

## **Meet your Board 2007-2008**

### **Director: Adrie Johnson**

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Adrie has been married to her husband, Earl for 28 years. They have five children Brian 26 (married), Nathan 22, Emily 20 (married), Spencer 16 and Grant 5. Adrie has been homeschooling since 1988. Three of their five children have been home school graduates and all are in the work force and working in the family business. The Crusader Group has always been a key element in the life of our home school families. It has served as an important support system; it has offered great activities, field trips, special events, as well as a wonderful social outlet for students and parents. Some of our children have developed childhood friendships that have carried into their adult lives through our involvement with the Crusaders over the years. Adrie has served on the Board in past and will continue to bring her commitment and support to the Crusaders Group in the years ahead.

### **Assistant Director: Melissa Woelffer**

Melissa and Keith have been homeschooling for 12 years, and have three children (Matthew, Maggie, and Gracie). This family has been an active member of Crusaders for the majority of their homeschooling years. Melissa and family are actively involved in Church, Prison Ministry, and Outreach Programs. In addition, the family owns and operates American Yard Masters. Time is precious to the Woelffer family because of their intense schedule. However, they have always found their time with Crusaders to be well spent, encouraging, and rewarding. Each year they look forward to the activities that Crusaders offers to its members. Melissa will be prayerfully committed to assisting the Crusader Board and their members.

### **Secretary: Brenda Zimmerman**

Brenda and her husband Colin have been married for 26 years. They have four children: Chad 22, Tyler 20, Cameron 18, and Travis 15. They have been homeschooling for over 14 years. This is Brenda's eighth year serving on the Crusaders board. Brenda says, "Our family joins The Crusaders each year because of the ability to be with others who have like interests. We enjoy the activities that The Crusaders have planned each year and even with our hectic schedule try to join in on as many as possible."

### **Treasurer: Karen Harris**

Karen is married to her husband, Derek and they have four children: Corey 16, Kaitlyn 14, Kayla 13, and Abby 11. This is their ninth year homeschooling and Karen's sixth year serving on our board. Derek owns his own business and Karen works as office manager for Carmel Chiropractic Center.

## **Assignment Description List**

- ( ) Denotes board member contact for task.
- See Task List for contact information.

### ***Communication***

**Message Coordinator** - Responsible for sending out messages. Only the Director can initiate a message. Meets with the Board at the yearly planning session. **(Director)**

**Political Action Alerts** – starts chain to others and make sure it goes through when applicable. **(Director)**

**Newsletter Editor** - Must have a computer and a fax is helpful. Typesets, formats, subscriptions updated annually, tracks calendar of events monthly, compiles all announcements pertaining to our group or homeschooling issues monthly, produces nine issues per year. **(Director)**

### ***Education***

**Field Trip Coordinator** - Oversees the people who have volunteered to plan a field trip. Coordinates and assists in 5 to 6 annual field trips. Responsible for giving all information about the field trips to the newsletter editor. Meets with the Board at the beginning of the school year. **(Director)**

**Field Trip Hostess** - Plan one field trip from start to finish. Make contacts & arrangements with location, cost, times. Etc. Must be willing to compile all information and submit to the Field Trip Coordinator. **(Director)**

**Plan & Promote A Class or Workshop** - Plan from start to finish a well-organized activity that would benefit our students. Must be approved by the Board. **(Assistant - Director)**

### ***Monthly Meeting & Activities***

**Indoor Park Day Hostess** – Plan one monthly indoor activity day for the months of January, & February. **(Assistant Director)**

**Teen Events Coordinator** - Organizes monthly activities for teens. **(Secretary)**

**Teen Events Assistant** – Assists Teen events coordinator in planning monthly activities for teens. **(Secretary)**

**Ladies Night Out Coordinator** - Oversees the assistants that have volunteered for each month. Organizes all dates, locations & activity information to be put in the newsletter. There are 4 LNO's each year. **(Secretary)**

## ***Special Events***

**Valentine Party Committee** - Responsible for organizing a well-planned party. Must be willing to pick locations, menus, activities and the format for the party. Must be able to delegate the workload among each other. Must have all information accumulated to meet the newsletter deadline and submit to editor. **(Treasurer)**

**Easter Party Committee** – Responsible for organizing a well-planned party. Must be willing to pick locations, menus, activities and the format for the party. Must be able to delegate the workload among each other. Must have all information accumulated to meet the newsletter deadline and submit to editor. **(Treasurer)**

**Annual Christmas Dinner Committee** - Coordinates, plans and oversees our Christmas party. Must be able to delegate workload. Everyone on the committee must be willing to meet for one planning session. All details such as location, dress, and time must be submitted to the newsletter editor one month prior to the event. **(Director)**

**Promotion Night Committee** - Organize the end of the year graduation (always held in late May or early June). Must hand out and compile forms, make certificates, order trophies, reserve a location, create a program. Format the evening schedule. Everyone must be willing to meet at one planning session two and a half (2 ½ ) months prior to the event. All information needs to meet the newsletter deadline two months prior to the event. **(Secretary)**

## ***Service and Ministry***

**Plan & promote a volunteer service** - If you have a good children's ministry opportunity and are willing to organize it. Must be approved by a Board member. **(Director)**

**Organize supporting a missionary family** - If you know a family our group could support and are willing to make all the arrangements, present it to a Board member. **(Director)**

**Valentine Outreach Ministry Project** - This is a once a year project where we reach out in the community and give of our groups time & talents. Must be willing to organize well in advance and make sure the necessary information meets the newsletter deadline. **(Director)**

**Christmas Project Committee** - This is a once a year project where we reach out to a particular ministry or meet a need in our community as a group. Must be willing to organize well in advance and make sure all necessary information meets the newsletter deadline. **(Director)**

***All Service & Ministry must be Board Approved***

# **Crusaders Resource & Information Packet**

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# I. Getting Started

## 11 Steps to Getting Started in Homeschooling

### 1. Lay the Foundation

Your decision to homeschool will lay the foundation for your entire homeschooling experience. Why are you making this decision? There are probably many factors: desire for a better education, a greater influence on character/discipline, or dissatisfaction with the public system.

Home education is a work in progress, with great final rewards. Getting started may seem intimidating, like taking a dive into cold water. After the initial shock, though, you'll begin to warm up. You'll realize that finding what is right for your family will involve making some changes, doing some rescheduling, and incorporating some new methods. Changes can be opportunities and steppingstones to learning.

### 2. Develop Respect

Demonstrate leadership. Be in kindly control of your household and its operations. As role models for your children, give them cause to respect you as parents, and then, as teachers. Children feel more secure and less frustrated when they know who is in control and who to respect.

### 3. Establish Rules

The golden rule shall prevail and should be the basis of all rules. Rules should be few, simple, and reasonable. They should include rules for obedience, courtesy, and safety. Children need to know what is expected, and the consequences of broken rules.

### 4. Educate Yourself

Read information books about homeschool teaching. How to Home School by Gail Graham is an example of a good information source. As you read from several sources, select the ideas that appeal to you. Then develop your own philosophical foundation that will work for your family, one that will help reach your major goals. Know your pupils, your children. Be aware of their learning styles, their interests, their weaknesses and strengths. Then seek the methods of teaching, which will develop their strengths, while strengthening their weaknesses.

### 5. Develop Goals

Select goals that will help your student develop a love of learning and inspire creativity. We suggest that you emphasize and develop goals in four major areas: character building, academics, service, and work. **True homeschool is not patterned after traditional public education.** It includes learning practical skills and developing the spiritual, mental, and physical aspects of education.

### 6. Develop Order

Plan that homeschooling will take time for interaction between you and your student. Rushing is destructive. Prioritize and eliminate activities that steal time. There is a time in life for many things, but your children will never be this age again. Simplify your lifestyle by establishing what is important to your goals. Then organize a routine and schedule, which meet your family's needs. Order, which is effective, requires all family members follow it.

## **7. Select Curriculum**

Curriculum is not only books; it is all the things used to teach concepts. You will want to select curriculum that is “user friendly”, while it meets your goals and is appropriate for your child’s ability/grade level. This sometimes can seem like an overwhelming task. Try and establish a relationship with someone you trust that will help guide you in the right direction. If you seek many options from fellow homeschoolers you will only set yourself up for confusion and frustration. Most homeschoolers mean well when they offer assistance, but ultimately you will need to make the decisions in the best interest of **your** children.

## **8. Create a Learning Center**

Begin to gather resources and prepare space for your homeschool. Some suggested items are a table/desk, bookcase, storage space for supplies, map/globe, a dictionary, thesaurus, nature books, Bibles, good reading material on your child’s level, encyclopedias (used ones are reasonably priced), paper, pencils, and art materials.

## **9. Join a Support Group**

Visit homeschool support group meetings in your area. Look for one in which your children can participate in group activities and socialization. It should be well organized, with a schedule of field trips for the year. You should look for one that is the right size or comfort zone for you and your children. It should include new as well as experienced homeschooling parents. When you hear questions from friends and relatives about how you plan to socialize your children (and you will no doubt!), explain that this support group networking is one of the ways you will fill this need.

## **10. Build Enthusiasm**

Be enthusiastic! Children learn attitudes from parents. If you are happy, interested, and excited about what you are teaching, they will, in time, be happy about learning too. Remember that you are learning right along with them. You are learning about yourself and your children.

## **11. Be Committed**

Be firm in your commitment to homeschool for one year at a time. Re-assess your commitment each year and set new goals. Pray with and for your children each day. Pray for wisdom and perseverance in your new role.

## **Developing Your Own Philosophy of Homeschooling**

All Grown Up and No Place to Go - David Elkind (educational awareness)

The Hurried Child - David Elkind (educational awareness)

School Proof - Mary Pride (general information)

Better Late Than Early - Dr. Raymond Moore (developing a philosophy)

The Successful Homeschool Family Handbook - Dr. Raymond Moore (general information)

The Three R's Series - Dr. Ruth Beechick (K-3 developing a philosophy)

The Christian Home School - Gregg Harris (educational awareness)

Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning - Douglas Wilson (educational awareness)

Dumbing Us Down - John Taylor Gatto (educational awareness)

The Way They Learn - Cynthia Tobias (developing a philosophy)

What Your Child Needs To Know When - Robin Scarlata (educational awareness)

For the Children's Sake - Susan Schaeffer McCauley (general information)

Teaching Children - Diane Lopez(developing a philosophy)  
Beyond Survival ~ Abundant Homeschooling - Diana Waring  
Educating the Wholehearted Child by Clay and Sally Clarkson  
Homeschooling for Excellence by David & Micki Colfax

Learn Better by Teaching Myself by Agnes Leistilo  
The Simplicity of Homeschooling by Vicki Goodchild  
The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling by Debra Bell  
The Chalkboard in the Kitchen (Teaching Preschoolers)  
Home Grown Kids & Home School Burnout & Home-Spun Schools by Raymond & Dorothy Moore  
How to Create Your Own Study Unit by Valerie Bendt  
The Passionate Mind by Michael Schulman (Bringing up an intelligent & creative child)

1. Anyone Can Homeschool
2. Marching to the Beat of Their Own Drum
3. What Research Says About Home Schooling
4. Home Education: Is It Working?
5. What Makes You Think You Can Teach Your Own?

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## **HOMESCHOOL STYLES**

**UNIT STUDY APPROACH** - One of the most popular teaching methods in home education today is that of the unit study approach, also known as "thematic learning," or "topical studies." A unit study is taking a topic or theme and thoroughly exploring and studying it over a period of time. All subjects (math, art, history , etc.) can be integrated into a unit. The advantages to the parents are that multi-ages can be taught at the same time, there are fewer lesson plans to prepare, and the child remembers what he learns.

**TRADITIONAL APPROACH-** The traditional approach may include graded texts which cover a subject over a year's time. Support materials might include workbooks, test booklets, quizzes, and maybe even a teacher's edition. Those who choose to use these resources feel secure in running their homeschool like a traditional public school classroom. It is important to note that many homeschoolers pull their children out of the system because of this type of approach to learning. Many use a few textbooks for such subjects as math, spelling, and grammar, and use other resources for the other subjects.

**PRINCIPLE APPROACH-** This approach is based on the need to return to an education based on Biblical principles and righteous living. Subjects are studied using the scriptures in order to identify the principles to be studied, along with applying the principles in daily life, & being able to understand how the principles are related in all subjects. This method also seeks to teach students about God's role in history with an emphasis on American History. This method recognizes the three institutions of home, church, & government.

**CHARLOTTE MASON APPROACH-** This approach, based on the writings of turn-of-the-century British educator Charlotte Mason, focuses on using "living books" and real life experiences as the foundation of education. Parents who use this approach teach the basics (reading, writing, and math) in a hands-on approach, and then expose their children to the other subjects (history, science, geography, and literature) through "living

books"--books which make a subject "come alive" as opposed to dry textbooks. Real-life experiences are also the mainstay of this method -- with children doing real activities instead of simulated ones. This method has become a very big trend in the homeschool movement.

**MOORE FORMULA-** This approach is based upon the teachings of Raymond & Dorothy Moore who are pioneers in the homeschooling movement. They advocate delaying formal education until a child is mentally, physically, and emotionally ready. The "Moore Formula" advocates that children need a balance of study, work, and service to be truly educated. The Moores encourage child-run and home-based businesses.

**UNSCHOOLING-** This is also known by other names such as: child-initiated learning, self-directed study, un-structured learning, and real-life education. This trend began with author/educator John Holt back in 1977. He promoted the theory of natural, childinitiated learning, in which a child is given the tools he needs to direct his own education. Mr. Holt believed that if a child were surrounded by a rich environment of books, tools resources, and parents who modeled real-life education, then he would thrive.

### **ATTENTION SPANS**

Many parents wonder how long their child should spend working at one time. Here are some guidelines recommended by the Hewitt Research Foundation, Child Development Center:

Ages 6-8 10-15 min

Ages 9-11 15-20 min

Ages 12-13 20-25 min

Ages 14+ 30-40 min

## **II. Be Informed !!**

### **Research on Homeschooling**

**National Home Education Research Institute - NHERI** is a non-profit organization founded by Dr. Brian Ray, Ph.D. This organization can give you any information you need regarding statistical research or academic achievement research. For further information or a materials catalog write: NHERI, 5000 Deer Park Dr.SE, Salem, Oregon 97301 or call 503-375-7019. Internet: <http://www.nheri.org>

Other Research Internet Websites:

<http://www.midnightbeach.com/hs/research.htm>

### **Homeschooling Websites**

South Carolina Home School Web Site: <http://www.icpn.com/homeschool/>

Mckie's Homeschooling in SC & Ga: <http://csra2.csrnet.com/~vlmckie/>

Crosswalk.com Homeschool Channel: <http://homeschool.crosswalk.com/> by Michael Farris

Jon's Homeschool Resource Page: <http://www.midnightbeach.com/hs>

Home Crusaders: <http://www.geocities.com/usteach/home.html>

## Curriculum:

This list would be impossible to provide. Your best source of information would come from other homeschoolers and book fairs. The next best source would be the Internet. Any search engine would give you a world of sources on homeschooling. There are several websites that are great for curriculum and companies that offer over 200 company contacts.

South Carolina Home School Web Site: <http://www.icpn.com/homeschool>

Home Crusaders: <http://www.geocities.com/usteach/suppliers.html>

Home School Discount: <http://www.homeschooldiscount.com>

Home School Central: <http://www.homeschoolcentral.com>

Home School Store: <http://www.homeschoolstore.com>

Books For Homeschool: <http://www.books4homeschool.com>

## Catalogs:

### **Affordable Christian**

Textbooks  
262 Hawthorne Village  
Suite 321  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061  
1-800-889-2287

### **The Back Pack**

P.O. Box 125  
Ernul, NC 28527  
1-912-244-0728

### **Book Peddler**

P.O. Box 1960  
Elyria, Ohio 44036-1960  
1-800-928-1760

### **Builder Books, Inc**

P.O. Box 99  
Riverside, WA 98849  
1-800-260-5461

### **Christian Book**

**Distributors**  
P.O. Box 7000  
Peabody, MA 01961-7000  
1-978-977-5000

### **Christian Teaching**

**Materials**  
P.O. Box 639  
Glenpool, OK 74033-0639  
1-800-377-0390

### **Critical Thinking Press**

P.O. Box 448  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950-  
0448  
1-800-458-4849

### **Cuisenaire Co. Of America**

P.O. Box 5026  
Whiteplains, NY 10602  
1-800-872-1100

### **Elijah Co.**

1053 Eldridge Loop  
Crossville, TN38558  
1-888-235-4524

### **Greenleaf Press**

3761 Highway 109N Unit  
D  
Lebanon, TN 37087  
1-800-311-1508

### **The Home School Book & Supply**

104 S. West Ave  
Arlington, VA 98223  
1-800-788-1221

### **The Homeschool Exchange**

P.O. Box 1378  
Boerne, TX 78006  
1-800-894-8247

### **Home Training Tools (Science)**

2827 Buffalo Horn Dr.  
Laurel, MT 59044  
1-800-860-6272

### **Laurelwood Publications**

Rt 1, Box 878  
Bluemont, VA 22012  
1-540-554-2670

### **Lifetime Books**

3900 Chalet Suzanne Dr.  
Lake Wales, FL 33853  
1-800-377-0390

### **Rainbow Resource Center**

Rt. 1 Box 159A  
Toulon, IL 61483  
1-888-841-3456

### **Scholastic Books**

P.O. Box 7503  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-  
7503  
1-800-724-2424

### **Usborne Books**

10706 E.28th St.  
Tulsa, OK 74129  
1-800-484-9065

## **Record Keeping**

HomeSchool Easy Records is a great computer program written by a homeschool dad, for keeping records for homeschoolers. This program is easy to use for any grade level and any number of students. You can setup your courses and materials, unit studies, create lesson plans, assignments sheets, report cards, transcripts, track attendance and chores and even keep a journal of activities.

You can receive information for this program on the Internet at:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~vdugar/> or E-mail to: [vdugar@earthlink.net](mailto:vdugar@earthlink.net) or write to:

Vince Dugar, DataPlus Solutions, 1067 Camp Eden Road, Golden, Co 80403.

The website also offers details and information on other record keeping programs as well as paper systems for homeschoolers.

## **Local Suppliers:**

There are many local book, educational & school supply, hobby & craft, and specialty shops that offer discounts to homeschoolers. (i.e. Barnes & Noble, Office Depot, Hammetts, & etc.)

Many bookstores will place orders for curriculum materials as well. It would be wise to check with any of these types of stores before you make your purchases. Keep your CHEA card available at all times as proof of your membership.

## **Local Places of Interest:**

There are many local places of interest that offer educational experiences for homeschoolers and offer the regular school discounts. (i.e. Discovery Place, SC State Museum, & etc.) Call in advance to confirm these discount programs and be prepared to present your CHEA card.

## **For Your Information**

180 **SCHOOL** DAYS ARE REQUIRED

45 DAYS PER QUARTER

FIELD TRIP DAYS ARE CONSIDERED SCHOOL DAYS

PLEDGE TO THE BIBLE:

I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word

I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

I will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God.

## **Field Trips**

Field trips to various places will be scheduled throughout the school calendar year. Field trips will be posted in the monthly newsletter.

Reservations for field trips will be awarded on a first-call-first serve basis. Many field trips require a minimum number of students, so RSVP's will be required.

If for some reason you are unable to attend the field trip, please contact the coordinator as far in advance as possible. Failure to do so may forfeit your fee.

While attending the field trip, please remember that we not only represent our localsupport group, but Homeschooling in general. Many places may never have heard of homeschool before and will base their overall impression of homeschooling on our behavior and overall courtesy.

## Proper Behavior

What are proper behavior guidelines for field trips? Each family sets standards of its own, but we need to have some unified standards when we are together in large numbers in public places. These are a few suggestions:

1. Parents pay attention to the speaker. This is courteous and sets a good example for the children to follow.
2. Parents need to be attentive to their children's behavior. They should not be allowed to behave in a way that might present a bad image of home-schoolers.
3. Should you see someone else's child being loud and boisterous, wandering away from the group, climbing, etc., gently persuade him to check with his parents right away. We need to help each other out in this regard because there are always times when our attention is diverted.
4. Plan to arrive fifteen minutes before the field trip is scheduled to begin.
5. Express your gratitude and appreciation to the owner or the person in charge of leading you through their facilities. *A personal note of thanks is a wonderful way to do this.*

## III. Info for High Schoolers

**Achievement tests** - a NC high school student needs to be tested yearly with a standardized achievement test and a copy of the results sent in to the DNPE before June. A SC high school student is not required to take a standardized achievement test, unless the homeschool organization you are a member of requests one.

**What is a G.E.D.?** – The Graduation Equivalency Diploma is a test taken in lieu of high school graduation.

**Is the G.E.D beneficial?** – If your student is planning on going to a technical school or will be going into business after graduating, it would probably bring closure to his homeschool education to be able to state that he passed the G.E.D. Check with the technical school that you are considering to see if they require a G.E.D. of homeschoolers for admission. As far as admission to college, the best policy is always to check with the colleges that your student has an interest in and find out what they are looking for in their admissions packet.

**PSAT** – This is offered only in October each year at public and private high schools. You cannot administer this test yourself. This test is used to find out those students that will be targeted as National Merit Scholars and possibly receive scholarship opportunities. Several area homeschool groups offer this testing opportunity. Look in your newsletters for information. You may also contact your nearest high school in late August to register your child for this test. This test can be taken multiple times, but only the one taken in the fall of a student's junior year will be "counted" toward National Merit scholarships.

**SAT** – This is the Scholastic Aptitude Test. This means that the test is meant to point out the student's potential and is different from the yearly achievement tests that homeschoolers take. Colleges require the results of this test for admission. The highest possible score is 1600, with some colleges accepting scores as low as 750. This test can be taken innumerable times and is offered every 3-4 months in local high schools. Brochures are available in September in local high schools. You may also, register online at: <http://collegeboard.com>. There are many review courses that may be

helpful preparing for the SAT. Check your local bookstore, software store or the above website.

**CLEP** – College Level Examination Program. Get college credit for what you already know. Be rewarded for what you've learned through independent study & advanced high school courses. Demonstrate you've already mastered the content of, for example, a basic math or language course. Information on the CLEP and where it is administered can be found at: <http://collegeboard.com>

### **Common High School Curricula:**

A-Beka (800-874-BEKA) <http://www.abeka.com>  
Alpha Omega Publications (1-800-821-4443) <http://www.homeschooling.com>  
Bob Jones University (800-845-5731)  
Christian Liberty (847-259-4444)  
School of Tomorrow (800-925-7777)  
Keystone National High School (1-800-255-4937)  
<http://www.keystonehighschool.com>

### **Local Resources for Classes:**

There are many private schools, technical schools, colleges and universities that offer classes part-time to homeschoolers for high school and/or college credit. Each has different costs and requirements. If your student is interested in this opportunity, you should call the admissions offices of any of these in your immediate area and ask for information. These opportunities change often as the acceptance and number of homeschoolers grow.

**Reminder:** Courses that your child may take on the upper level need to be carefully selected, knowing that most textbooks (and teachers) are not friendly toward traditional values anymore and an agenda is being pushed. (I.e. Malcolm X and Marilyn Monroe each received more pages in a book on Amer. Gov. at the University of Neb. than George Washington.)

### **Sports and Socialization:**

ZOE Teen Group has opportunities for sports, leadership skills and socialization. There is a membership fee to join ZOE, but has many advantages for high schoolers. Check your CHEA newsletter for information.

Check the CHEA newsletter for information on dance classes, swim teams, gymnastics, academic teams, art & music classes, etc.

Local YMCA's offer many opportunities as well as area community centers.

The number of high schoolers in our local support groups is growing every year. Therefore, there are numerous opportunities available for teens to get to know one another, including meetings and activities as well as special field trips and learning opportunities. Check your newsletters carefully for details.

