

MHE GENERAL INFORMATION

Who We Are: Mission Statement

Metro Home Educators (MHE) is an Inter-Denominational Christian homeschooling organized to provide educational opportunities for homeschooling students and a supportive network for home educators residing in Black Hawk and neighboring counties. All are welcome regardless of denomination or educational philosophy. Those who wish to attend our group that are not Christian or do not have a religious affiliation are welcome to attend providing they understand MHE is an organization whose foundation rests on a Bible-believing Christian perspective and promotes Christian values and principles all to the glory and honor of the Lord Jesus Christ.

What We Believe: Statement of Faith

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired and infallible Word of God.
2. We believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that “*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life*” (John 3:16). We believe salvation is a free gift to all who believe in and trust Jesus Christ to redeem them through His death and resurrection.
4. We believe that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and His Word need not be amended or re-evaluated for this or any other generation. We believe we should conform ourselves to God’s Word, not conform God’s Word to changing times or situations.

How to Become a Member of Metro Home Educators

To become a member complete the MHE Application Form 2008-09 and mail with the \$15.00 fee (or \$10.00 fee if you attended the Spring Planning Meeting) by August 4, 2008, or register in person at Bethany Bible Chapel on August 4, 2008 between 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Membership to MHE is received throughout the year. **In order to participate in any of the MHE-organized events, you must be a member.**

How to Become a Participating Family in Friday Co-op

To become a participating family in Friday Co-op complete the Co-op Application Form 2008-09 and mail with payment of fees to Tracy Noyes by August 4, 2008 or register in person at Bethany Bible Chapel on August 4, 2008 between 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Some classes and activities may have size limitations restricting enrollment. Early application is advised. The registration deadline for the fall semester of Co-op is September 2, 2008. The registration for the Co-op spring deadline is January 5, 2009. No applications will be received after these dates.

How To Give: Friday Co-op Scholarship Fund

This is our 8th year to provide all MHE members the opportunity to contribute to a scholarship fund. We enjoy the opportunity to provide scholarships to Friday Co-op participants who have special financial concerns. Priority will be given to families who participated in 2007-08. If there are sufficient funds, we will also be able to offer scholarships to families new to the Friday Co-op program. Scholarships apply only to Co-op fees; not MHE membership. Please note that without these funds, some families would not be able to participate in Co-op. A space is available on the application form for those who wish to contribute to the fund. Thank you!

How to Register for C.O.R.E.

This is our third year to offer Christian Offerings Reinforcing Education (C.O.R.E.) For more information about these educational opportunities, please refer to C.O.R.E.'s information on the website.

How We Communicate

Good communication is essential for a successful MHE year. A number of communication systems have been established.

1. MHE Website: www.weteachathome.com has up-to-date information relating to MHE events.
2. MHE Membership Directory is provided for ease in contacting other homeschooling families. (Please see Directory entry for the use and restrictions of the MHE Directory.)
3. Co-op "Mailbox" – For Friday Co-op participants, each family will be provided with hanging file "mailbox" found on the welcome table each Friday. Parents should check their mailbox upon arriving for any communications. Parents should check the mailbox again before leaving for items distributed through the course of the afternoon. Parents are responsible for getting this "mail" each week or arranging to have it picked up by another Co-op Family.
5. Email Correspondence is used to contact members with pertinent homeschooling information. (Please see Email Correspondence entry for the use and restrictions.)

How To Become a Board Member: Apprenticeship

MHE is a cooperative effort among member families. One element of service to the organization is board membership. The board is a group consisting of 3-5 regular members and a chairperson or co-chairpersons. Each member has oversight of one or more areas under the MHE umbrella including, but not limited to: Registrar, Treasurer, Secretary, Facility Coordinator and CORE Coordinator.

In an effort to provide continuity in leadership, the board seeks to fill openings in the following manner: First board members pray separately about the open positions and the general membership of our organization, focusing on individuals who have been active general members for 12 months or more. Next, each board member brings the names of individuals, highlighted by God's Holy Spirit, to have the gifts, grace and wisdom vital to ministry on the board. The board prays together over these names, asking that God would guide us to those individuals whom He has set aside to serve. An invitation is issued to those individuals to attend an informal meeting where board openings are described and the individuals are asked to prayerfully consider serving as an apprentice on the board.

An apprenticeship is a time of training in general board business and a specific position and/or areas of service on the board. It enables the apprentice and the board to determine if full board membership is in the best interest of the organization and the individual. Apprenticeships last approximately six months.

Board business sometimes requires a formal vote. Full membership is required for formal board votes. All board meetings and especially formal votes, are preceded by prayer. The standard for all board business is to conduct it with an attitude of Christian service to others and glory to God. The board has regular monthly meetings to accomplish necessary board business with occasional extra meetings as required. Besides board meetings, board members attend and provide leadership at the orientation meeting, fall and spring programs, and the spring planning meeting.

Who is the Executive Board?

Co-op Coordinator	Joy Lieman	266-6224	jllierman@cfu.net
C.O.R.E. Coordinator	Jennifer Wynstra	277-6014	jenwynstra@cfu.net
Registrar/Treasurer	Tracy Noyes	235-4345	tlnoyes@gmail.com
Secretary	Adria Tyler	296-1500	adriat Tyler@msn.com

The board members would like to be available to meet the individual needs of the coordinators and helpers throughout the 2008-2009 year. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please contact any of the board members. If there is an issue to be presented to the board, please contact Joy Lierman to be added to the agenda for the next Board Meeting. The MHE Board meets monthly.

Please note: Issues presented to the Board will be addressed at the next scheduled Board meeting. The Board will do their best to discuss and make decisions regarding any pending issues. However, there are some situations that require research and prayerful consideration. The MHE Board will make every effort to respond and make decisions in a timely fashion.