



Westonka

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

August 1, 2026

Dear Homeschool Parent,

Summer greetings from the Westonka School District! I hope this letter finds you healthy, happy and enjoying quality summer activities as a family.

Enclosed you will find important information regarding homeschooling requirements. State law requires school districts to provide this information, and we are committed to helping families understand and meet these requirements. Please be assured that any information maintained by the District regarding homeschooled students is classified as nonpublic (private) data and is handled accordingly.

As Superintendent, I respect and appreciate your decision to homeschool your child. If you are interested in partnering with Westonka Public Schools for the 2026–27 school year—even on a part-time basis—I would welcome the opportunity to connect. Please feel free to contact me at 952-491-8001 or borgk@westonka.k12.mn.us to learn more about the educational and co-curricular opportunities available to homeschool students.

Thank you for your commitment to your child's education. Wishing you and your family all the best in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Kevin Borg, Superintendent



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Welcome to homeschooling in the Westonka School District. The following information is important for homeschool administrators to know in order to meet all state and district requirements.

Every child between 7 and 17 years of age must receive instruction from a public school, a non-public school, a church or religious organization, or a home school as required by Minnesota Statute 120A.22 Subd.5. While we wish to assure you that the school board and the district have no interest or desire to control or interfere with the education of your child, we are required by law to determine your compliance with the compulsory attendance law (MN Statute 120A.26). Our goal is to share information and help you meet these requirements, especially if you are new(er) to homeschooling. You are receiving this letter because you have previously filed a Home School Full Report.

By **October 1, 2026**, please provide the following information:

1. A letter of Intent to Continue to Provide Instruction (required for children ages 7 to 16 Statute 120A.24)
2. Immunization record for each child, if not already on file.
3. The name of the annual test used to assess the student

A **Full Report** is only required the year you begin homeschooling in a school district. In subsequent years in the same school district you simply need to return a Letter of Intent to Continue to Provide Instruction, which mainly asks for any changes in your home school situation. If you are no longer homeschooling please inform us. Also, you are required to let us know if you have moved from District 277. If you choose to provide your e-mail address we will be happy to send you confirmation that your paperwork has been received by the district.

The current Minnesota Department of Education form is enclosed with this letter. You can also access a fillable PDF version of the form at <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/nphs/>

The MDE website also has a topic “Home School Information for Parents”. Children turning 7 after Oct. 1 need not be reported as homeschooled until the next fall, but you may wish to report them if you plan to apply for state aid for non-public school children.

Immunization records are now only needed when you file your first full report and when your child reaches seventh-grade or age 12. You still have the right to opt out of immunizations with a notarized statement. If we have either your immunization records or your opt-out status on

file, and your child is not turning 12 or entering seventh grade, no immunization records are due.

Parents are required to keep records for their home school including curriculum, grades and test results, however you are not required to routinely report these to the school district. They would be needed if your child returns to public school full-time and could be requested by other governmental agencies and post-secondary schools. The following page summarizes state law on testing.

Requirements for Annual Nationally-Normed Achievement Testing

Report to the school superintendent the specific exam to be used, administration and location as required in Minn. Stat. § 120A.22. This law requires that the local superintendent and home school parent must *mutually agree* on the specific exam to be used, its administration and location. The Letter of Intent to Continue form provided in this packet lists some of the most commonly-used tests and the law requires you to report your test plans at the same time you submit your Letter of Intent to Continue. If you do not hear from us after you submit your Oct. 1 information, you can assume the school district accepts your testing choices. The planned nationally-normed achievement testing must actually occur during the year, or the home school is considered out of compliance with the Minnesota compulsory attendance law.

Annual Assessment Results May Require Further Testing

If annual testing (and any supplemental testing required to broaden subject content) indicate that the child's performance is at or below the 30th percentile, or one grade level below the performance level for students of the same age, additional evaluation is required to determine whether the student has learning problems. Exemption: Families are exempt from this additional testing if the instructor holds a valid Minnesota teaching license for that grade level or is directly supervised by a licensed Minnesota teacher in the field and grade level, or whose home school is accredited by a state recognized accrediting organization. (The MDE web site lists a number of state-recognized accrediting organizations.)

Regardless of Scores, Supplement the Annual Exam to Cover All Required Content Areas

To the extent that the chosen nationally-normed achievement exam does not cover all required subject areas, parents must supplement this annual test with additional assessment (these supplemental assessments may be given at home and need not be nationally normed). Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 lists required subject areas as follows:

- (1) basic communication skills including reading and writing, literature, and fine arts;
- (2) mathematics and science;
- (3) social studies including history, geography, and government; and
- (4) health and physical education.

Westonka Public Schools does not provide tests or testing proctors for homeschooled students.

One source for the annual test is the Minnesota Statewide Testing Program at the University of Minnesota, which will provide tests and scoring of results for homeschool families. You may visit the University's web site at <http://oms.umn.edu/mstp> or call Customer Service at (612) 626-1803 for an order form. For fall testing, the order form must be postmarked to the University before October 15, or for spring testing, before April 1. Tests and test scores will be sent directly to the homeschool.

Educational Aids for Nonpublic School Children

Nonpublic and home schools are eligible to apply for secular textbooks and/or standardized testing aid in the amount of \$138.43 per child for the 206-27 school year. Nonpublic and home schools are also eligible to apply for health services in the amount of \$89.75 per pupil. For grades 7-12, guidance and counseling services are available in the amount of \$376.69 per pupil. These amounts are subject to change by the Minnesota Legislature.

	Half-day KDGN	Full-day KDGN	1-6	7-12
Textbooks and /or Testing		\$138.43	\$138.43	\$138.43
Health Services		\$89.75	\$89.75	\$89.75
Guidance/Counseling None	0	0	0	\$376.69

To apply for aid, please complete the enclosed Student Report for Aids to Nonpublic Students and return to Westonka Schools no later than October 1, 2026. (Don't be confused by the date on the form. That is our deadline to send the form to the State.) This form must be completed every year you plan to apply. **Receipts for reimbursement for the 2026-27 school year are due no later than June 15, 2027.**

Transfer of Credits

If you plan to transfer your home school credits to a high school, copies of the curriculum being taught, samples of student tests, and final grades are required at the time of enrollment. If a nonpublic school student, including a home schooled student, is planning to graduate from a public high school in Minnesota, all graduation-required state exams in place at that time must be passed prior to graduation, regardless of whether the student was attending a nonpublic school, including home school, during the year that the exam was administered to public school students. However state exams are typically not nationally-normed so they do not fulfill your annual testing requirement.

Additional Home School Information

Home school information can be obtained at the Dept. of Education's home school website at <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/nphs/>. Questions may also be directed to the MN Department of Education, (651) 582-8471, 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113-4266 or Emily Labuz, District 277 Enrollment Options Coordinator, at (952) 491-8007 or labuze@westonka.k12.mn.us.

Thank you for your cooperation.