



## Home School Legal Defense Association

PRESIDENT	James R. Mason III, Esq. OR, DC
LEGAL DIRECTOR	Scott A. Woodruff, Esq. VA, MO
LITIGATION COUNSEL	Peter K. Kamakawiwoole, Esq. MO, VA
SENIOR COUNSEL	Darren A. Jones, Esq. CA, DC Thomas J. Schmidt, Esq. CA William A. Estrada, Esq. CA, DC
ATTORNEY	Amy R. Buchmeyer, Esq. WI Kevin M. Boden, Esq. WA
PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF COUNSEL	J. Michael Smith, Esq. VA Mary E. Schofield, Esq. CA Tom Sanders, Esq. TX

SENT VIA EMAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL TO: [KKISSLING@CCBOE.COM](mailto:kkiessler@ccboe.com) AND [OLRSUPPORT@CCBOE.COM](mailto:OLRSUPPORT@CCBOE.COM)

June 18, 2024

Director of Student Services  
Charles County Public Schools  
5980 Radio Station Road  
P.O. Box 2770  
La Plata, MD 20646

### ***Re: Charles County Letter to Homeschooling Parents***

Dear official:

By way of introduction, the Home School Legal Defense Association (“HSLDA”) was founded in 1983 to defend, advance, and promote homeschooling. As a public interest advocacy organization, HSLDA works to encourage local agencies and school districts to align their activities with the requirements of state homeschool laws, as well as federal anti-discrimination statutes, for the general benefit of homeschool families nationwide. We currently have almost 100,000 families who are members of our association across the nation. These families have chosen to stand with us in this work as we seek to advocate for homeschool freedom and related Constitutional rights.

When necessary, we engage local counsel to provide legal representation for individual member families. This letter does not constitute legal advice to you, your agency, or any person. We encourage you to direct any questions you may have to an attorney who represents you or your school district.

I am in receipt of a letter from Charles County Public Schools bearing your signature to families who are educating their children at home dated June 18, 2024. The letter makes unlawful demands as follows.

First, the letter violates the Code of Maryland Regulations. Md. Regs. Code tit. 13A, § 10.01.01.F says: “[a] local school system may not impose additional requirements for home instruction programs other than those in these regulations.”

Second, the letter demands that families “register.” Maryland law does not require homeschool families to register. Does Charles County Public Schools intend to enforce this demand against any homeschool family?



Third, the letter demands that homeschool families use an online process to file. Maryland law does not require homeschool families to file anything online. Does Charles County Public Schools intend to enforce this demand against any homeschool family?

Fourth, the letter demands that families submit information by July 31. Maryland law contains no such deadline. Does Charles County Public Schools intend to enforce this deadline against any homeschool family?

Fifth and finally, the online registration form which the letter demands that families use requires the submission of vast amounts of private information which is not required to be submitted under Maryland law. Does Charles County Public Schools intend to enforce this demand against any homeschool family?

Many Charles County homeschool families look to our association for guidance and assistance. I look forward to receiving your prompt reply so that we are in a position to provide accurate guidance to our members.

I may be reached via phone at (540) 338-5600, or via email at [will.estrada@hsllda.org](mailto:will.estrada@hsllda.org).

Sincerely,



William A. Estrada  
Senior Counsel

cc: Maryland Association of Christian Home Educators (MACHE)  
Maryland Association of Christian Home Educators (MACHE) Home  
Education Families in Charles County Public School District