

2019 MÂCHÉ Convention

Title: Homeschooling: Starting Off Right!

Speaker: Kris M. Cox

Session: TS-1 Day: Thursday Time: 9:30 a.m.



Advantages of Homeschooling

You've Decided to Homeschool ~ Now What?

Homeschooling is....

- About building _____
- Preparing our children for _____
- Training our children _____
- Training in _____
- It's more than just an _____!

Homeschool laws

- Notify your school district that you're homeschooling by Oct. 1st each year
 - www.mache.org – reporting form available
 - For children ages 7 -17
- Ensure instructor is qualified
- Teach required subjects
- Assess with annual achievement test - don't turn in test scores to district (more info below)
 - Stanford
 - Iowa Basics
 - California
 - Peabody
 - Woodcock-Johnson
- Keep good records
 - Curriculum used
 - Daily log of school work

- Samples of work in each subject
- Testing results
- Report cards (optional)
- Immunization records
- Awards received/Accomplishments
- See MACHE handbook section 1 for more information
- High school documentation should be kept all four years of high school and transcripts are kept indefinitely.
- Record-keeping tips

Subjects to teach (MN)

Teach your children together as much as possible

Language arts and Math tend to be individualized

- **Basic Communication Skills:** reading, writing, literature, fine arts (language arts and creative arts such as art, music, theatre, etc.)
- **Math**
- **Social Studies:** history, geography, government, citizenship & economics
 - Citizenship free elementary course:
www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/citizen/citizen.pdf
- **Science**
- **Health & Physical Education**

Other Important Courses to Consider

Prepare Your Home

Homeschooling is training up children who love & serve the Lord & are lifelong learners!

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Providing Encouragement and Support to Homeschooling Families

Popular Achievement Tests

Stanford Achievement Test- 10th Edition (also known as Stanford 10)

- Available in paper format for K-12 and online for 3-12th grade
- Untimed with flexible guidelines, fill in the bubble format
- Qualifications to become a test administrator
 - Bachelor of Arts or Science degree OR teacher certification by state & complete training
 - Be approved by testing organization by completing tester certification form
- Online testing option - the company is the tester and parent doesn't need a degree to supervise

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) or Iowa Assessments

The Iowa Assessments were released in 2012 as a replacement for the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills. The Iowa Assessments sync with Common Core State Standards. The ITBS are not aligned with Common Core and only go through the 8th grade (level 14). **Iowa Tests of Educational Development (ITED®) are available for Grades 9-12.** Add the CogAT-form 6 aptitude test to assess general and specific cognitive abilities. Interest Explorer for career guidance counseling is also available for grades 9-12.

- Available in two paper formats for K-12
 - Form C - ITBS/ITED older version
 - Form E - ELL friendly, Iowa Assessment version
- Timed, but takes less time to administer than Stanford 10, fill in the bubble format
- Permits greater flexibility for students taking tests out of grade level
- Qualifications to become a test administrator
 - Bachelor of Arts or Science degree OR teacher certification by state
 - Be approved by testing organization by completing tester certification form
- Testing multiple grade levels together works well

Grades 3-8 can test together and grades 9-12 can test together

California Achievement Test

- Available in two paper formats and two online versions
 - TerraNova, *Second Edition*® CAT 6 for K-12 (the updated CAT 5)
 - CAT E Survey for grades 4-12 (shorter version)
 - Online California Achievement Test (timed and untimed versions - for grades 2-12)
- Timed, fill in the bubble format, shorter than both the above tests (there is an untimed online version)
- Qualifications to become a test administrator
 - No BA/BS degree required
 - TerraNova CAT test only - requires completed test agreement form
 - Online, no requirements to supervise

Peabody Achievement Test

- Oral test administered by a trained examiner and test is conversational in tone and non-intimidating
- Takes 60-90 minutes to administer, scores available immediately
- Tester will give test in your home, a public place, or using internet video calling
- Non-bracketed, gives flexibility for testing out of grade level (gives true Grade Equivalency scores)

Woodcock-Johnson Test- Fourth Edition

- Oral test administered by a trained examiner and test is conversational in tone and non-intimidating
- Measures academic achievement, oral language, and cognitive abilities
- Takes 60-90 minutes to administer but is not timed (extended version takes up to 2-1/2 hours)

State Law Regarding Annual Assessment of Performance

Subd. 11. Assessment of performance. (a) Each year the performance of every child ages seven through 16 and every child ages 16 through 17 for which an initial report was filed pursuant to section [120A.24, subdivision 1](#), after the child is 16 and who is not enrolled in a public school must be assessed using a nationally norm-referenced standardized achievement examination. The superintendent of the district in which the child receives instruction and the person in charge of the child's instruction must agree about the specific examination to be used and the administration and location of the examination.

Additional Notes:

- It is a requirement to have your child take an annual achievement test each year.
- You are NOT required to turn in the results to the school district.
- Keep the results of your child's test scores in your records.
- Should your child score at or below the 30th percentile on the total battery score, you are required to obtain additional evaluation to determine if the child has learning problems.
- If you are registered with an organization that is a recognized Minnesota accrediting association, you are not required to test your children.

Testing Options for 8th grade and up

- There are additional options once your child reaches 8th grade.
- Many school districts will allow students in grades 8/9 to take the ASPIRE and Pre-ACT (from ACT) for their annual achievement test.
- The ACT can be taken by 10th graders for practice but is generally given to Juniors and Seniors.
- Many school districts in MN are now accepting the ACT tests as an acceptable norm-referenced achievement test to fulfill state testing requirements.

Where to Find These Tests

Not an exhaustive list, more info in MACHE Handbook, Section 1

- Stanford 10 Online - Seton Testing, Abeka Testing, Homeschool Testing Services, Brewer Testing, Pearson Assessments
- Stanford 10 Paper version - Same as above, Bob Jones University Press
- Iowa Test of Basic Skills - Bob Jones University Press, Abeka Testing, Seton Testing Services
- TerraNova CAT 6 Test - Seton Testing Services, Christian Liberty
- CAT E Survey Test- Seton Testing Services
- Online CAT Test - Academic Excellence Testing Services, Christian Liberty Press
- Pre-ACT, ASPIRE - check with school district or local Christian school for test options near you
- ACT - Sign up to take this test at act.org

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