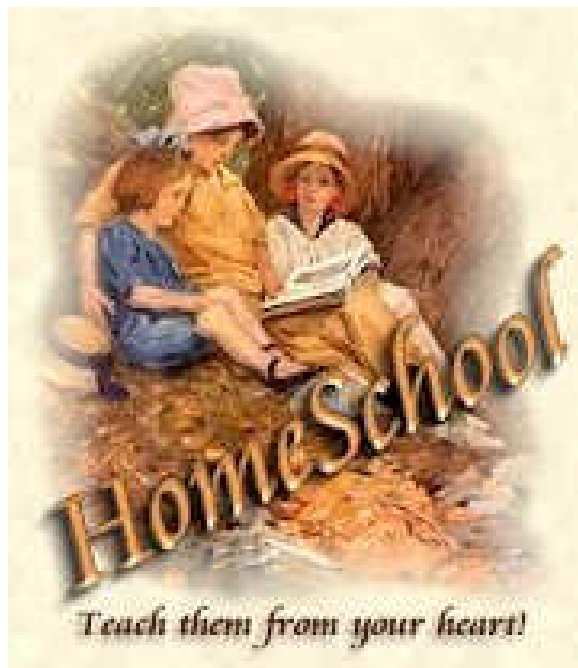


# Western Nebraska Home Educators Network



## By-Laws

# Western Nebraska Home Educators Network BYLAWS

## Article I - Name & Address

### Section I: **Name**

The name of this network shall be the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network also known as WNHEN (pronounced when) herein referred to as the network.

### Section II: **Address**

The name, street, and mailing address of this network's registered office is:

Western Nebraska Home Educators Network

P.O. Box 925

Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69363

## Article II - Mission Statement

The Western Nebraska Home Educators Network is a unique and diverse community of caring individuals working together for the common purpose of encouraging one another in their endeavors to faithfully train and educate their children at home. Though we have very diverse beliefs and reasons for homeschooling, we have the common bond of being homeschooling families.

We hold to the truth that all people are created in the image of God. Therefore, we do not discriminate against any individual or family. We strive to accept, support, encourage and educate each family who seriously desires to educate their children at home. Each family has the opportunity to receive just treatment and an equal opportunity to succeed in the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network.

## Article III - Themed Verses

Psalm 32:8: *"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."*

Romans 15:5-7: *"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you in order to bring praise to God."*

## **Article IV - Objectives**

This network is formed for homeschool support and educational purposes. The objectives of the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network include:

1. maintaining a member driven grace based network run by and for our members.
2. networking area homeschooling families and promoting the interest of home education in and around Western Nebraska and Eastern Wyoming.
3. offering support, encouragement and information to area home educators and their families.
4. providing opportunities for the social, physical and educational growth of homeschool students through our members.
5. pooling resources in terms of knowledge and expertise.
6. providing the means for homeschoolers or groups of homeschoolers to figure out ways to meet their own needs.

## **Article V - Purpose of the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network**

Our network exists to support homeschooling families in Western Nebraska and Eastern Wyoming with educational opportunities and support group activities that enhance their homeschool experience.

We are an "inclusive" homeschool network which means we intentionally include and work with homeschoolers of various religions, including none at all. Although the majority of our members are Christian we choose to accept ALL homeschooling families regardless of their religious beliefs. We do not require our members to sign a statement of faith in order to participate. We allow ALL our members to offer classes and activities to our membership as it is our desire to learn from one another. We believe that it is the parent's right and responsibility to decide which activities and classes are appropriate for their child based on their personal family values and needs.

*"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,  
just as in fact you are doing."  
1 Thessalonians 5:11*

Our primary goal is to support, encourage and educate homeschooling families. We do this in two different and very distinct ways. First is our Support Group which focuses on the family! Our Support Group offers such things as field trips, special outings, campouts, activities and most importantly support for homeschooling families. Second is our Cooperative which focuses on our child's educational needs. Our Cooperative offers a variety of classes for all ages including classes which are difficult to teach at home such as Band, Choir, and Speech.

