

Handbook 2025-2026

Dikaios Christian Educators Association seeks to Support, Encourage and Equip Families in their Call to Christian Home Education.

2898 N. "G" St. San Bernardino, CA 92405 Office Phone: (909) 881-8310 <u>Dikaiosoffice@gmail.com</u> <u>www.DikaiosChristianEducators.org</u>

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## **Introduction**

This handbook was written for our families to have a convenient reference source and information easily available. Dikaios Christian Educators Association is a support group that began in 1987. The name Dikaios is taken from the Greek word "Righteousness." Our key verse is 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable to doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." Dikaios calls us to conform to the standard, will, or character of God. Our prayer is that this organization will aid in teaching our children to do exactly that.

# Dikaios Leadership 2025-2026

Dikaios Board: Gabe Valencia, Bill Wise, Dan Sparrow, Dave Betts, Brian Hostetler, and Wes Stevens

Administrators: Lee & Christy Fulmer

Academy Director: Vanessa Stevens

Athletic Director: Dan Sparrow

Enrichment Coordinator: Andrea Perales

Field Trip Coordinator: Vanessa Stevens

Yearbook Coordinators: Deanne Sparrow and Bethany Dennistoun dikaiosoffice@gmail.com

dikaiospsp@gmail.com

dikaiossports@gmail.com

dikaiosenrichment@gmail.com

dikaiosfieldtrips@gmail.com

dikaiosyearbook@gmail.com

Mom's Events: Elizabeth Martinez

Park Day Coordinator: Cassie Van Setten

Service Projects Coordinator: Kristen Moses

# Section 1 - General Information

#### I. Mission and Purpose

Dikaios Christian Educators seek to Support, Encourage and Equip families in their call to Christian Home Education.

Dikaios offers support to our families through:

- Cooperation Providing opportunities to enrich at home learning with others through our *Enrichment Co-op* and monthly *Field Trips*.
- Socialization *Membership* cultivates a safe and encouraging atmosphere with like minded families.
- Facilitation Dikaios organizes many in-person opportunities within the group including *Graduation, Sports Practice/Events, Testing* and *Fundraisers.*
- Exhortation Encouraging families to stay the course and finish strong through *Dessert Night Fellowships, Mom's Night Out* and *Mentorship.*
- Informational and Instructional Families that join our Academy are kept aware of legal and minimum requirements according to California State Standards. Record keeping and cumulative files are maintained. Seminars, workshops and one on one educational guidance is available throughout the year.

## II. Statement of Faith

- 1. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error, written under inspiration of the Holy Spirit and holds supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- 2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- 3. We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His atoning death and resurrection.
- 4. We believe that man is sinful by nature and that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is necessary for his salvation.
- 5. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ
- 6. We believe in the creation of man by the direct act of God.

## **III. Code of Conduct for Parents**

This Code of Conduct is the expected behavior for Adults at all Dikaios functions. The Dikaios Board of Directors wish that the membership families comply with these policies. If you wish to address the Board on any of the following or if your family is unable to comply, the Board may cancel membership at any time throughout the school year.

- 1. We agree to train up our children in such a way that would reflect godly character in dress, conduct, and speech.
- 2. Children must be under adult supervision at all times (unless pre-arranged with the program coordinator.
- 3. If a child becomes a distraction or disrespectful we ask that you remove them from the group until they are able to rejoin with self-control.
- 4. All speech should be honoring to the Lord in both public and private conversations.

#### **IV. Code of Conduct for Students**

This Code of Conduct is the expected behavior for students at all Dikaios functions. The Dikaios Board of Directors wish that the membership families comply with these policies. If you wish to address the Board on any of the following or if your family is unable to comply, the Board may cancel membership at any time throughout the school year.

- 1. All speech should be honoring the Lord.
- 2. Keep hands and feet to oneself.
- 3. Respect and obey all supervising adults.
- 4. Be a good steward of all things.

