

TRI-COUNTY GENERAL FAQs

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GENERAL QUESTIONS:

WHAT IS “REGULAR CO-OP” AND WHO ATTENDS? Seven regular co-ops each semester are held usually twice a month at Cornerstone Baptist church in Groveland and are attended by everyone. Moms are required to be present the whole day, either teaching or helping in 1 or 2 classes.

WHAT IS “5-12” AND WHO ATTENDS? Once a month there is a “5-12” co-op (3 total each semester) which is only for students in 5th-12th grade. If you are not involved in teaching at 5-12, it is a drop-off co-op and is designed to help the upper grade levels get through the appropriate amount of material that is needed to finish the textbooks and/or to finish the appropriate amount of material for High School credits.

WHAT ARE THE STARTING DATES AND TIMES FOR EACH CO-OP? First semester typically starts the first Friday after Labor Day and finishes towards the beginning of December. Second semester generally begins the first Friday in February with the school year ending the beginning of May. The ending times vary according to the age group of the child. Pre-K through 6th finish co-op at 12:15p.m; 7th-12th graders are done at 11:45 p.m. and have the option of taking electives which typically last until 1:00 in the fall and until 1:45 in the spring.

Regular co-op: At 8:45, 5th graders and up begin their classes. PreK-4th kids as well as any moms not teaching 1st hour meet in the gymnasium of the church for announcements and dismissal to classes at 9:00.

5-12 co-op: Teaching begins at 8:45; however, we ask that students arrive at 8:30 to help with set-up and to ensure they are on-time for class.

WHAT ARE THE ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS? Please attend every co-op even if you are not teaching; the exception to this rule is the 5-12 co-ops. If you are not teaching at 5-12 co-ops, you do not have to attend. You may drop your kids off and leave. Families have gone on vacation during co-op, although it is discouraged since co-op does not work without the input of every mom. If being absent becomes a problem, then it will be addressed on an individual basis to see if we can do something to make attendance more feasible.

WHAT IS THE BUDGET FOR THE CLASS I'M TEACHING? Each semester, the treasurer will provide each teacher a class budget set by the Board.

HOW DO I GET EXPENSES REIMBURSED? Give all receipts to the Treasurer. Please write on the receipt the class and a brief description of what the items were used for, if applicable. The Treasurer writes checks once a month and will place the check in your family folder in the Break Room.

WHAT CLASSES ARE OFFERED AT TRI-COUNTY?

Note: For a complete listing of specific history, science, and literature classes, see the Tri-County website under Front Office.

- PreK-4th: Hands-on History, Hands-on Science, PE, Music (1sem)/Art (1sem)
- 5th/6th: History, Writing based on IEW principles, PE, Drama (1 sem)/Science (1 sem)
- 7th/8th: History, Science, Literature, optional electives in fall/optional drama in spring
- 9th: History, Science, Essay Writing (1 sem)/Speech (1 sem), optional electives in fall/optional drama in spring
- 10th-12th: History, Science, Literature, optional electives in fall/optional drama in spring

WHAT TEXTBOOKS ARE USED? Each February, the textbooks are discussed for the upcoming school year at a Curriculum Meeting. The goal is for all textbooks to be determined and communicated to parents via email by the APACHE homeschool convention in April. The textbook list is posted on the Tri-County website under Front Office.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD DOESN'T COMPLETE THE HOMEWORK

ASSIGNMENTS? We hope families realize that, ideally, co-op assignments complement or fulfill the home-schooling experience. As such, to gain the most benefit from the co-op and ease the burden at home, completing the assignments helps. However, some home curriculums do not gel with the co-op curriculum. In these cases, please inform the teacher that your child will not be completing the assignments. The 7th graders and up are required to sign a student/parent agreement informing the teachers of what assignments they will be doing.

DO TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS CHANGE FROM YEAR TO YEAR? At the end of each year, a questionnaire is distributed which asks you where you would like to teach as well as how you feel the year progressed. Every effort is made to allow the moms to teach where they feel most capable.

WHO SERVES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

The current Board of Directors is posted on the website under the Front Office section.

HOW IS CONFLICT RESOLVED?

Conflict - Conflict is resolved following the Biblical model laid out in Matthew 18 (and Matt 7:1-5). Prayerfully engaging each other in love with grace and truth should be the first step.

Classroom Discipline - Discipline should be handled in the classroom whenever possible. If the child/children fail to respond, then quietly remove the child and find their mother. If the problem persists, let the child's mom and the Director know, and they will try to work out a solution. Most of the time kids need to know what is expected of them and that normally solves the problem. However, disrespect should not be permitted because it violates God's view on authority.

WHAT IS THE BREAK ROOM? The Break Room is the far left room off of the Gym and is for Moms/Dads to relax during their off hour enjoying food & fellowship. (No kids are allowed in this room) A sign-up sheet for Break Room treats is passed around at the Beginning of the Year Kick-Off Meeting. Usually there are two moms at a time signed up to bring the Break Room treats which ranges from store-bought to homemade; healthy to "how many calories?!" Feel free to coordinate your food items together or just see what comes.

A box with folders for each family is in the Break Room and is used for reimbursement checks from the Treasurer or any other information that needs to be conveyed. Please check your folder each week.

In addition, a copy of the morning's announcements, sign-up sheets for field trips, and even free give-aways are placed on a table in the Break Room. If you have something of interest to hand out to the moms, this would be the place to disburse it.

HOW IS CLEANING COORDINATED? Each week, the co-op bears the responsibility for cleaning up the church after using it. Our goal is to leave the church cleaner than we found it so we can continue our relationship with Cornerstone church. Our corporate clean-up duties include: vacuuming upstairs and downstairs, taking out the garbage, and straightening up the bathrooms. Each week, the Building Coordinator assigns a mom to clean each area, which is done immediately after co-op is over. Generally, each mom cleans once or twice a semester. See the Cleaning Checklist posted on the Tri-County website under Front Office for details.

WHAT IF MY PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGES? If there are any changes that are listed incorrectly or needing updated on the contact sheets, please contact the Board Secretary.

HOW DOES THE REGISTRATION PROCESS WORK? Each co-op family must register during the spring semester for the coming year. It is extremely important to know how many families will be returning in order to plan the classes, teacher placement, and admission of new families for the coming year.

HOW DO I FIGURE OUT TUITION COSTS? The tuition fee schedule is posted on the website under Front Office.