

Mission Statement: To support families who have chosen to educate their children at home by providing information, encouragement and activities to enrich the homeschool experience; to encourage and assist families in achieving academic excellence; and to be a source of information for any family considering homeschooling.

Membership Privileges: Your family will be encouraged by the following privileges:

- Participation in REACH sponsored activities such as p.e. classes, co-op classes, field trips, music, art, bowling, skating, various clubs, seasonal parties, etc.
- Access to REACH library which maintains homeschool focused materials.
- Monthly newsletters to inform members about co-op classes, field trips, meetings, and other upcoming activities.
- Email distribution of REACH and homeschool related news throughout the month.
- Monthly meetings providing you the opportunity to meet and fellowship with other homeschooling families and hear speakers on topics of homeschooling interest from time to time.
- Membership Directory (confidential) which is a valuable tool for networking with other members.
- Access to member's only section of the REACH website.
- Guidance in academic and community service activities in preparation for college entry.

Membership Responsibilities: Each member is part of the team which helps us provide activities and extra learning opportunities for our children. Therefore, please consider the following member responsibilities:

- Sign REACH membership agreement.
- Sign co-op/library release form.
- Sign P.E. release form (if choose to participate in p.e. classes).
- New members pay annual dues of \$30 per year per family; or \$15 for ½ of a year.
- Membership renewal is \$30 by May 31st or \$35 thereafter.
- Attend monthly REACH meetings.
- Family participation in at least two (2) REACH sponsored events per year.
- Serve on one (1) committee or as an officer each year (not more than two (2) committees yearly).
- We recommend that each member head or co-head a committee once every four (4) years.
- Act in compliance with the State Homeschooling Regulations.
- Act in accordance with REACH Code of Conduct.

REACH Officers: The role of REACH officers is to maintain structure and organization and are assigned tasks as follows:

- Coordinator presides over monthly meetings and acts as liaison between outside organizations and the group (e.g., The Education Alliance, HSLDA, etc.) The coordinator will hold officers meetings as necessary and specifically, an officer meeting in July and again in the spring to plan for the next school year.
- Membership Coordinator acts as main contact person for new and potential members. Assigns all members to a committee and oversees committee heads as needed. Attends officers meetings.
- Activities Coordinator maintains the master calendar/schedule of REACH events. Coordinates with newsletter committee head before each monthly newsletter is released. Attends officers meetings.
- Secretary takes minutes at meetings. Issues press releases and helps to maintain a positive image for REACH within the community. Attends officers meetings.
- Treasurer manages the bank account and financial responsibilities. Presents a financial record of the prior year's activities in July and prepares a current year budget to be approved by the officers no later than August 31. Attends officers meetings.

Nominations for the Coordinator are taken at the March meeting. Election is held at the May meeting by a majority vote by REACH members (one vote per family). If only one person accepts the nomination, a confidence vote is required with 70% affirmative responses. Other officers will serve a minimum two-year term. If any officer will not serve past June 30, a new officer for that position will be approved in May by a majority vote of the current officers. All new officers take their position on July 1. Any officer may be removed from office for just cause in accordance with REACH Officer Removal Guidelines and Procedures.

Committee Heads: Committee positions are filled on a first-come, first-served basis by submitting the REACH Membership Agreement. Positions open each May for the following year. New committees can be added with officer approval and someone to fill the committee head position. Duties for each committee are presented by the membership coordinator upon a person accepting the role of committee head.

Monthly Meetings: Because REACH believes the monthly meetings are an important source of information and encouragement for each member, we strive to alternate day/evening meetings to allow members with varying schedules to attend. The date is announced in the newsletter each month. Childcare is provided at each meeting with no charge as allowed by current funds. If funds fall low, a minimal fee will be asked from each parent for their child(ren).



REACH MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

(Keep this document for your records)

www.rsvlreach.com

I UNDERSTAND THAT FAMILIES WHO SIGN THE REACH MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT are considered REACH members and have full responsibilities and privileges. In order to have an effective association that meets the needs of the children, all members have an important role and are valuable to the group. I have read and agree with the Mission Statement, Privileges and Responsibilities of REACH. I agree to attend as many monthly meetings as possible; to serve on at least one, but not more than two committees each year, and consider heading at least one committee every 4 years; and to have my family participate in at least two REACH sponsored activities each year.

FURTHERMORE, I AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL STATE LAWS CONCERNING EDUCATION IN THE HOME:

Traditional Homeschool Families: I will file an INTENT TO HOMESCHOOL with my home district superintendent. I will TEST my children according to state law. REACH provides this service under the state.