#### V. Dress Code (Applicable to both parents and children)

Appropriate attire will vary from activity to activity, but keep in mind the basic principle of wanting others to see Christ in us rather than to take notice of what we wear. Our clothing should be free of tears, rips, stains, or questionable content. It must not be restricting or too tight and able to bend and stretch without becoming revealing or immodest.

All shorts and/or skirts/dresses must be longer than the end of your fingertips. All pants/shorts/skirts must be worn at the waist covering all undergarments. All tops must have a sleeve wider than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches and must cover your waistline even while arms are raised (No bare midriffs). Spaghetti straps, tank tops and low cut or strapless tops are not acceptable.

Girls may have pierced ears, but no other piercings are allowed. Boys should not have any piercings. Other piercings must be removed or covered.

Tattoos that display any kind of sexual, violent, derogatory wording or images should be covered at all times.

This dress code applies at all Dikaios related functions including picture day, co-op classes, field trips, sporting events, meetings, graduation, yearbook submissions etc. whether the event is formal or informal.

The Dikaios Board of Directors wish that the membership families comply with these policies. If you wish to address the Board on any of the following or if your family would like to file an exception please contact the administrators.

## VI. Requirements for membership

- 1. It is required that every family be dedicated to the training of their children both academically and in the Word of God.
- 2. Must agree and sign the following agreements; code of conduct, dress code and statement of faith.
- 3. Families must be actively partaking in a local Christian church or home fellowship, and attend on a regular basis.
- 4. Each member must pay the annual membership fee and attend the Back to School meeting held in August. Excusals to the meeting must be submitted to the board 1 week prior to the meeting, all absences without permission will incur a fee of \$50.
- 5. After submission of the Application, Pastoral and Character Reference an in person Interview will be scheduled at which time Dikaios has the right to accept or dismiss any applicants per the board's recommendations.
- 6. Returning families may be asked to re-interview each year.

## **IV. Enrollment and Tuition**

Dikaios Enrollment is open from June 1st - August 15th for new families interested in joining our membership and mid year enrollment from December 1st - January 15.

Annual membership is \$200 and must be paid prior to enrolling in other programs and are non-refundable. Mid-year enrollment (December 1st - January 15th is \$100). All previous balances must be paid prior to re-enrollment.

Families must submit an enrollment application for approval each school year and may be asked to re-interview.

Academy Tuition is an additional fee per student. New Students fee is a 1 time fee of \$25. Students k-8th grade is \$20 per month and High School is \$30 per month (a full school year operates in a 10 month payment plan - discounts available if paid in full). \*Family tuition not to exceed \$700 per year (excluding new student set-up fee).

Payments are due by the 1st of every month, after the 10th a \$10 fee will be applied to your balance.

We don't want finances to prohibit families from joining or participating, if you are in financial hardship please contact the office to apply for a scholarship.

## VII. Office Hours and Location

Our office and classes are held in the "Education Building" at Faith Bible Church, 2898 N. "G" Street, San Bernardino, CA 92405. Our office is open on Thursdays from 9:30 am - 4:00pm, and by appointment throughout the week.

# Section 2 - Programs

Dikaios Programs seeks to run high quality programs that would glorify God in all aspects. The following policies apply to all our programs on or off campus.

- *Punctuality* is a very important character trait, we ask that your family make it a priority to arrive at programs on time.
- Language should be wholesome, encouraging and loving. Any words or conversations that appear cutting, teasing or unloving, along with profanity will be called to the attention of the offender. If multiple offenses occur a suspension from programs may be applied.
- *Respect* for adults should be displayed in attitude and conversation. They should be addressed as Mr. or Mrs.
- Public Display of Affection is not allowed for students on campus or at off campus school events. Scriptural precepts warn us against the lust of the flesh, it is our objective to remove temptation and not give any footholds. For this reason there will be absolutely no hand-holding or other displays of affection.
- *Distractions* like ipods, mp3 devices, handheld video games, etc. should be left at home and not be used on campus unless specific approval is granted. Cell phones may be in a student's possession however must be silenced and stored out of sight during instructional times.
- I. <u>Athletic Program</u>

In the past we have been able to offer Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball and Track and Field. Sports programs are offered based on interest and participation. Dikaios participates in a Homeschool Sports League which allows us to compete with other homeschool groups in Southern California.

