

Valley Home Educators

September 2006 Newsletter

HOME-BASED INSTRUCTION STUDENTS DECLARATION OF INTENT TO HOMESCHOOL

Below is the wording of the law that requires homeschool parents to file a Letter of Intent to Homeschool each fall. This one page form is available from you local school district office. Please read the RCW below as it clearly states what you information you must provide. Your child's name and age and if a certificated person will be supervising the instruction. You are not required to answer any other questions or provide any other information. If you district's form asks for additional information you do not have to answer. If you have any questions there is lots of information on the Washington Homeschool Organization web site- www.washhomeschool.org. or feel free to call Emilie Fogle- 884-1237 or Sandy Briggs - 663-0364

RCW 28A.200.010

Home-based instruction -- Duties of parents.

Each parent whose child is receiving home-based instruction under RCW 28A.225.010(4) shall have the duty to:

- (1) File annually a signed **declaration of intent** that he or she is planning to cause his or her child to receive home-based instruction. The statement shall include the name and age of the child, shall specify whether a certificated person will be supervising the instruction, and shall be written in a format prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction. Each parent shall file the statement by September 15 of the school year or within two weeks of the beginning of any public school quarter, trimester, or semester with the superintendent of the public school district within which the parent resides or the district that accepts the transfer, and the student shall be deemed a transfer student of the nonresident district. Parents may apply for transfer under RCW 28A.225.220;

Educational Service District Sign-ups There is a once a year sign up period.

Valley Home Educators sign up as a group just like other schools. That means you cannot sign up in Nov. or March, **only this one time**. If you are interested, call or email me to sign-up and plan to have money to me by the **end of Sept**. It is still \$20 per student per year (it will be good through next summer). If you've looked into video rentals for educational material, you know even with a large family, this is still a bargain. It's important that interested families send in their money. New families cannot be signed up until the registration period is closed. Continuing families may still use the service. Our orientation and hands on meeting is set for **Monday, September 18th from 3 to 6 pm** in the 3rd floor classroom. The North Central Educational Service District location has changed. They are now at 430 Old Station Road. They are in a four story, white building which is located near the entrance to Confluence Park. Checks should be made out to NCESD and mailed to; Emilie Fogle 884-1237 or gardnfev@verizon.net 1413 Easthills Ter. East Wenatchee 98802 I need your; name, address, phone and number of children you are signing up. ESD stands for North Central Educational Service District. The Media Services Cooperative is a cooperative operated for the public and private schools in the North Central ESD service area. The Coop serves as a regional library of media materials that are available for use by cooperative members.

Media Services Online Catalog

Over 10,000 curriculum-based instructional titles are available for circulation. In an average year, approximately 10,000 DVDs, videos, CD-ROMs, laser videodiscs, software, kits and equipment are used for staff development and classroom instruction. Equipment includes: LCD projectors, camcorders, public address systems, slide projectors, and DVD players. Titles can be scheduled from home on a Saturday or Sunday for use in the classroom on Tuesday or Wednesday. Titles are checked-out an average of seventeen days.

New Digitized Titles

The media collection now includes streamed titles from Discover Education. 4,000 streaming titles are available to Coop members via UnitedStreaming. Coop members now have the ability to stream or download over 40,000 video content clips and 4,000 full video titles. This resource allows educators to capture the teachable moment in the classroom and incorporate clips into multimedia presentations.

Online Research Database. The cooperative pays for all its members to have access through ProQuest, eLibrary, CultureGrams, and Opposing Viewpoints (new this year). ProQuest Information and Learning provides access to information from periodicals, newspapers, multimedia and image collections, out-of-print books, dissertations, and scholarly collections in various formats. Its archive includes more than 5.5 billion pages of information, spanning 500 years of scholarship, in formats that range from print to microform to digital. Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center (OVRC) draws on the acclaimed social issues series published by Greenhaven Press, as well as core reference content from other Thomson Gale and Macmillan Reference USA sources, including selections from Bioethics for Students. The result is a dynamic online library of current event topics--the facts, as well as the arguments, of each topic's proponents and detractors. OVRC's unique features include Topic Overviews -- frameworks that allow students to explore each topic's many facets -- and exclusive electronic access to Thomson Gale's Information Plus reference series of statistics, government data, information on legislation and more.

Other services include: video duplicating, and laminating materials (in 12 or 24 inch widths). Catalog now includes Special Education; Assessment and Literacy, Safe and Civil Schools, and STEPS to a Healthier Washington titles. The media staff also provides inservice on searching/ booking instructional materials and equipment over the Web, introduction to on-line databases, and using multimedia in the classroom. Materials can be requested via the Web, phone – 665-2658, FAX - 662-9027, or by sending a booking request via regular mail. The Media Services Cooperative looks forward to meeting your multimedia needs. Check out their website at: <http://www.ncesd.org/media/default.htm>

HomeFront Inaugural meeting

HomeFront is a new group for all families who embrace the spirit of home schooling. Whether you are educating under the home-based education law, alternative education, virtual, on-line, after-schooling, or just thinking about homeschooling, this group is for you.