"Supporting and Educating Homeschoolers is our only agenda"

## **Article VI - Membership**

### **Section I: Criteria**

1. Membership shall be open to all homeschool families or families who intends to homeschool in the near future.
2. Membership is also open to non-homeschooling adults (age 18 and above) who have a desire to share their knowledge, expertise, or resources with homeschooling families in our network. All Non-homeschooling adults must support and uphold the network's objectives and abide by the network's bylaws.
3. Membership or participation shall not be denied based on race, religious beliefs, political preference, ethnic background, or for any other reason.
4. To retain membership within the Network the family must have current dues paid. If dues are not paid, membership will be temporarily revoked until dues are renewed.
5. Any member may be removed from membership by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors after a show of due cause.
6. Our existence depends upon dedicated members who volunteer their time and resources. We ask for your active participation.
7. The network does not require members to sign a statement of faith or require any religious test as a condition for membership or service.

## **Article VII - Dues**

1. Dues will be assessed to cover the costs of operation, maintenance and improvement of the network assets.
2. Dues shall cover a twelve-month period starting June 1 and ending May 31.
3. All dues are due by the first of June.
4. Dues for the network and activities shall be as follows:
  - A. Network Membership Dues: \$25.00 yearly if paid by June 1. Membership fees received after June 15th will be \$35.00. Everyone interested in being a part of the Network shall pay the yearly dues. New membership dues collected after January 1st shall be pro-rated to \$15.00 and come due again on June 1. Members who wish to have the newsletter mailed to them shall pay an extra \$12.50 per year to cover the cost of printing and postage. Members who desire a hand delivered hard copy of the newsletter shall pay an extra \$7.50 per year to cover printing costs.
  - B. Support Group Dues: In order to participate in Support Group activities, participants must be a current paid member of WNHEN or accompanied by a current paid member of WNHEN. Parents are responsible for paying any fees for Support Group activities, events or outings. These fees shall vary depending what is being offered.

C. Cooperative Dues: In order to participate in the Cooperative, participants must be a current paid member of WNHEN. Teachers may charge for materials used in their classes. Parents are responsible for paying any class fees at the time they register. Class fees shall vary depending what is being offered.

We rely on each other to carry out the responsibilities of running and maintaining a Cooperative. Parents/families will be assigned specific tasks at the Cooperative to fulfill. Any parent/family who is assigned a task and fails to complete that task will be charged a \$100.00 enrollment fee (in addition to other fees) for future Cooperatives.

5. Dues shall be determined by the board of directors after the completion of the annual budget.
6. Dues may be changed only through amendment of these By-Laws.
7. The annual dues may be waived at the discretion of the WNHEN Board of Directors for members who are experiencing financial hardships, medical disabilities, unemployment or other exceptional circumstances. Requests for waivers must be submitted in writing annually, and are due June 1 of the year for which the waiver is granted for renewing members and upon enrollment for new members.

## **Article VIII - Organization**

1. The Western Nebraska Home Educators Network is a member driven grace based network giving our members the right to make their own decisions based on their own beliefs.
2. This network operates through individual members and standing committee's that set these by-laws and establish a standard of conduct that is meant to facilitate and maintain good relationships among our members.
3. The network is controlled by members who actively volunteer to create opportunities, participate on standing committee's and set policies.
4. Our member driven grace based concept allows each member the freedom and the means to create opportunities for themselves and their fellow homeschoolers anytime they like.

## **Article IX - Board of Directors**

### **Section I: Criteria**

1. The purpose of the board of directors is to conduct all the network business.
2. The board of directors shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Network Director, Cooperative Coordinator I & II and the Support Group Coordinator I & II.
3. All board positions are volunteer positions.
4. These men and women are serving as network representatives responsible for taking care of business matters of this network.
5. The board members are only accountable to the membership for those duties which are so stated in these by-laws.
6. Board members are not responsible for planning activities, events or teaching classes unless so stated within these by-laws.
7. The board members have limited governing power over the membership.

## Section II: **Qualifications of the Board of Directors**

1. All current members, in good standing, shall be eligible to be on the board of directors.
2. An individual may hold no more than one board of directors title at a time.
3. Board members are elected to their positions at the annual meeting held in April unless otherwise stated in these by-laws.