Arkansas Virtual School Families: I will comply with the rules set forth by the AVS. If there is a potential conflict regarding participation in REACH and AVS functions (e.g., competitions that lead to students representing a specific school or group), it is my responsibility to gain information from the AVS or any other organization involved to decide in which function my child(ren) should participate.

DIRECTORY: I understand that REACH members may choose to be listed in the Directory, which includes pertinent information about members' families. This information is a networking tool for disseminating information regarding homeschooling activities and legislative concerns. It is also a database for members to consult for support with questions concerning curriculum and teaching styles. I agree not to share the directory with anyone who is not a REACH member.

CODE OF CONDUCT – MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES: Recognizing that we are a reflection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and all home educators, my family and I agree to present ourselves in a Godly fashion. (Romans 12, 14:21). I understand that all children participating in REACH activities are to present themselves in a manner respectful of those placed in authority and of their fellow students. We should also be respectful of those hosting activities and be appropriately courteous and thankful. Conducting ourselves in this manner will be a reflection of our faith, edify others in Christ, and maintain the good reputation of REACH to those with whom we come in contact. I understand that if my child is being disruptive or disobedient at any REACH function, I am responsible for taking care of the situation with my child. Should continual disruptive discipline problems arise which are not taken care of by the parent, the REACH officers reserve the right to not allow the child to attend future activities until the problem has been resolved. Activities are for REACH members only (exceptions granted by officers) and each child must be supervised by a parent, or one who has been given authority to act on the parent's behalf, at each activity.

STATEMENT OF FAITH: (Only Officers sign this Statement of Faith. It is included for information only.)

We, the leaders of REACH, believe:

1. The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God and constitutes completed and final revelation. The Bible, in its original autograph, is without error in whole and in part, including theological concepts as well as geographical and historical detail.
2. God has existed from all eternity in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ was God in human flesh, being fully God and fully man, except without sin.
3. All men are in violation of God's righteous requirements and His holy character both by nature and act, and are therefore under His wrath and just condemnation. The central purpose of the coming of Jesus Christ was to pay the penalty for man's sin through His substitutionary death on the cross – the successful accomplishment of which was attested to by His subsequent visible, bodily resurrection.
4. Salvation is offered as a gift, free to the sinner. This gift must be responded to in individual faith, not trusting in any personal works whatsoever, but in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ alone.

The doctrines in this statement are basic and essential. Recognizing that every believer is a member of the body of Christ, we are responsible to keep "the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" and to "love one another with a pure heart fervently." As an officer in REACH, I agree with the above Statement of Faith and will support REACH in a manner consistent with it.

Signature: _____

*This Doctrinal Statement is taken from The Teaching Home, a Christian magazine for home schoolers.

Updated 4/09

Father's Name (last) _____ (first) _____

Mother's Name (last) _____ (first) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell (optional): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Church Affiliation: _____

Children: List children's first names, ages, and date of birth. Please include college, public and other schooled children and infants. (please put the grade you put on the Intent to Home School Form)

1. _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

2. _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

3. _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

4. _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

5. _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

6. _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Number of Years Homeschooling: _____ Curriculum this year: _____

Committee Information: Committees are filled by the Membership Coordinator on a first-come – first-served basis. See the attached committee sheet for descriptions of committees.

I will serve on the _____ committee. I will head the _____ committee.

Newsletter Information: (Receiving your newsletter by email not only ensures that you have up-to-date information, but also helps to keep cost of postage to a minimum. If possible, please use email.)

I wish to receive the REACH monthly newsletter via _____ E-mail _____ Postal Mail (Choose one)

Directory Information: (The REACH directory is confidential and distributed only to REACH members. It is used as a convenient contact and networking tool among MEMBERS.)

I want to be in the REACH directory _____ Yes _____ No

Business Directory: REACH makes available a business directory to its members. If you own or operate a business which you would like included in this directory, please attach your card or business information on a separate sheet.

_____ Attached information _____ No information

Memory Book: A REACH memory book will be printed IF enough families commit to purchase. The cost will be based per book order and will be due in January. I will purchase _____ book(s). I do not want a book _____

Membership Fee Information: New Members Dues \$30 (Membership renewal is \$30 annually by May 31st (or \$10 deposit by May 31st with the balance paid by the first meeting in August), or \$35 after May 31st. This is to encourage commitment and planning for the upcoming REACH school year. REACH year is from July 1 to June 30. Make fee payable to REACH. Send to: Membership Coordinator, Lynnell Albrecht, 19 Willow Oak Lane, Russellville, AR 72802. (479-967-9893 for REACH information) \$_____ paid by ___ check ___ cash ___ scholarship (See scholarship guidelines)

I have read the Membership Agreement and agree to abide by its conditions. I understand that all officers have signed the Statement of Faith. I request membership in REACH.

Signed: _____ Signed: _____

Dated: _____ Dated: _____



Committees with Purposes

Book Sale (8) To sponsor a local event for the buying and selling of books, curricula and other home school related items. REACH sponsors the sale, but it is open to the general public.

Childcare (1) To provide a well-supervised, safe, and secure environment for REACH children age 7 and under during monthly meetings.

Clubs

Debate (1) -To help prepare REACH students, age 12 and up, to be light and salt in our culture and to be able to understand and engage our culture in a credible way.

Book IT! (1) - To inspire and encourage reading for K – 6th grade REACH students through the reading incentive program created by Pizza Hut.

Co-op (2) To provide fun, educational, informative and interactive classes, incorporating the skills and knowledge of parents and friends in the community to better enable REACH students to be quality citizens.

Directories

Member (1) - To provide a convenient collection of contact information for each REACH member. The directory information is confidential and is to be used for REACH purposes only.

Business (1) - To provide a tool to help REACH members use the business services of other REACH members. This committee will compile and publish a listing of businesses owned/operated by REACH members.

Extra Activities

Field Trips (6)- To promote educational opportunities for REACH students of all ages through creative, recreational, and learning outings. To develop Arkansas pride by uncovering the diverse opportunities the state (especially local highlights) has to offer.

Park Day (1) - To provide weekly park play times alternating with swimming during the summer months.

Bowling/Skating (1) - To schedule monthly skating or bowling dates for REACH students.

Fundraising (Walk-A-Thon, etc. & Box Tops) (3) To organize and promote fundraising activities which will supplement the REACH budget in order to provide library, science, and other resources to benefit REACH students in addition to aiding with administrative expenses.

Graduations (Kindergarten / Senior) (4) To provide a graduation ceremony and reception for REACH kindergarten and senior graduates.

Library (at least 6) To provide a lending source of curricular materials for both new and experienced REACH homeschoolers; to maintain a selection of materials for members who are unable to afford them or who only need them for part of a homeschooling year; to keep available science and research materials which are harder to find locally; to maintain, as space permits, a selection of Christian fiction and non-fiction, classic literature and children's literature, and audio, VHS, and DVD materials usable for both homeschool instruction and general reading.

Scholastic Books (3) To provide REACH members access to a wide selection of books and other educational resources at reasonable prices.

Member Mentoring (2) The REACH Mentoring Committee exists for the purpose of supporting, encouraging, and assisting parents in the home school education of their children. This is accomplished by sharing information about available resources, offering guidance in the practical aspects of home schooling, and developing and utilizing a network of veteran home schooling parents who can share the wisdom they have gleaned in their own experience with those seeking to travel a similar path.

Membership Drive (1) To educate the public about homeschooling and REACH at annual information session held at the Book Sale.

Special Education (1)

Gifted (1)

Memory Book / Pictures

Memory Book (3) To compile a memory book for REACH students and families of classmates and activities.

School Pictures (1) To provide an opportunity for school / family pictures for REACH students and/or families.

Newsletter (2) To publish an informative monthly newsletter which will assist REACH members in their home schooling efforts. To keep REACH members informed through the filtering and sending of email news as needed.

Parties (at least 6)

Valentine - To provide seasonal parties and activities for REACH students.

Christmas - To provide seasonal parties and activities for REACH students.

Baby Shower - To honor REACH moms who are expecting or have recently had a baby with a "basket" shower at a monthly REACH meeting.

P.E. (2) To provide physical education classes for REACH students K-5th and 6th-12th grades which include the following: movement education focusing on exploration, creativity, problem solving, formation of concepts and development of skills; the development and maintenance of a high degree of physical fitness which increases one's potential movement; and participation in physical activities which contribute to the development of self confidence and social skills. To instruct REACH students in the basic rules of popular team and individual sports and to develop good sportsmanship.

Science Fair (3) To help REACH students learn the scientific method, to seek to answer a question or resolve a problem through experimentation or to demonstrate a principle. To learn to document their work and present it in written, visual and oral form for the judges and guests. To develop skills for planning and carrying out a long-term multi-phase project.

Set Up/Clean Up (3) To set up and take down the facility for REACH monthly meetings.

Spelling Bee (at least 3) To organize and carry out a spelling bee which will challenge Kindergarten through 8th grade REACH students to become better spellers, help increase confidence, develop public speaking abilities, and learn competition skills.

Sports (5) To provide a team experience for REACH students grades 7 – 12. To promote good sportsmanship and God-honoring attitudes on and off the court. To provide a venue for these students to interact and develop friendships.

Teen Activities (2) To provide social activities for REACH teens in a fun, Christian environment.

Testing (10) To provide an optimum testing experience for all home schooled students in Russellville and surrounding areas.