Please join us for our very first meeting:

Thursday, September 14 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wenatchee Community Center
Learning Center in the Basement
504 South Chelan Avenue, Wenatchee

Theme: Record Keeping and Organization

We're bringing Donna Young forms, FORM+U+LA by Barb Shelton, screen shots of Homeschool Tracker Plus and lots of other neat stuff. Please bring your own samples if you wish to share what helps you get organized or keep records.

Email us in advance and we'll put your web page suggestions on a handout of web addresses for sites that fit this month's theme.

Information is available online at: <http://www.ncwhn.net/homefront.htm>

If you have questions, please email us at: homefront@ncwhn.net

See you there! Jill Sheets, Laura Thompson, and Michele Townliand

Wenatchee Scholastic Chess Club

Every Sunday 6-8PM

Grace Lutheran Church (1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee)

The Wenatchee Scholastic Chess Club is beginning its summer program schedule starting July 16th. Anyone with an interest in playing, regardless of their skill level, is welcome to attend. The focus is on enjoying the game, improving gameplay and sportsmanship, and optionally preparing for the tournament season.

There have been dozens of controlled studies on the benefits of chess in developing mental acuity, particularly in children. Chess has the benefit of being a game that anyone can play, but that increases with complexity the more one understands its nuances. A single chess game provides the players with dozens of mental puzzles to solve, in an environment where good decisions will be rewarded with a gain of material, and less optimal decisions will be punished by having your opponent take your pieces. Children who play chess learn to concentrate on solving complex problems and to accept the consequences of the decisions they make. These skills ultimately have been shown to translate into better overall learning in traditional studies like Reading and Mathematics. The best part is they get all these benefits by simply playing a game they enjoy.

When the regular school year starts, the scholastic chess tournament season also begins. Parents and kids who are interested can enter these tournaments and test what they have learned by playing other kids from throughout the region. Most of these tournaments are broken into multiple skill-based divisions with multiple trophies for each division. Everyone who enters has a reasonable chance of being awarded some kind of trophy.

Typically a scholastic club is affiliated with a specific school with membership restricted to just its students, but this one is not. It was started by the Grace Lutheran Church several years ago, but is open to anyone. For home-schoolers this has the benefit of not only being able to introduce all the proven benefits of chess to their children, but without the issues of dealing with a school you don't attend.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email donlester@gmail.com.

BIOLOGY LAB FOR HOME SCHOOLERS!

- * 1 year of High school level Biology laboratories (I've taken students as young as 8th graders).
- * Lab work begins late September, 2006; ends early June, 2007.* We will meet on Tuesday mornings for 1 ½ hours from 9:15-10:45 AM.
- * 4-week break for Christmas & New Year in December.
- * 2-week Spring break in late March.
- * Cost: \$40/month per student (8 total payments during the year) plus a \$30 one-time lab fee.
- * We use *A Beka* Biology text and lab books (parents purchase) plus supplemental materials I provide
- * Minimum class size is 8, maximum is 14
- *
- * For further details, please contact Rob Fitch
- * Home phone: 662-5589; Home email: rfitchk@aol.com
- * Work phone: 682-6755; Work email: rfitch@wvc.edu

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY LAB FOR HOME SCHOOLERS!

- * One year of High School level Human Anatomy & Physiology laboratories.
- * 1 year high school level Biology recommended as prerequisite.
- * Course begins late September, 2006; ends early June, 2007.* We will meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:15-10:45 AM.
- * 4-week break for Christmas & New Year in December.
- * 2-week Spring break in late March.
- * cost: \$40/month per student (8 total payments during the year) plus a \$30 one-time lab fee
- * We use Anatomy & Physiology Coloring books (parents purchase) plus supplemental materials I provide.
- * Minimum class size is 8, maximum is 14

For further details, please contact Rob Fitch
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Columbia Christian Homeschool Co-op

The new CCHC fall registration info is up at the website. Check out the class offerings and registration information at the following web site. <http://www.ncwhn.net/CCHC.htm>

WANTED

I am homeschooling a seven year old little girl who would like to meet some other homeschooled girls approximately the same age to have play dates with. Please call Sherry Gregor at 630-6755 if interested. Waterville and Wenatchee areas are both good for us.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

We are working on a morning class for drivers ed with Hansen's. It will start in early September; the student must be 15 years old; the cost is \$305; and it will be held in the mornings. Hansen's will let us set our own schedule. If anyone is interested they can e-mail me at;

Sandhopfamily2@juno.com

Thanks, Beverly Sandhop

FOR SALE***WANTED*****FOR FREE**

For Sale:Elementary Algebra Harold Jacobs Student book plus Teacher's Guide \$45.00 set

Easy Grammar Plus \$12.00

Exploring Creation with General Science \$30.00 Student Text & Solutions/Tests

Exploring Creation with Physical Science CD \$30.00 (Student book and tests/solutions on CD Rom)

Family Learning by William Russell \$5.00

Family Math \$5.00

Please email Misty @ mdefin@nwi.net or call 888-2353

Email subscriptions to Valley Home Educators are free. To subscribe please send an email to Sandy Briggs at esbriggs@aol.com with VHE Subscribe in the subject line. To unsubscribe send an email to Sandy with VHE Unsubscribe in the subject line. Information and events of interest to homeschool families are welcome. Deadline for the October Newsletter is September 25, 2006