## Section III: **Term of the Board of Directors**

1. All board positions are held for a term of two-years unless:
  - A. the volunteer so chooses to vacate the position,
  - B. upon removal of the board position by the board of directors as stated in these bylaws,
  - C. or in the event the member is no longer a current, paid member of this network.
2. Vice President, Secretary, Cooperative Coordinator II and Support Group Coordinator I are voted on in April of all odd years and President, Treasurer, Network Director, Cooperative Coordinator I and Support Group Coordinator II are voted on in April of all even years.
3. All board members assume their official duties following the close of the annual meeting held in April.

## Section IV: **Board of Directors Vacancies**

1. Anyone interested in filling a board vacancy should notify any board member of their interest in the position.
2. A vacancy on the board shall be filled by the remaining board of directors from among the eligible membership and serve for the un-expired term.
3. New board members who are filling vacant positions shall assume their official duties immediately following an official announcement by the Board of Directors to the entire membership made through the monthly newsletter or special mailing.

## Section V: **Removal from the Board of Directors**

A board member may be removed from the position. The guidelines to do this are:

1. A petition requesting the removal from the board of directors showing due cause must be signed by at least one-third of the current paid network membership in good standing.
2. Each signer of the petition must have been a network member for two or more consecutive and current years and remain in good standing.
3. A motion approved by the remaining board of directors, to review such a petition, shall impose an immediate and temporary suspension of the board member being reviewed.
4. An alternate pro-tem board member shall be immediately appointed, so that any delay in resolution does not leave the position vacant or inactive. The pro-tem shall be someone who is appointed by the Board to serve temporarily as the networks board member with the majority consent of the members.
5. The pro-tem board member will not have voting privileges.

6. The petition will be reviewed at the next business meeting and voted upon at that time by the members.
7. A majority vote of the membership is required for removal of a board member.
8. If a board member is not removed by this procedure, the original petition is then invalid and the process must be initiated again to remove the board member.

## Section VI: **Duties of the Board of Directors**

### 1. President

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network and shall:

- A. preside over and conduct board meetings according to accepted parliamentary procedure.
- B. review, amend and maintain the By-Laws.
- C. be a member of all committees.
- D. make reports and recommendations to the board of directors concerning this network as deemed necessary, and may require reports from the treasurer, secretary and committees as deemed necessary.
- E. be familiar with the duties of all other officers, make sure that all committees are progressing, and see that all duties are performed.
- F. call special meetings when necessary.

### 2. Vice President The Vice President shall:

- A. act as an aide to the president.
- B. perform the duties of the president in the absence or inability of that officer to serve.
- C. be the network contact person for state and national organizations, the media contact for the network and the contact person for state legal information.
- D. be familiar with Nebraska and Wyoming homeschool laws and able to explain it to others.
- E. keep the membership informed of relevant bills in state or federal legislatures as well.
- F. Insure that proper parliamentary procedure is followed at meetings and uphold the bylaws of the network.

### 3. Secretary The Secretary of the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network shall:

- A. keep accurate and complete minutes of meetings of the board.
- B. read the minutes at all board meetings
- C. preserve a hard copy of all records of the minutes and store in the library.
- D. provide all members of the network with a copy of the board minutes either as a hard copy or on the private yahoo group.
- E. maintain a current paid membership list and provide the board of directors with an update version as needed.
- F. maintain and update our HSLDA membership as needed.
- G. aid in preparation of any formal documents of the network.
- H. attend to all official correspondence.

- I. record nominations for elected offices as well as results at the annual board meeting.
  - J. handle all correspondence pertaining to the network.
  - K. be given a key to the network post office box and should check it on occasion.
  - L. be one of the signature members on all WNHEN financial records.
4. Treasurer The Treasurer shall:
- A. receive all monies
  - B. keep an accurate account of all financial transactions of the network, showing the receipts of dues from members and bank receipts.
  - C. keep the books in order and pay bills justly accrued by the network.
  - D. be given the power to deposit and withdraw funds from network accounts as authorized.
  - E. responsible for filing necessary tax and other legal documents including keeping the EIN number current as well as signatures on all bank accounts.
  - F. develop the annual budget and submit it to the membership at the annual meeting held in April.
  - G. manage fundraiser events
5. Network Director The Network Director shall:
- A. maintain the official network correspondence.
  - B. oversee the publishing and distribution of the monthly newsletter.
  - C. prepare and distribute the annual membership directory in August/September.
  - D. maintains the official website, forum, photo album and yahoo group.
  - E. correspond with new homeschoolers keeping them informed about the network.
  - F. refer calls and correspondence to the appropriate persons within the network and submits announcements of meetings and events open to all homeschoolers through the appropriate media, newsletters and yahoo group.
  - G. maintain the network post office box located in Scottsbluff, Nebraska which shall be updated any time a change of address occurs with the network directors home address.
  - H. appoint chair persons and standing committee's to assist with the duties of the network director.
6. Support Group Coordinator I & II: Together, the Support Group Coordinators shall:
- A. preside over monthly parent meetings
  - B. keep accurate and complete minutes of the parent meetings.
  - C. provide all members of the network with a copy of the parent meeting minutes either as a hard copy or on the private yahoo group.
  - D. oversee the entire operation of the network support group.
  - E. oversee the implementation of field trips, classes outside of the Cooperative, annual events, sport and recreational events and special events.
  - F. maintain the network library.
  - G. appoint chair persons and standing committee's to assist with your duties  
Actively seek parents to offer a variety of activities for network families.

7. Cooperative Coordinator I & II: Together, the Cooperative Coordinators shall:
  - A. oversee the entire cooperative.
  - B. secure a location for the cooperative.
  - C. set up the yearly cooperative calendar and present this calendar at the planning meeting held in June/July.
  - D. review the Parent/Student Cooperative Handbook annually.
  - E. distribute all teaching information.
  - F. conduct a planning meeting before each cooperative to arrange the class schedule each semester.
  - G. prepare and distribute course listings for each cooperative session.
  - H. plan and oversee the registration day.
  - I. conduct the orientation meeting each semester for new and renewing members.
  - J. take attendance and know who is responsible for each child on the property.
  - K. assign and oversee parent participation and commitments.
  - L. notify all participants in case of last minute schedule changes.
  - M. make sure the building is clean and secure each week before and after the Cooperative day.

**Section VII: Liability**

1. No board member or member-at-large shall be liable for any bills or obligations of the network, past or present.
2. No board member or member-at-large of the network shall indebt the network without authorization from the board of directors.
3. No board member or member-at-large shall use network funds for personal use.

**Section VIII: Business Meetings held by the Board of Directors**

1. The location of the Annual Board Meeting and Recognition Dinner, the Planning Meeting and the Annual Review of the Bylaws shall be established by the board and published in the newsletter at least one month prior to the meeting. The location of all other business meetings shall be established by the board and published on the forums at least one week prior to the meeting.
2. The board shall conduct at least three business meetings a year. These meetings shall include:
  - A. the Annual Board Meeting and Recognition Dinner held in March/April. This meeting will be a semi-formal dinner for the purpose of recognizing volunteers who have supported or given service to our network over the past year and electing new officers to the board of directors.
  - B. a Planning Meeting held in June/July. This meeting will consist of planning for one calendar year - June 1st through May 31st.
  - C. the Annual Review of the Bylaws held in November/December. The network bylaws are reviewed annually by the board of directors and may be amended by the membership with a two-thirds vote, provided written notice setting forth a proposed amendment is mailed or delivered to each member at least fifteen days in advance of such meeting.

3. Additional business meetings may be held at the discretion of the board.
4. Business meetings are open to current network members. Childcare is not provided.

#### Section IX: **Annual Board Meeting Awards**

1. The **Outstanding Volunteer Award** recognizes an adult in a position other than teacher, whose service to the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network has been above and beyond the expectations of a volunteer. This individual demonstrates a passion for helping others in the homeschooling community.
2. The **Outstanding Teacher Award** recognizes a volunteer who has taught a class for homeschool students or parents during the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network Cooperative.
3. The **Outstanding Service Award** recognizes members who have made significant contributions to the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network through their service as a board member. Board members carry a burden to help shepherd members and provide a variety of support to homeschoolers. They give significant, extended and arduous effort on behalf of WNHEN by volunteering for an elected office, providing services and act as advocates and liaisons with other professional organizations.
4. The **Leader of Tomorrow Award** recognizes youth who have shown leadership in the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network through his/her volunteer involvement.
5. The **Ambassador Award** is given to an individual or entity that has made an outstanding contribution to the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network.

