, students, and parents on behalf of the Board on co-op matters.

Finance Director: Maintains and updates group financial records, budget, and expenditures and posts necessary budget files on the website; collects dues and maintains deposits and bank records; holds a key to the P.O. Box and checks it on a regular basis; coordinates and approves disbursement and deposit of annual dues; distributes budgeted funds to co-op teachers; makes financial records available to board at quarterly meetings and to members at member meetings; purchases gifts for board members rotating off or other special occasions as needed.

Membership Director: Receives, processes, files, and stores all membership applications, recommendation letters, and other membership records; conducts new member confirmations: updates membership directory; fields questions, emails, and calls from potential new members throughout the year; holds a key to the P.O. Box and checks it on a regular basis; edits and maintains updated copies of membership guidelines, including the ReACHE Bylaws and handbook, as requested by the board; communicates regularly with Communications Director concerning new approvals for website access and removal of expired member's access; contacts the county attendance officer about coming to the fall annual meeting.

Membership Guidelines

1. Agree with the ReACHE Bylaws and Statement of Faith and agree to follow the current ReACHE Handbook policies.
2. Submit to a background check.
3. Complete the joining process and be approved by the Membership Directors.
4. Pay the annual dues, as set by the Board. If dues pose a financial hardship, the dues may be sponsored. (Acts 4:32-35)
5. Demonstrate supportive interest in ReACHE by participating in at least one area of service. Failure to complete at least one service activity will result in parked membership. Such families will be suspended from participation in ReACHE activities, including co-ops for the following year. (2 Thess. 3:6-15)
6. Comply with the Mississippi Compulsory Attendance Law.
7. Never use the membership directory for business purposes and never give it to other persons or organizations.
8. Parents must inform their children of all behavior guidelines. Children need to practice good manners, demonstrate behavior which honors God and the home education community and honor those in authority over them.

9. Handle conflict resolution according to God's Word. Please refer to the following verses when resolving your conflicts. (Pro. 25:8-9, Phil. 2: 4-5, Romans 12:10, Eph. 4:3, Prov. 20:3, and Matthew 18: 15-17)

10. Understand that membership in ReACHE may be terminated by a majority vote of the Board for violations of by-laws, rules, regulations or for conduct unbecoming a member or for other causes as determined by a hearing held by the Board, to which the member in question will be provided a reasonable opportunity to attend and speak. Ministerial mediation will be offered for this hearing. "Reasonable Opportunity" is defined as including no less than one day to no more than 30 days' prior notice of the meeting.

11. If a family chooses not to renew their membership, they will have 24 months to rejoin ReACHE without completing the joining process. They will be subject to a background check before membership reinstatement and must pay current member dues. A family may be denied reinstatement by a majority vote of the current Board.

12. Attend mandatory Fall and Spring membership meetings/banquets.

Membership in ReACHE is for the enrichment and support of homeschooling, Christ-following families.

Behavior and Expectations

1. Behavior and discipline of children is totally the responsibility of the parents during all ReACHE activities, functions, and meetings of ReACHE.
2. Bullying, verbal or physical, will not be allowed in ReACHE. Parents encourage your children to treat other members with respect, kindness and friendliness always.
3. Members who plan, organize, and carry out the activities associated with ReACHE must strive to be God honoring with respect to behavior and dress. (1Cor.14:40)
4. ReACHE isn't responsible for any injuries or accidents that occur during activities.
5. Any ReACHE member who hasn't signed up for their service requirement by the appointed date will be parked until their requirement is fulfilled.

Dress Code: We ask that modest and chaste dress be observed by parents and children during all ReACHE events. [1Tim 2:9]

- ReACHE official colors are royal blue and lime green
- Shorts, skirts, or dresses need to be modest and demure length. Shorts should be visible.
- Low-rise jeans should not allow underwear to be visible.
- Bikinis aren't allowed at any ReACHE event where swimsuits are needed. We ask girls and women to wear modest tankinis or one piece suits. Boys should wear swim shirts or tank-tops even while in the pool.
- Low cut tops should have coverage underneath.
- Apparel that shows any inappropriate images or promotion of adult content isn't acceptable, degradation of anyone is unacceptable.

Dishonorable Acts:

These acts include, but are not limited to, the following: the use of alcohol, the use of illegal drugs, sexual immorality, inappropriate and abusive language, vandalism, student and teacher disrespect, illicit usage of the Internet, posting inappropriate pictures on social media or other sites, inappropriate pictures or texts, or other harmful practices.

Students may be disciplined for conduct whether during instructional hours or outside of school that negatively affects the group, its patrons, or its atmosphere of learning. The Board reserves the right to enforce discipline, including suspension or expulsion by a majority vote from the Board.

Public Displays of Affection (i.e. inappropriate behaviors of a romantic nature) are prohibited during class time and during group wide events or activities.

Illness Policy: Please don't allow **anyone** in your family to attend Co Op classes, Credit Classes, Field Trips, or any function if there is any chance of a contagious illness in your home.

Siblings, spouses, or parents may not show symptoms yet but could still spread germs to others. We ask that you always err on the side of caution. Missing one or two events is better than spreading illness to multiple families. When to stay at home: If anyone in your household has:

Fever over 100 degrees

Vomiting or diarrhea

Thick white or green drainage
Hacking cough
Pink eye
Lice
Undiagnosed Rash
Virus (Strep, Flu, Stomach Bug, Etc.)

We ask that your **entire** family be symptom free for 36 hours.