

What would the two school designations mean?

A “traditional” home school would continue on as it has by providing a private or religious based education. The record keeping requirements and hours will continue as they have since 1986. No changes. A traditional home school would not participate in the public school activities or the MO Scholars program. This category is where most home educating parents probably fall.

The FLEX school students will be those students participating in the public school activities and/or the MO Scholars program. They will also be required to keep the mandated records and hours.

For all practical purposes the home school and the FLEX school students will continue to interact in coops, home education activities, etc. just as they do now. The difference will be a legislative difference.

Every year is unique in leadership, members, issues, priorities, etc. This makes each session full of uncertainties. Therefore, we can never be certain about what comes through the legislative process. These separate categories (Traditional Home School and FLEX) as outlined in several current bills might help to protect a traditional home school from encroachment by the law makers. There are no guarantees in this process but the distinctions now could help in the future.

So, if future legislatures seek to impose more restrictions on families participating in public school activities/classes or MO Scholars while agreeing to protect traditional home school families, their efforts could more easily be directed to the one (FLEX) while protecting traditional homeschool families from those same restrictions.

Since the two categories of homeschool families presents no harm, FHE does not oppose the concept.