## **Article X - Standing Committees**

1. Standing Committee
  - A. The board of directors may establish standing committee's in order to assist them in the completion of their duties.
  - B. Standing committee's may change from year to year depending on need.
  - C. Standing committee's are the sole responsibility of the Board member who establishes them.
  - D. Any person assigned to a standing committee through the Board of Directors must meet and follow the guidelines stated within these by-laws.
2. Members-At-Large Standing Committee
  - A. Current members may establish member-at-large standing committee at any time throughout the year to assist them with the preparation of an activity, event or class.
  - B. Any member-at-large standing committee arranged by a current member is the sole responsibility of the member who establishes the committee.
  - C. Every member who establishes a member-at-large standing committee must chair that committee.
  - D. The formation of a member-at-large standing committee shall be ran in the monthly newsletter or formed during parent meetings giving all members the opportunity to assist with the task at hand.
  - E. Every member-at-large standing committee shall disband upon completion of the activity, event or class being arranged.
  - F. Any person assigned to a member-at-large standing committee must meet and follow the guidelines stated within these by-laws.

## **Article XI - Legal Services**

1. Legal services are not provided by the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network.
2. Membership in the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) is encouraged.
3. Some legal information on state homeschooling requirements are available through the Network Director.

## **Article XII - Discipline**

1. It is the responsibility of parents to discipline their children.
2. At no time does this network endorse corporal punishment.
3. This network encourages grace based discipline. Our network defines grace based discipline as a parenting style which is Biblically supported and rooted in the New Testament teachings of Grace.
4. Our network also holds to the biblical discipline found in Matthew 18:15-16: *"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses."*

## **Article XIII - Support Group**

### **Section I: Purpose of the Support Group**

The Western Nebraska Home Educators Network Support Group's primary focus is to support and encourage homeschooling families through a variety of field trips, special outings, campouts, activities and events. Our Support Group also offers a wide variety of resources to our members including a curriculum library, graduation ceremony, membership directory, website and newsletter.

We believe that each family is unique and the best way to learn from one another is to spend time together and share our strengths with each other.

### **Section II: Monthly Events**

There are a variety of family gatherings planned each month. Everything from picnics to backyard BBQ's, games nights and ice cream socials to holiday parties, caroling and special recognition nights. Not to mention Family Campouts and Field Trips.

### **Section III: Annual Events**

Some events have become tradition such as the annual hay rack ride, ski trip, talent show, graduation and promotion ceremonies and the musical.

### **Section IV: Resources**

A curriculum library, yahoo group, membership directory, website, directory, HSLDA member discount, and updates on homeschooling laws are a few of the resources our network provides.

### **Section V: Parent Support Group Meetings**

Monthly Support Group Meetings are held to encourage families who are homeschooling and to communicate the needs of our families to the network. The purpose of these meetings is for parents to connect with like minded families, develop lifelong friendships and prayer partners, discuss what works and what doesn't, share ideas about upcoming activities and discuss opportunities to get together outside the Cooperative. Support Group Coordinators arrange and direct these meetings.

## **Article XIV - Cooperative**

### **Section I: Purpose of the Cooperative**

The Western Nebraska Home Educators Network Cooperative is an opportunity for homeschooling families to come together, once a week, to share their talents, skills and knowledge with each other in order to supplement our children's education. The focus of the Cooperative is on our children's educational needs.

We rely on each other to be successful in educating our children. Since it is a privilege to belong to a cooperative such as this one, each of us needs to carry some of the responsibility for its success.

Classes are taught by homeschooling parents and friends of our homeschooling community as a ministry to homeschool families. Some of the classes offered through the Cooperative may be impractical if not impossible to teach at home.

Parents have the opportunity to learn along with their children, gain an understanding of their child's strengths, abilities and learning styles in a classroom setting and receive a first-hand glimpse of how their child interacts in a group situation. Students have the opportunity to discover, expand and enlarge the world around them and benefit from the small class size and extra attention given at our cooperative.

### **Section II: Parent is the Primary Educator**

Classes offered through the Cooperative are not designed to take the place of what the parent teaches at home. Classes are designed to enhance the child's education, not replace it. Our Cooperative is not a charter or umbrella school. The Cooperative does not offer a complete curriculum for any child. Parents remain the primary educator and are responsible for overseeing their child's educational needs. Our Cooperative is NOT a "moms day out", playgroup or a daycare. Families who participate in the Cooperative are expected to volunteer throughout the day.

### **Section III: Cooperative Fees**

In order to participate in the Cooperative, participants must be a current paid member of WNHEN. Teachers may charge for materials used in their classes. Parents are responsible for paying any class fees at the time they register for the class. Class fees shall vary depending what is being offered.

Our Cooperative is a "family affair" and based on the honor system. Each family who chooses to participate is expected to pull their fair share of the workload. This may include teaching, assisting in the nursery and/or toddler classes, helping in the kitchen or with various other tasks throughout the Cooperative day. **All families are expected to help.** Families looking for an opportunity to visit with one another should plan to participate in our Support Group activities, the Cooperative is not designed for this type of social interaction.

Some families would much rather pay the group than teach, assist in any of the classrooms, in the kitchen or help with clean-up and set-up. Those families may opt out of assisting during the Cooperative by paying a \$100.00 fee per semester, payable at the time you register for classes. Families paying this fee will gain access to the classes and will not be asked to assist. This does not allow parents the opportunity to drop off children and leave. The parent must still remain on the premises with their child.

#### **Section IV: Cooperative Parent/Student Handbook**

Each family who desires to participate in the Cooperative is responsible for becoming familiar with the Cooperative Parent/Student Handbook. The handbook is intended to be used by homeschooling students, parents and volunteers as a guide to the rules, regulations and general information about the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network Cooperative. Parents are encouraged to use the handbook as a resource and to assist their family in following the guidelines contained in it.

Although the information found in the handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during the Cooperative day, semester or year. The WNHEN board of directors reserves the right to make decisions and make guideline revisions at any time to implement the cooperative program and to assure the well being of all participating homeschooling families. The board of directors will be responsible for interpreting the guidelines contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in the handbook, the board of directors will make a decision based upon all applicable WNHEN policies.

#### **Section V: Course Listings**

Each semester the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network distributes a Cooperative Course Listing to all WNHEN members, prior Cooperative participants and to those who express an interest. The Course Listings will have a complete list of the classes being offered and all required registration forms.

#### **Section VI: Registration Information**

A Registration Day is held one week prior to the first day of class. Anyone wanting to participate in the Cooperative must register on or before the Cooperative Registration Day. All registrations must be postmarked by midnight the day prior to the registration day to be considered valid. Registrations postmarked or received after the deadline will not be accepted.

#### **Section VII: Orientation Meeting**

A Parent Orientation Meeting will be held one week prior to the first day of class. One parent and any parent representatives from each family who desire to participate in the Cooperative must attend the Parent Orientation Meeting in the Fall. The Spring and Summer Cooperative Parent Orientation Days will be provided for new families who join us later in the year or for returning families who have never been part of the Cooperative. If you are unable to attend the meeting, your child will be unable to participate in any of the classes being offered that semester.

## **Article XV - Communication Tools**

### **Section I: Newsletter**

1. The Western Nebraska Home Educators Network official newsletter is called the *Homeschool Gazette* and is published monthly, year round.
2. Submissions to the *Homeschool Gazette* are due by the Fourth Tuesday of each month. Guest columns are welcome.
3. The views and opinions expressed in the *Homeschool Gazette* do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of any of the members of this network.
4. The information printed and distributed by the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network is not intended as legal advice and should not take the place of legal counsel from a qualified, informed attorney.
5. If the newsletter editor questions the content of an article submitted for publication, he/she must contact the author and if he/she still feels the material is questionable, he/she must contact the President. The President will contact the author as well as each of the board members. After reviewing the article together, via phone or a meeting, a vote will be cast to determine publication approval or denial.
6. The newsletter editor may edit submissions for space purposes or clarity.
7. All homeschool related materials sent to the network may be included in the newsletter at the discretion of the newsletter editor.
8. Current members may advertise non-homeschool related information in the newsletter at no cost.
9. Outside identities who contact the network for advertising space in our network newsletter may be included at the discretion of the newsletter editor. Non-members asking for advertising space in the network newsletter shall be asked to submit a free will offering to the network.

### **Section II: Website**

The Western Nebraska Home Educators Network official website is located at <http://www.wnhen.org>. The Network Director is responsible for maintaining the website.