## Diplomas and Graduation Ceremony:

For SC high schoolers, local support groups coordinate graduation ceremonies. **Crusaders** offer a yearly promotion night that coordinates with parents to honor our graduates. Watch for announcements in your newsletters.

For NC, if you are a member of NCHE you have the opportunity to receive a free diploma by sending in information about your graduate before April 1<sup>st</sup> to the office in Raleigh, recognition in "The Greenhouse Report" by writing a short article about your graduate and including a picture, and participation in the NCHE conference program honoring graduates by notifying the NCHE office. Graduation ceremonies are handled on a regional basis. ZOE, teen homeschool group coordinates the ceremony in the Charlotte area. The HSLDA also provides diplomas for a small fee. An excellent source on the Internet for all graduation supplies is: <http://www.milligans.com>

## Homeschool-Friendly Colleges

Homeschoolers often present themselves to colleges in non-traditional ways (without transcript with grades on it), and admissions officers are left with the problem of knowing how to assess what the student has done. Nevertheless, the number of colleges accepting homeschoolers has grown immensely. There are lists available on the Internet of colleges that do accept homeschoolers. One of the most complete lists can be obtained from the HSLDA. A few colleges now, have admissions officers specifically for homeschoolers. Colleges are finding that the homeschooler is often a superior student in many ways. In order to avoid the dilemma that a nontraditional application presents to the admissions officer, it is advantageous to apply with an official looking transcript and diploma, along with the student's SAT score. A great computer program written by a homeschool dad, for transcripts for homeschoolers is HomeSchool Easy Records. You can receive information for this program on the internet at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~vdugar/> or E-mail to: [vdugar@earthlink.net](mailto:vdugar@earthlink.net) or write to: Vince Dugar, DataPlus Solutions, 1067 Camp Eden Road, Golden, Co 80403. The prudent homeschooler will contact colleges that interest him (as early as ninth grade) to examine their particular admissions requirements.

## State Diploma Requirements:

\*\*The following are the state requirements for a high school diploma. This is provided only as a guideline for your information.

### SC State Department of Education:

Course	College Prep	Tech Prep
English	4 Units	4 Units
Mathematics	4 Units	4 Units
Science	3 Units	3 Units
U. S History	1 Unit	1 Unit
Government/Economics	1 Unit	1 Unit
Other Social Studies	1 Unit	1 Unit
Foreign Language	2 Units	0 Units
Computer Science	1 Unit	1 Unit
PE or ROTC	1 Unit	1 Unit
Occupational Specialty	0 Units	4 Units
Electives	6 Units	4 Units
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>

**NC State Department of Education:**

<b>Course</b>	<b>College Prep</b>	<b>Tech Prep</b>
English	4 Units	4 Units
Mathematics	4 Units	4 Units
Science	3 Units	3 Units
Social Studies	3 Units	3 Units
Foreign Language	2 Units	1 Unit
PE or ROTC	1 Unit	1 Unit
Electives	2 Units	3 Units
<b>Total</b>	<b>19 Units</b>	<b>19 Units</b>

Both SC and NC basic diploma requirements are different from college or tech prep requirements. Local school district requirements are also different. (For example: Charlotte-Mecklenburg requires 20 Units for graduation and a Test of computer skills and starting with in-coming 9<sup>th</sup> graders, the requirements will increase to 28 units.) Both states recommend Algebra 1 and 2, Geometry, and beyond, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, US History, Government and Economics, and World History, Units of foreign language be in the same language, and electives are suggested according to majors.

All colleges require different courses for entrance standards. It is highly suggested that you check with any and all colleges that your child may be interested in attending. Just following a basic college prep schedule may not meet a specific requirement.

Some colleges now require or highly suggest that homeschool students take the SAT as well as the ACT. Don't let this slip up. Start early. 11<sup>th</sup> grade is not too soon.

Most colleges now accept college credit for advanced high school work. You must have the appropriate testing to document this credit, but it is well worth the time and effort to get high school and college credit for some subject areas. Please see information on line at <http://www.collegeboard.com> for complete details or check your local bookstore or public library.