
SCCHS

Member Information

2009 - 2010

Sussex County Christian Home Schoolers, Inc.

PO Box 49,

Greendell, NJ 07839

(973)534-8890

SCCHS99@yahoo.com

SUSSEX COUNTY CHRISTIAN HOME SCHOOLERS, INC. BYLAWS3
SCCHS, INC. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION7
SCCHS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART10

SUSSEX COUNTY CHRISTIAN HOME SCHOOLERS, INC. BYLAWS

Revised December, 2006

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this group shall be the Sussex County Christian Home Schoolers, Inc.

Article II - PURPOSE

Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Said organization is comprised of parents and guardians who are committed to educating our own children in a Christian environment. We meet regularly for our mutual support in that endeavor. While respecting the autonomy of each family school, our purpose is to share ideas, materials, experiences, information, to offer social and comprehensive learning opportunities for our children, and support for member families.

Collectively, we represent many denominations, but we intend that all of our activities and interactions be clearly consistent with Biblical principles.

ARTICLE III - DISTRIBUTIONS AND DISSOLUTIONS

- a. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in the furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution or statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under sections 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- b. Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purpose.

ARTICLE IV - ARTICLES OF FAITH

Because of the spiritual unity of believers - by our common faith in the Lord Jesus Christ - individual doctrinal differences which may exist, outside of the following, should not hinder unity of the Christian home educators.

1. The Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God (II Timothy 3:16).
2. There is one God eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Revelation 1:8). Jesus Christ is God come in the flesh, born of a virgin, being both fully God and fully man, except without sin (John 1:14; Luke 1:26-33).
3. Man is by nature sinful and inherently in need of salvation. Salvation is the free gift of God given to the sinner by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His shed blood (Romans 3:23; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:8-9).
4. Jesus Christ's death provided substitutionary atonement for our sins (Hebrews 10:10, 12; Galatians 2:20; Hebrews 9:11-15; Isaiah 53).
5. Jesus Christ literally and bodily rose from the dead (Matthew 28:6-7; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 11:25; John 20, 21).
6. Jesus Christ will literally come to earth again at the Second Coming (Luke 21:27 -28).

ARTICLE V - VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: *Specification*

While attending support group meetings and receiving the newsletter are open to anyone, voting membership is limited to families in agreement, in writing on the registration form, with the SCCHS, Inc. Bylaws.

Section 2: *Expectations*

It is expected that all voting member families will support SCCHS, Inc. in the work of the group so that its purposes are met by being active in planning, organizing, and carrying out group activities.

Section 3: *Terms of Voting Membership*

Voting membership must be renewed annually by completing a SCCHS, Inc. registration form. Each family unit constitutes one vote.

ARTICLE VI - GOVERNMENT

Section 1: *Advisory Council*

The voting members shall elect an advisory council consisting of at least five couples for the following positions:

- one voting couple designated to serve as Meeting Moderator,

- one voting couple designated to serve as Secretary,
- one voting couple designated to serve as Newsletter Editor/Publisher,
- one voting couple designated to serve as Database Administrator
- one voting couple designated to serve as Treasurer,
- one voting couple designated to serve as Assistant Treasurer,
- one voting couple designated to serve as New Member Contact,
- one voting couple designated to serve as Assistant Moderator, to serve as needed.

Other elected non-Advisory Council positions, which may be assumed by a Council couple, include: Program Coordinator(s), Childcare Coordinator(s), Field Trip Coordinator(s), etc., although Council Members need not hold these positions.

The Advisory Council members will oversee the work done by individuals and groups on behalf of SCCHS, Inc. in carrying out the stated purpose. The elected Council members must be: voting members in good standing, currently educating their children at home, and regularly attending a local church. Each Advisory Council member is responsible for finding a replacement in the event that he or she is unable to carry out some responsibility. In addition, it is expected that any Council member and/or spouse would be responsible for handling phone calls regarding the group and/or home schooling in general.

A member family in good standing shall be defined as being in agreement in writing on the registration form with the SCCHS, Inc. Bylaws.

Section 2: Specific Duties of Advisory Council Members

Meeting Moderator:

The Moderator shall preside over all meetings, open each membership meeting with scripture reading and prayer, act as moderator, schedule meeting topics and special speakers, and represent SCCHS, Inc. in relations with outside groups.

Assistant Moderator:

The Assistant Moderator shall support the Meeting Moderator as needed and monitor legislative issues relating to homeschooling and keep the membership informed of such issues and relay the HSLDA number to members as needed.

Newsletter Editor/Publisher:

The Newsletter Editor/Publisher is responsible for editing and publishing the newsletter, which contains a summary of the prior support group meeting, lists upcoming events and field trips, and contains contributions from SCCHS, Inc. families. It is expected that the newsletter will be published monthly, September through May (8 issues per school year), although this may vary based on the schedule and needs of the group and the Editor/Publisher.