### Section III: **Forums**

The Western Nebraska Home Educators Network maintains three official forums.

1. **private yahoo group** open to current paid members located at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WNHEN/>
2. **public forum** open to anyone located at <http://wnhen.org/phpbb2/>
3. **Board of Directors yahoo group** available to board members located at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wnhenboard/>
  - A. The purpose of the forums are:
    1. To network area homeschooling families, support groups and curriculum suppliers, to pass along information that is of interest to area homeschooling families, to share ideas, opportunities and events and to assist new homeschoolers in the area.
    2. To keep members informed of upcoming events or changes in events as soon as possible so that the members themselves can make informed decisions.
  - B. The Network Director is responsible for maintaining the forums.
4. Additional forums may be established by members. WNHEN is not responsible for the content of any forums produced by our members and shall not be held liable for false reporting on any forum.

### **Article XVI - Library**

1. The purpose of the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network Library is to provide materials to member families, which will encourage, instruct and serve their efforts to homeschool their children. Materials may include:
  - A. "How to" books for parents seeking help in homeschooling.
  - B. Books to encourage and/or instruct the homeschool family.
  - C. Non-Fiction materials to supplement curriculum.
  - D. Educational fiction
  - E. Audio's, videos, software and books on tape.
  - F. CD's and cassettes
2. The library will be open at least once a month or as often as the current librarian is able to open his or her home for library days. When feasible, portions of the library may be brought to select functions throughout the year.

3. Donated materials are accepted, with the following guidelines:
  - A. Items must be in good condition and appropriate for general circulation.
  - B. The Librarian reserves the right to accept or pass on donated materials.
  - C. Materials which have been donated and which the Librarian chooses not to add to the collection may be disposed of by the Librarian in the manner in which they see fit, which can include but is not limited to any of the following:
    1. Placing them in a "free" or "donation" box where other members may select them and make a donation for them if they so choose.
    2. Donating them to another organization that can use them.
    3. Donating them to missionaries or other families who can use them.
    4. Donating them to other libraries.
    5. Selling them at a Network function or at a local consignment shop.
4. Books may be checked out as follows:
  - A. Books, CD's, DVD's, MP3's and Video Tapes are available for 2 week check-out
    1. If there is no waiting list you may renew the materials for an additional 2 weeks.
    2. If there is a waiting list you will be asked to return the materials. You may place your name on the waiting list for future use.
  - B. Testing Materials are available for 2 month check-out.
    1. If there is no waiting list you may renew the materials for an additional 2 months.
    2. If there is a waiting list you will be asked to return the materials. You may place your name on the waiting list for future use.
  - C. Textbooks are available for 1 year (12 months) check-out
    1. Once you have finished with the textbook please return it to the Library so another family may check it out.
5. All materials should be returned to the Library/Librarian by the due date or make arrangements for renewing the materials by contacting the librarian prior to the due date.
6. The Library is a service provided by WNHEN therefore there are no fines for overdue materials.
7. All lost or damaged items must be reported to the Librarian.
  - A. Borrowers are asked to replace any items that are last or damaged, if at all possible, so your fellow homeschoolers may also have the same privilege and availability you did of these free materials.
  - B. The replacement value of each book is listed in the library book. If the book is not replaceable, borrowers should consider paying WNHEN the replacement value so books can be purchased to replace any lost or damaged books in the library.

### **Article XVII: Tithing**

As a member driven grace based network we desire to hold to Biblical principles regarding tithing and as such direct that all moneys received from fundraising activities by the network be subject to a 10% Tithing and given to an organization/family as determined by the board of directors. This would not restrict other offerings from being distributed as determined by the board.

### **Article XVIII: Amendments**

These By-Laws are reviewed annually by the board of directors and may be amended by the board at any business meeting by a two-thirds vote, provided written notice setting forth a proposed amendment is mailed or delivered to each member at least fifteen days in advance of such meeting.

### **Article XIX: Dissolution**

1. To dissolve the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network, a two-thirds vote must be made by the members at any meeting, which has a "dissolution quorum" of three fourths of the current registered membership.
2. In the event of the dissolution of the Western Nebraska Home Educators Network, the assets of the network, minus costs, shall be donated to Bethel Baptist Church or HSLDA.

Created on 2007-02-14 by vmues

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