

## **General Co-op Information**

Mission: We are an inclusive, not-for-profit, secular cooperative of homeschooling families with the common endeavor to enrich the education of our children. Our purpose, by combining our abilities as educators, is to provide classes and activities beyond the home that will engage students in a collaborative learning experience.

Programs: We offer semester-long enrichment courses, selected by the students and parents, to students arranged into various age groups. We also coordinate educational group activities, such as field trips, talent exhibitions, and community service projects. The cooperative further serves as the foundation for supplementary support services which are directly related to membership involvement.

Classes: Our class days are Tuesdays from 9:45 am-12:00 pm. This schedule includes 2 one-hour classes, followed by lunch at the park for those who can come.

Children are divided into classes based on age and/or ability and attend classes with their peer group. Placement is at the discretion of the child's parents and the Education Director. Currently, we have eleven class divisions. Some semesters these classes are combined based on membership. The general breakdown can be found in our Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, and Other Stuff guidelines. This is only a general guideline. Our classes are not designated by grade level. This allows parents to place their children where they best fit based on their abilities without concern for any kind of embarrassment.

Each semester, 2 classes are offered for each age group. All parents are expected to teach one class (of their choice) each semester. You select which age groups you would most like to teach and are placed in a teaching position according to the needs of the co-op and your preferences. You then submit 2 or more ideas, and the students vote on which of those classes they would like to take. You can choose what you would be comfortable teaching, but the kids still have some ownership in their classes by choosing what is taught. (Note: Only school-aged children vote on their classes—the pre-school and nursery classes are selected by the teacher.) Occasionally, instead of teaching, a parent may be asked to take on another responsibility such as photographer, hall monitor, or yearbook advisor.

We have an 11-week semester in the fall and 11 weeks in the spring. Ten weeks are Enrichment Days, where we meet at the church for classes. One week each semester is an Assembly Day, which is a group activity day (such as a field day or holiday party) outside of the classroom. Classes vary from semester to semester depending on the interests of the students and the abilities of the teachers. The Field trip and Assembly Day Coordinator may schedule field trips or activities that are optional on the Tuesdays that we don't meet at our facility throughout the semester.

Fees: Our tuition fee is \$130 per FAMILY, per semester. There is also a one-time \$25 registration fee which covers your background check, for a total of \$155 for your first semester. Please see complete Policies and Procedures for more details on co-op organization and parent responsibilities.