Database Administrator:

The Database Administrator is responsible for maintaining and updating the SCCHS database.

Secretary:

The Secretary is responsible for maintaining the meeting minutes for all SCCHS, Inc. Advisory Council Meetings and distributing them at least one week prior to the next meeting; writing any SCCHS, Inc. Correspondence; preparing, distributing, and tallying the ballots for the SCCHS Advisory Council elections; preparing and distributing the SCCHS directory and membership cards, scanning and keeping digital and hard copies of hold harmless agreements and registration forms; and creating and distributing membership cards.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer shall keep an accurate accounting of all SCCHS, Inc. monies and shall be responsible for all financial reporting.

Assistant Treasurer:

The Assistant Treasurer shall support the Treasurer as needed.

New Member Contact:

The New Member Contact shall provide general home schooling information to inquiring families, as well as, SCCHS, Inc. group information.

Section 3: *Voting*

Voting member families shall nominate Advisory Council members and vote to elect Advisory Council members.

Advisory Council members shall be nominated by the end of March and elected by the end of April. A change in the council will take place at the June meeting. There is no maximum number of terms a Council member shall be permitted to serve.

Advisory Council will meet at least three times during the year. The moderator may call additional meetings as necessary.

A Quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the council members and a majority of the quorum is necessary to carry a vote. In order to amend the bylaws, a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of council members is needed.

ARTICLE VII - FEES

Newsletter costs, insurance costs, an estimate for building rental, etc. will be considered to define the Membership Fee for each upcoming year. The Membership Fee will be required for member families to receive the newsletter, membership directory, and to receive voting privileges.

SCCHS, INC. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

We are a non-profit group of Christian Home Schoolers who live in North Western New Jersey and surrounding areas. We are parents and guardians who are committed to educating our own children in a Christian environment. We meet regularly for our mutual support in that endeavor. While respecting the autonomy of each family school, our purpose is to share ideas, materials, experiences, information, to offer social and comprehensive learning opportunities for our children, and to support member families. Collectively, we represent many denominations, but we intend that all of our activities and interactions be clearly consistent with the Biblical principles.

SCCHS, INC. CONTACT INFORMATION

SCCHS, Inc.
P.O. Box 49
Greendell, NJ 07839

Email Address: SCCHS99@yahoo.com

Website: <http://scchs.nac.net>

Phone Number: 973-534-8890

Net Access Corporation hosts our complimentary website at no charge and offers Educators Discounts for their ISP services, which apply to homeschoolers. For more information contact Net Access at www.nac.net.

SCCHS, INC. MEETINGS

Dates for meetings and events will be announced in the newsletter. Check website for meeting updates, location changes, and emergency closings.

IOWA TESTING

SCCHS, Inc. offers annual three-day IOWA standardized tests administered by volunteer proctors. The tests are obtained and graded by Bob Jones University Press. Many families consider annual testing as a tool for choosing and implementing curriculum. Test results may help identify student's strengths and weaknesses. Cognitive tests are offered on the fourth day. Test fees and enrollment deadlines are in February. Parents sign up as Proctors (degree required), Assistant Proctors, Pre-K or Nursery, Kitchen Help, Registration/Attendance, etc.

POLICY ON SCHOLARSHIP/BENEVOLENCE

It is part of the calling of Christians to provide charitable acts and to assist those who are in need. The scholarship/benevolence fund is a charitable fund, gifted by SCCHS, Inc. members to be used by SCCHS, Inc. members for the purposes of financially assisting home school members. Areas of assistance include, but are not limited to: curriculum materials, curriculum fair admissions, HSLDA membership dues, SCCHS, Inc. group membership dues, Fine Arts & Enrichment fees, field trips, etc. Contributions to this fund can be given to any council member at any time. Please contact the Benevolence Coordinator for an application.

Eph. 4:28 "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with [his] hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."

Acts 2:44-45 "And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all [men], as every man had need."

As such, being that SCCHS, Inc. is a Christian organization, we believe that it is the responsibility of the members of our group to hold up and support one another in whatever means each has to offer to those who have a need. The Benevolence policy is meant to assist members if a need for such charitable acts becomes necessary.

1. The member family must have a serious need, i.e. loss of job, serious illness, or death of a family member. It is the sole discretion of the SCCHS, Inc. Council by a simple majority to decide whether circumstances warrant Benevolence in the form of financial aid.
2. The member family must approach the SCCHS, Inc. Council with a written request for Benevolence including their name, need, and the reason for financial aid.
3. Once the member family qualifies for Benevolence, they shall continue to receive it until there is no longer a need. They should notify the SCCHS, Inc. Council immediately in writing once there is no longer a need for financial aid.

