

I MISSION STATEMENT

Parkland Home Educators Association (PHEA) members are dedicated to offering quality home education according to our individual conscientious beliefs, thereby nourishing our children for future roles and responsibilities in the real world.

Our goals reflect commitment to our God whom we serve and the moral support of our comrades;

- To assert and commandeer the total education of our children.
- Responsiveness to the needs of our children.
- Development and well-being of our children (students)
- Providing an atmosphere of love, faith and trust.
- Enhancing the quality of life through Judeo-Christian principles (prayer and Bible reading)
- The utilization of resources for fellowship and instructional purposes.

Our values are illustrative of what we stand for and ideals to which we aspire while pursuing our goals and mission:

- The role and responsibility of stewardship
- Judeo-Christian principles i.e. God in three persons
- Fellowship and sharing of knowledge
- Respect for the individual as a unique creature of God.
- Love, faith and trust in the learning and sharing environment.
- Autonomy; as in independent, self-governing and the right to self-determination.

II STATEMENT AND PURPOSE

Parkland Home Educators Association (PHEA) is a membership group united in asserting their right and responsibility as parents to educate their children according to their conscientious beliefs.

III OBJECTIVES

- 1) To share in the commonality of other home educating parents information, ideas, problems, spiritual support and/or possible solutions concerning the education of their children.
- 2) To provide home schooling parents through a co-operative process the advantages of positive socialization via a) general meetings b) sub-groups c) social functions d) physical activities, e) field trips f) website and g) a newsletter.
- 3) Through justified dissent and dialogue obtain the right to autonomous education of our children in a manner which recognizes home schooling as a positive alternative and a contributor to the education system.

IV VOLUNTEERS

Are considered a valued asset to the PHEA and its members. Volunteers for any association function are always sought and encouraged.

Co-coordinators, volunteers and sub-groups of these capacities and functions all fall and come under the jurisdiction of the elected Executive. Participation in sub-groups is **mandatory** for all members.

The executive is subject to its membership, its involvement, concerns and philosophies. The membership exercises its authority over the Executive council via formal meetings and any legal legitimate means of the democratic process such as; voting, petitions, etc. At no time may any executive change the structure of the PHEA without the vote of the membership.

Although the executive council comes on in a volunteer capacity, an honorarium is fitting for the number of hours spent on PHEA business. The honorarium will be as follows:

- a. One child of each executive member will have the fees of the PHEA Sports Gym program waived. Consideration will be given to a child in level 4 or 5.
- b. If the executive member does not have a child in level 4 or 5, then a child in a younger level will be considered.
- c. If the executive member has no children in the PHEA Sports Gym program, their PHEA membership fee will be waived.
- d. The PHEA Sports Program fee waiver does not include the cost of the T-shirt or any activities in the program that have an extra per person cost involved (i.e. Fencing, martial arts, water polo etc.)
- e. No other honorariums will be given, and no compensation will be given to level the dollar amount of the honorarium.

Executive council acts in the best interest of the membership in accordance with the set guidelines of the PHEA and through assigning duties in accordance with the set regulations and policies concerning PHEA membership (Section V – Membership) as well as via dialogue, motions, petitions, questionnaires and/or other legal legitimate means.

V MEMBERSHIP – Regulations and Policies

A) Concerning membership (see Sub-group guideline sheet)

- 1) To avoid collapse of the PHEA and due to its increasing popularity by way of growth in membership, the PHEA as a whole has deemed it necessary to require of its membership, the periodic assignment of specific duty on a fair and rotational basis by way of sub-groups. Each sub-group is required to organize two field trips and a PHEA general meeting. It is hoped that relationships will be built in these smaller groups and they will get together more than just the required month.
- 2) Membership in the PHEA is renewed on a yearly basis and the yearly term is from the 1st of September to the 31st of August the following year. New members can sign up for activities on the last Monday of August when they pay their membership fees. Payment of this term is covered in Section V.A)3).