## II. Enrichment Co-op

Classes are held every other Thursday from 11 am to 3 pm on the Dikaios campus. The co-op is designed to be a cooperative, sharing gifts and talents to serve the homeschool students. These class times are designed to supplement each family's home-school program by offering extracurricular and scholastic classes.

These classes are three, fifty-five minute, parent led classes with similar age grouping. At least one parent from each family is required to be present and participate at co-op. All families are required to be on campus for assembly and devotions promptly at 11 am.

Each family's role at co-op is vital to the success of our program. Therefore, we ask that each parent take their responsibility seriously. Excessive absences cause a hardship on the other families, for this reason there will be a charge of \$10 for any family that is absent twice during the semester. A parent who is not present during one of the three scheduled periods (i.e. leaving class early) is considered absent. You must contact the coordinator in advance if you will be absent.

#### Schedule of Enrichment:

11 am ~ Assembly, Roll Call, Pledges and Devotions 11:20 - 12:15 ~ 1st Period 12:15 - 1 pm ~ Lunch 1 pm - 1:55 ~ 2nd Period 2pm - 2:55 ~ 3rd Period 3 pm ~ Chores

#### Pledges:

Pledge to the American Flag ~ I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands: one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Pledge to the Christian Flag ~ I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag, and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands; one Savior crucified, risen and coming again with life and liberty for all who believe.

Pledge to the Bible ~ I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I will hide its Word in my heart that I might not sin against God.

See Section 4 for rules and guidelines.

#### III. Field Trips

Various field trips are offered throughout the year. Some field trips are targeted for elementary and others for Jr./Sr. High, generally the whole family is able to attend. Trips are advertised in MCubed.

Email the field trip coordinator at <u>dikaiosfieldtrips@gmail.com</u> with any questions, to request a current schedule of field trips, and/or to sign up for a particular field trip. Registration for each upcoming field trip is made available on our website and MCubed.

The cost of field trips vary per location. Payments can be sent via Zelle to <u>dikaiosoffice@gmail.com</u> and are non-refundable. Please specify the name of the trip and how many are attending in the memo.

#### IV. Fundraising

We host a couple of Fundraisers each year. These events help to raise funds to continue various upgrades to our building and or programs.

We have partnered with AmazonSmile as Dikaios Christian. Everytime you shop, Amazon sends us a percentage for doing your regular shopping. All you need to do is add us to your amazon account under the Smile link.

Raise Right is our most popular fundraiser as it gives back to you and the school! Download the RaiseRight app and purchase "Gift Cards" to be used at hundreds of popular retailers. You have the option to purchase physical, egift cards or reloadable cards. By using the app you can make purchases in the store and a 50% credit will be applied to your balance and the other 50% goes to the school. Use our school code when setting up your account\_L9F9ELAD25968

#### V. Graduation and Promotion

All members may participate in our Graduation and Promotion ceremonies for students completing K-12th grade. A Dikaios Christian Academy diploma will be awarded only to the students enrolled in our Academy. There is an additional Senior Graduation fee per student, there is no cost to those participating in the Promotion ceremony (K-11th grade).

#### VI. Mentorship and Parent Nights

Dikaios offers encouragement to moms through our Secret Sisters and Mom's night out events.

Additionally our Titus 2 Fellowship is a mom's mentorship group that gathers monthly for a time of prayer and outpouring from veteran homeschool mamas.

Dessert Fellowships are an evening where we encourage both husband and wife to come join us for an inspirational speaker and sweet treats.

