Constitution of DeKalb Area Christian Co-op

Article I

Name, Purpose, Location

The name of this organization shall be DeKalb Area Christian Co-op (DACC).

The mission of DeKalb Area Christian Co-op is to provide high-quality educational options in partnership with the Gospel of Christ, providing opportunities for students and families to develop meaningful relationships within a Christian community. We seek to assist the parents in the task of educating their children, not replace them in their role.

The registered office location of DeKalb Area Christian Co-op shall be 530 West State Street, Sycamore, IL 60178. The organization may have any number of offices at such places as the Board may determine.

Article II

Statement of Faith

Adapted from First Baptist Church of Sycamore

“Beliefs.” Come to First, 20 May 2021, www.cometofirst.com/beliefs/.

God – We believe that there is one God, Creator and Sustainer of all things, He alone is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. The One God is eternally divine, existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that these three are equal in every distinct perfection, and they execute distinct, but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

God the Father – We believe in God the Father: an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

God the Son – Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ, He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He is truly and fully human as well as truly and fully divine, co-equal with the Father and the Spirit in Godhead. We believe in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, and in His ascension to the right hand of the Father.

God the Holy Spirit – The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life and empowered to perform God’s ministry on earth.

The Word of God – We believe the sixty-six canonical books of the Old and New Testaments are the divinely inspired, inerrant Word of God, without error in the original manuscripts, and God’s complete, written revelation to humankind. We believe the Bible to be understandable and coherent in its primary purposes to disclose salvation, God’s will for godly faith and living, and its thorough-going testimony of Christ; when interpreted in light of its divine authorship through human agency, and according to principles of grammatico-historical interpretation.

Mankind – We believe God originally created persons, male and female, in the image of God and free from sin. We believe all people are sinners by nature and choice and are spiritually dead. We also believe that those who repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe God established marriage to be a lifelong covenant relationship between one man and one woman. Marriage so defined is the only permissible context for intimate sexual expression and is the foundation for the human family. We further believe that human life is precious and should be protected from the beginning, at fertilization, until death.

Salvation – We believe in salvation by grace through faith in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ alone, according to the authority of the Word of God alone, and to the glory of God alone. We further believe that this salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, was purchased by Jesus Christ on the cross, is eternally secured by the Holy Spirit, and is received by faith, apart from any human merit, works, or ritual. We further believe salvation results in ever-growing love for God, righteous living, good works, and proper social concern. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end.

Article III

Membership

Membership in DeKalb Area Christian Co-op is based on a signed agreement with the bylaws, payment of dues, and good standing with the organization. As a Christ centered organization we encourage every member to sign that they have read, understood, and are in agreement with our statement of faith. Participation in leadership, activity coordination, and other roles for non-signing members will be considered by the Board of Directors and administrators on a case by case basis.

This organization shall be considered a cooperative effort. Each family is expected to find a way to actively participate in the functions of the group, whether in leadership or assisting a leader. Membership dues are required per family and will be determined by the BOD.

Article IV

Meetings

The date of the regular annual meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors who will also set the time and place.

Regular meetings of the Board may be held at such place and time as shall be designated by the standing resolution of the Board.

Special meetings may be called by any board member as situations arise.

Notice of all meetings shall be provided to each voting member, by email at least 1 week prior to the meeting.

Members of the Board may participate in a meeting through use of conference telephone or similar communications equipment, so long as members participating in such meeting can hear one another. Members of the Board may vote by e-mail, text or other electronic means.

Article V

Board of Directors

The business of the organization shall be managed by a Board of Directors comprised of at least four Board members. DeKalb Area Christian Co-op (here-by referred to as DACC) is a voluntary organization governed by a BOD in cooperation with Janell Ray and Sarah Jacobson. The DeKalb Area Christian Co-op is not governed by members. The BOD will consist of the elders of First Baptist Church of Sycamore, and individuals approved by the elders of First Baptist Church of Sycamore, namely, Janell Ray and Sarah Jacobson. Director positions are filled by volunteers from the membership. Nominations will be approved by the existing Board of Directors.

The Board is responsible for maintaining the overall policy and direction of the organization. The Board shall delegate responsibility of day-to-day operations to the Executive Director and appropriate committees. Board members shall receive no compensation (other than reasonable expenses) for their service on the Board.

The Board shall meet at least 2 times per year at an agreed upon time and location. Board members shall not miss more than 1 meeting(s) per year.

All Board members shall serve for 1 year terms (staggered terms are optional) and can be eligible for re-election indefinitely

Any Director may be removed from office without assigning any cause by the vote of the Board at any meeting of the Board.

Any Director may resign at any time by giving notice to the organization.

In the event of a vacancy on the Board (including situations where the number of Board members has been deemed necessary to increase), the directors shall fill the vacancy.

The Board of Directors shall hire and fix the compensation of any and all employees which they in their discretion may determine to be necessary for the conduct of the business of the organization.

Article VI

Officers

The officers of the Board of Directors of the organization shall consist of a minimum of a Chairman/Chairmen. The Chairman/Chairmen may appoint additional positions such as a teacher liaison, parent liaison, or librarian.

The Board of Directors shall appoint officers for a term established by the Board.

Any officer may be removed from office without assigning any cause by the vote of the Board at any meeting of the Board.

Officers of the Board will not be compensated via salary or other benefits for their service as an officer of the Board.

The Chair shall convene regularly scheduled Board meetings and shall preside or arrange for other members of the Executive Committee to preside at each meeting in the following order: Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Vice Chair will chair committees on special subjects as designated by the board. In addition, the Vice Chair will facilitate meetings in the absence of the Board Chair.

Article VII

Committees

The Board may create committees as needed, such as fund raising, public relations, and program committees. The Board Chair shall appoint all committee chairs.

No committee shall have any power to: fill vacancies on the Board, adopt amend or repeal the by-laws, amend or repeal any resolution of the Board, or act on matters committed by the by-laws or resolution of the Board to another committee of the Board.

Article VIII

Indemnification

The organization shall indemnify any agent of the organization including Directors, Officers, Staff, and/or Volunteers who was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party to any proceeding, administrative or investigative, as such a person was or is an authorized representative of the organization. This indemnification against expenses, judgments, fines, and amount paid in settlements actually or reasonably incurred by such a representative of the organization is contingent upon the determination that such person acted in good faith and in a manner he/she believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the organization. With respect to any criminal proceeding, indemnified persons shall have had no cause to believe that their conduct was unlawful.

To satisfy indemnification obligations the organization may maintain insurance, obtain a letter of credit, act as a self-insurer, create a reserve trust, cash collateral, enter into indemnification agreements, or use any other arrangement whatsoever in such amounts, at such costs, and upon other terms and conditions that the Board shall deem appropriate.

This indemnification shall be made only if the organization shall be advised by its Board of Directors acting (1) by a quorum consisting of directors who are not parties to such action or proceeding upon a finding that, or (2) if a quorum under is not obtainable with due diligence, upon the opinion in writing of legal counsel that, the director or officer has met the foregoing applicable standard of conduct. If the foregoing determination is to be made by the Board of Directors, it may rely as to all questions of law, on the advice of independent legal counsel.

Article IX

Amendments

These By-laws may be amended when deemed necessary by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board of Directors. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Board Chair and sent along with regular board meeting notices.

Article X

Conflict of Interest

Whenever a director or officer has a financial or personal interest in any matter coming before the board of directors, the affected person shall a) fully disclose the nature of the interest and b) withdraw from discussion, lobbying, and voting on the matter. Any transaction or vote involving a potential conflict of interest shall be approved only when a majority of disinterested directors determine that it is in the best interest of the corporation to do so. The minutes of meetings at which such votes are taken shall record such disclosure, abstention and rationale for approval.