- 3) The non-refundable fee schedule is as follows: September 1 through to August 31 the cost is thirty dollars (\$30.00) and after December 31 the cost is twenty dollars (\$20.00); dependant upon expenditures and subject to change. There is no discount offered for early registration and the discount does not apply to returning members from the previous year.
- 4) Fees cover Executive expenses such as honorariums to guest speakers, postage and stationary used for the business of the PHEA, hall rentals for social functions and/or meetings and any other expenses incurred when items or services cannot be specifically designated to individuals. Any one-time expenditure in excess of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) must be approved by the Executive.
- 5) Entitlements of membership are participation in: the election process, general meetings, sub-group meetings, social functions, and offerings in field trips, physical education and other such activities like the delivery of a newsletter. Note: no newsletter is printed or sent out in the months of June, July or December

B) Concerning Activities (offerings of: field trips, outings, physical education and the like)

- 1) Offerings of activities and events are advertised through media available to the PHEA: general meetings, newsletter, website, emails, and telephone communications. Participation is not mandatory but is encouraged. Any member wishing to partake in such events or activities must notify its organizer in advance and be committed to any obligations that it may require.
- 2) Where there is a minimum requirement of participants and a cost is involved, monies must be paid in advance as specified and are not refundable!
- 3) It is the responsibility of the individual member to notify the organizer if they cannot attend the activity for which they have registered.
- 4) a) For any of the activities, participants should arrive at least ten to fifteen (10-15) minutes early.
b) Parents or guardians are to stay with their children and are responsible for their behaviour and safety.
c) Children and parents or guardians whose behaviour and manner is questionable (disruptive and disorderly), may be asked to leave by the organizer or person in charge.
d) To partake in PHEA activities, one must be a member in good standing.
- 5) All members and parties agree ***not to hold*** the group Parkland Home Educators Association (PHEA), the executive, their agents, designates and field trip organizers liable or responsible for any damage, loss or personal injuries that occur due to a PHEA organized or sponsored event, function or outing. Members accept all responsibility and liability for any damage, loss or injury, which they, their children or guests may cause or be subject to during such event, function or outing.

C) Concerning Family Functions

- 1) Members must notify the organizers of the function as to how many people will be attending in their group; family members, relatives or guests.
- 2) It is permissible for members to bring relatives and/or friends to functions with the understanding that these additional people can or will add to the cost of the function therefore a fee may accompany such invites.
- 3) *Section V B) 1-4* applies to all functions.
- 4) If there is an insufficient number of volunteers for the function, the event will be cancelled without notice and any monies collected on an individual or group cost basis for the function and/or activity will be then be refunded.

D) Concerning Meetings

- 1) General meetings are held the final Monday of every month; unless a holiday interferes or there are scheduling problems, in which case the membership will be notified via the mediums of the PHEA (*Section V B. 1*)
- 2) General meetings are intended for adults only but are open to everyone. Childcare is not available and is the responsibility of the individual parents.
- 3) *Section V B. 4 a-d* applies to all General and Executive Meetings.

E) Official Position of the PHEA concerning Sections I – V

- 1) Upon review and investigation by the executive, non-compliance to the regulations and policies of the PHEA may result in suspension of membership privileges.
- 2) The responsibility of home education and all that it entails, belongs solely to the individual member, the PHEA is not and does not claim to be an educational institution. For what the PHEA is and stands for see *Section I and II*.
- 3) The PHEA will not influence registration with any particular school board. It is up to each family to make that decision.
- 4) The PHEA and its Members are committed to the moral support of its individual home schooling parents and/or guardians. The PHEA will not and cannot be all things to all people. For it to be supportive and continue to be successful the individual member must get involved!
- 5) Volunteers and their families run the PHEA and its sub-groups. EVERYONE is expected to pitch in by sharing his or her gifts and abilities. If for whatever reason you experience problems with home schooling, remember, your fellow members support you in this endeavor, so call out to them.