4. The SCCHS, Inc. Council may meet periodically with the member family and request a progress report to determine whether the member family still meets the requirements for Benevolence stated above.

HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION (HSLDA)

HSLDA provides members with legal representation when authorities question your legal rights. They also compile and distribute up to date information regarding homeschool issues. SCCHS, Inc. member families pay \$95 and save \$20.00 on the annual HSLDA membership fee of \$115. Discount Group Membership # available upon request. Contact SCCHS, Inc. Assistant Moderator/Legislative Liaison or visit www.hsllda.org for more information.

LIBRARY PROCEDURES

The SCCHS, Inc. Library is a convenient place for all members to choose books, tapes, or videos on various subjects such as science, history, biographies, fiction, homeschool help, teacher reference, etc. The Library is available on Fridays at the Knowlton Presbyterian Church.

The vision for our library is to make it easier to find good materials to aid each of us in our home schools, and to teach children (and parents) how to more effectively use a library's resources. Our library is set up according to the Dewey Decimal system, which is used by most libraries (still the best system). Please help us to keep it in order so that you will be able to find materials more easily. When you take a book from a shelf, either return it to the spot you found it or ask a librarian to reshelv it for you.

FINDING A BOOK

To find a book by title, use the SCCHS Card Catalog.

To find a book by subject, use the SCCHS Subject Index pages. These will be updated periodically throughout the year via the email loop.

TAKING OUT A BOOK, VIDEO OR TAPE

If a librarian is present, ask for help in checking out a library item (one person at a time, please).

If a librarian is not present:

Find the Loan Card in the back (or front) pocket of the book/video/tape.

Fill out the Loan Card with today's date, your name and your phone number.

Put the Loan Card in the SCCHS Loan Index Card box. File under the Book's Title.

Put a dated, pre-stamped Date Card from the black mesh holder in the back pocket of the book/video/tape to remind you of the item's due date.

Books = 1 week

Videos or tapes = 2 weeks

RETURNING A BOOK

Return your books, videos and tapes in the Red Crate on the library table marked, "Return library items here".

When library items are overdue, you will be given an overdue notice in your mail slot listing the items you have out. Please try to return or renew them promptly.

DONATIONS

To donate books, videos and tapes to the SCCHS Library please follow these guidelines:

- Donate no more than 5 items at a time, such as books, videos/DVDs or tapes/CDs.
- Items should be in good, useable shape.
- All materials should be in accordance with the SCCHS, Inc. Articles of Faith.

BROKAW LIBRARY

Books, videos, tapes, etc. will also be available from the Brokaw Library.

Follow the same procedure as for the SCCHS Library, with the following exception, put Loan Card into the green Brokaw Library drawer. File under the Book's Title.

There is no title card catalog or subject index available at this time for this 4,000 book/500 video library, but you may request a book or subject. (Also ask about other learning aids.)

SCCHS, INC. OFFICIAL FIELD TRIP AND CLASS GUIDELINES

When your family becomes a member of Sussex County Christian Home Schoolers, you agree to abide by the protocols and guidelines of the organization.

Participant's Responsibilities:

All of our activities should present a consistent and forthright Christian testimony so as to honor and glorify God. To help us achieve this, the following standards for field trips and classes are presented:

- ❖ Please review these with your family before participating in a SCCHS, Inc. field trip or event.
- ❖ All field trips must be pre-paid and are non-refundable, unless otherwise noted.
- ❖ Be prompt! Participants should arrive 10-15 minutes early.
- ❖ Parents are to stay with their children and are responsible for their behavior and safety. The same applies to other families' children you brought with you.
- ❖ No chewing gum allowed.
- ❖ Attire should be neat and clean. Also, be sure attire is safe and appropriate for the specific field trip for class.
- ❖ Anyone who is disruptive may be asked to leave.
- ❖ Whenever possible, send thank-you notes to the places visited.
- ❖ Failure to comply with these standards may result in losing the privilege to attend future field trips or classes.
- ❖ Anyone who has issues or concerns should contact the coordinator of the trip. Complaints and concerns should NOT be directed to field trip organizations.

Our conduct and our speech are testimonies for Christ. No one is perfect, but let's aspire to reflect Christ's character in all we say and do, and teach our children to do the same.

Families must be members in Sussex County Christian Home Schoolers, Inc. to participate in any SCCHS, Inc. program or activity. The annual membership affords insurance coverage, facility rental fee, monthly newsletter, and additional mailings. The eight (8) issues of the C.L.A.Y. Christian Leadership and Youth Newsletter will serve as a forum for announcements and any schedule changes. You will also receive a \$20 discount on an annual membership to HSLDA. Make checks payable to: SCCHS, INC. for \$30 September-August or \$20 January-August.

SCCHS ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