#### VII. School Pictures/ID Cards

A professional photographer is hired to take photos for our families and yearbook. Packages are available for purchase including student and teacher ID cards, even if you are not planning on making a purchase we encourage all families to participate for the yearbook.

#### VIII. Testing

The Preliminary Scholastic Achievement Test or PSAT is offered once a year in October on campus for students in the 11th and 12th grades. Pre-registration is required and payment must be received by September 15th.

#### IX. Yearbook

We are dedicated to doing our best work and producing a high quality full color yearbook. Picture submissions are encouraged (remember to submit

with the dress code in mind). Not all photos submitted will be used. All photos taken on Picture Day will automatically be added.

# Section 3 - Academy (PSP)

Dikaios Christian Academy allows your children to be enrolled in an established multi-student private school recognized by the State of California's Board of Education. Students in the Academy receive their education in the home but are recognized as students in a Private Christian School under current state law.

The state of California closely monitors the legal requirements for public and charter schools, and there is little doubt that they will do the same for private home school groups. The state is particularly focused on the record keeping process. Considering this, Dikaios Christian Academy strives to keep all our records and payments current each month in the event that our school should be audited by the state. Our desire is to honor the Lord as we are held accountable to Him and the State of California.

## **Requirements:**

- Parents are fully responsible for the education and instruction of their children in the home.
- DCEA Membership: Families must meet the annual membership requirements.
- **HSLDA:** Families must have a new or renewed membership in the Homeschool Legal Defense Association. As a member of Dikaios you are entitled to a \$15 discount using our group number **#290021**.
- Courses of Study: You must submit one Course of Study per semester, per student enrolled in the Academy. Parents can submit these through our online Dikaios portal. 1st & 2nd Semester are due September 15. Changes to the 2nd Semester can be made until January 15. If Courses of Study are not received on time, a \$10 late fee will be charged. Senior students are allowed only two Courses of Study changes.
- **Monthly Evaluations:** Monthly evaluations and school days are both due on the **15th of the month**. Parents can submit these through our online Dikaios portal. Academy families are responsible to submit these monthly evaluations on time. If these are not received by the 15th of the month, they will be considered late, and a \$10 late fee will be charged.
- Report Cards: You must submit one Report Card per semester, per student enrolled in the Academy. Parents can submit these through our online Dikaios portal. Additionally, you must submit one piece of sample course work per student, per semester and email it to the Academy Director at <u>dikaiospsp@gmail.com</u> (this sample can be from any subject on Report Card).
  1st Semester is due January 15 and 2nd Semester is due June 15. To comply with graduation deadlines, Senior dates are different for 2nd Semester. If

these are not received on time, a \$10 late fee will be charged.

- All families enrolled in the Academy must strive to keep the above records current. If records fall two months behind, your student may be considered truant and possibly dropped from Dikaios Christian Academy.
- The education of our children should be during the hours of 9:00am-3:00pm per the State of California (some exceptions apply). Kindergarten students should not have longer than 4 hours of instruction in a day, excluding recess. The school day of all aged students may not exceed 8 hours, nor may the school week be less than 4 days (*Cal Ed Code* 37701).

## Tuition and Fees:

- New Student Enrollment: \$25 per student (one time fee)
- K-8th Grade: \$20 per student, per month (August–May)
- 9th-12th Grade: \$30 per student, per month (August–May)
- Family tuition fees will not exceed \$700 per year (not including new student enrollment fee).

Pay tuition total in full by September 15th to receive a \$25 discount per student.

• Additional Transcripts or Diploma (after graduation) \$25.

Dikaios is available to support, encourage, and equip Academy families in their call to Christian Home Education. Please call/email the Academy Director for appointments, family difficulties, and/or educational guidance.

