

August 2024 PACE Homeschool Newsletter

Dates to Remember

August 13th **Curriculum Organization Day** at the Anchorage office from 1-3pm. Bring your curriculum and we will help you organize it and plan your school year and answer any questions you may have.

Completing Enrollment

With summer coming to an end our teachers' schedules are filling up fast. Don't delay! Schedule your appointment to complete your enrollment now to ensure you can choose a day and time that works best for your schedule. Call us at (907) 373-9701 or toll free at 1-866-864-5491.



A letter from our new Principal

Dear PACE Statewide Homeschool Parents and Guardians,

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new principal of PACE. I look forward to working with our dedicated teachers and staff, as well as, our families across the state.

Allow me to share a bit about myself. My name is Heather Mendonsa and I have 16 years of experience in education, with a passion for personal choice in education, individualized learning, and meeting the needs of each child. The homeschool model of education is something I deeply support.

My educational journey includes a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Brigham Young University, a Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction from Western Governors University, and an Educational Leadership Advanced Certificate from Liberty University. Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of working in various educational roles and environments. I have taught every grade from preschool - highschool in public, private, and charter schools. I hold an endorsement in middle school science. In addition to teaching I have served as the preschool coordinator for Southeast Island School District and was a school board member for Craig City School District. Each of these experiences have provided me with a broad view of how to meet the different needs of students, parents, and teachers.

My goal for PACE is to continue to build upon the existing culture we already have and to work collaboratively with our exceptional staff to provide the best service and opportunity available to our families.

I firmly believe that open communication and collaboration are essential to student success. I encourage parents to reach out if they have any questions or concerns, and together we can build the best climate possible for your family.

I look forward to getting to know our families. Please feel free to reach out to me at 907-373-9701 ext. 5005 or hmendonsa@craigschools.com if you have any questions, concerns, or simply want to introduce yourself.

Sincerely,

Heather Mendonsa, Principal / Teacher
PACE Statewide Homeschool

Organizing & Planning Your Year

Book Curriculum:

- Check to make sure you have all parts of the curriculum. Reach out to your Contact teacher if anything is missing.
- If you have more than one student, divide it up into piles. If there are a few subjects your student share, have a separate pile for that curriculum.

How to Organize it:

- See how many total lessons/tests are in the year for each subject. You can do this by checking the Table of Contents in most books.
- Divide that by how many weeks you are planning to homeschool (36 is average). This will give you an idea of how many lessons/tests you need to get through each week to complete the year's worth of work.

Write down the expectations:

- Make sure to write down daily, weekly, monthly for what is expected during the year for completion of each class. This way your student(s) should know where they need to be and what needs to be accomplished to complete each class.
- Check in with your student(s) on a weekly basis to make sure they stay on track and don't fall too far behind. It is difficult to catch up if you fall too far behind

Online Curriculum:

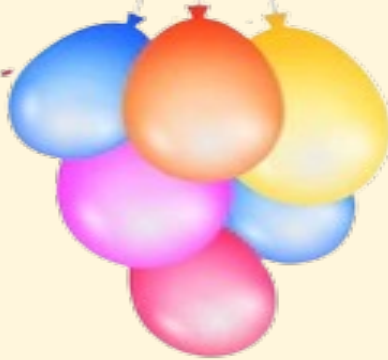
- Login to your parent portal and familiarize yourself with the basic layout of the site and the tutorials.
 - Check through the classes and see how many assignments/tests there are for each class. Divide that by how many weeks you are planning to homeschool (36 is average). This will give you an idea of how many lessons/tests your student(s) needs to get through each week to complete the year's worth of work.
- Login to your student(s) account, if separate. Look through the layout of the site with your student(s) to find lessons, assignments, & due dates. You may need to go through the first lessons to help them get comfortable with the program.
- Make sure to:
 - login daily, weekly at the least, to make sure progress is being made
 - check scores on work as they go in case they need more work on a skill or need to repeat a chapter to understand the material and check your student(s) are staying on the schedule to complete the class on time. (This will save you stress at the ends of each semester.)

If you want to get some help with your curriculum, we will be having parent drop-in days in the Anchorage Learning Center for curriculum organization in August and September. Watch for a flyer in your email if you want to get some guided help organizing your curriculum and your school year.

Remember: This may be new for both you and your child. It takes practice, a willingness to try new things, and patience to create a successful routine for you all. The more time you invest planning and preparing at the beginning and establishing a routine and expectations, the easier your year will be for you all.

Please reach out to your contact teacher with any questions or concerns you may have as you get started.

We are here to help. You are not alone!



Ansley

Victoria

Kendal

Isaiah

Madelyn

Achilles

Aria

Leanora

John

Isabella

Susan

Dreson

Aryanna

Dayjoni

Narina

Tyler

Callie

Rihanna

Hannah

Kodiak

William

Avery

Piper

Adelaide