Academy Director:

Vanessa Stevens <u>dikaiospsp@gmail.com</u> <u>www.dikaioschristianeducators.org</u> (909) 881-8310 x102

## Grading Methods

For Elementary Students

- <u>Option 1</u>: P (Passing); O (Outstanding); S (Satisfactory); N (Needs Improvement); U (Unsatisfactory)
- Option 2: A F grading system (see below)

## For Junior High/High School Students

A+	98.0-100%	B+	88.0-89.9%	C+	78.0-79.9%	D+	68.0-69.9%
Α	92.5-97.9%	В	82.5-87.9%	С	72.5-77.9%	D	62.5-67.9%
A-	90-92.4%	B-	80-82.4%	C-	70-72.4%	D-	60-62.4%
Grades unde	er 60 will not receiv	ve cred	dits.				

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# Section 4 - Waivers and Release Forms

## **Parent Participation**

At least one parent from each family is required to be present and participate at Enrichment co-op. All families are required to be present and seated at 10:55 for the opening assembly which begins at 11:00 a.m.

The parent who signs up for participation in the co-op program will be given assignments each class period and agrees to be present at each co-op.

Helpers will be assigned by the coordinator, with consideration of the parent's preferences prior to the first class, if alterations or changes need to be made please let the coordinator know.

Every family will be assigned chores throughout the semester which are to be started at the end of 3rd period. Chore cards will be handed out which have the list of areas and tasks for that day.

All parents and children participating in co-op programs must agree to abide by the rules and code of conduct found in the members handbook. Consistent disregard for the rules will result in a family's expulsion from the program.

## Absence

Each family's role at co-op is vital to the success of our program. Therefore, we ask that each parent take his or her responsibility for being at co-op very seriously. Excessive absence on the part of any family causes hardship on the other co-op families. For this reason, there will be a charge of \$10 for any family that is absent twice during the semester.

You must contact the Co-op coordinator in advance if you will be absent so that your assigned duties at co-op may be covered.

There will be a fee of \$10 if you fail to call the coordinator.

Parents whose absence has been cleared by the coordinator may send their school aged children (ages 6-18) to co-op with an adult who will assume responsibility for their children.

## **Enrichment Co-op Teachers and Helpers**

Teachers are required to plan an eight week long outline/course of study for the classes they teach and submit their outline at least 1 week prior to class.

There must be one helper in the classroom at all times for safety and occasionally step in for an absent teacher. If your helper is absent please notify the coordinator as soon as you are made aware, to find a replacement.

Teachers delegate responsibilities to their assigned helpers.

Helpers implement general classroom rules, take class roll, and perform the tasks that the classroom teacher delegates to them.

If a teacher is going to be absent, they will leave a class outline and instructions with their helper as well as notify the Coordinator.

Parents new to our co-op program are required to help for a minimum of one co-op term before being considered eligible for a teaching position.

## Section 5 - Waivers and Release Forms

#### Release of Responsibility

I, acknowledge that myself and my family will release and forever discharge and hold harmless Dikaios Christian Educators Association and its staff/leadership from any and all liability, claims and demands of whatever kind or nature, either in law or in equity, which arise or may hereafter arise from your families attendance on campus and or participation in activities associated with Dikaios Christian Educators Association.

#### **Release of Infectious Diseases**

You further understand that your child's attendance and or participation may expose your family and others to infectious diseases including COVID-19. As such, you hereby expressly and specifically assume the risk of injury of harm, and also expressly release Dikaios Christian Educators Association and assume the risk of injury or illness and other issues resulting from or in any way related to your families attendance or participation.

#### Photography Release

I give permission for photography of our family while on campus or school related trips. I understand that these images may be used for promotional and website content as well as the yearbook.

## **Dikaios Christian Educators Membership Agreement**

## BY SIGNING BELOW, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN THE DIKAIOS CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS HANDBOOK AND ARE SIGNING AND ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY.

	Husband and	d Wife's Full I	Name
Agree on this date	/	_/	to the following:
□ Statement of Faith	ו		
Code of Conduct	for Parents	and Stu	dents
Dress Code			
Release of Liabilit	у		
□ Waiver/Release fo	or Infectious	s Disease	es
Photography Rele	ease		
and's Signature:			

Wife's Signature: