



Our Story

3:17 Hybrid was birthed from our collective experience as both classroom teachers and homeschoolers, but especially influenced by our experience during the 2021-22 school year. In the summer of 2021, three of the founding moms joined together to create a small co-op with the primary ideas of simplicity, core subjects, and active learning.

Often our previous experiences with co-ops involved more work for us or extra subjects our kids didn't really need, and in the end we did not always feel helped by the experience. Sometimes it was fun, sometimes it just felt like more work on top of already being busy homeschooling moms. We did not want to create more work for ourselves but rather assist each other with homeschooling while also individually doing less work. Thus the goal was to create the co-op in such a way that we as moms could accomplish more together than we could alone, giving each other a break. Additionally, since we all have children of multiple ages and grades, we wanted curriculums that were strong academically yet also made it easy to teach multiple children in multiple grades all at once. We also wanted to be sure that we taught core subjects at our co-op that helped propel us forward in educating our children. While all the "extras" can be fun, we wanted to be sure our co-op covered required subjects. Lastly, we wanted our co-op to be full of active learning where the kids are moving, actively involved, engaged, and have breaks to release energy. We wanted our kids to enjoy coming together and learning. Our co-op year was a huge success! We as moms truly benefited from joining together, catching a break, and teaching more efficiently. All our children loved co-op day; it was their favorite day of the week!

As we were enjoying and benefitting from our co-op experience during the 2021-22 school year, we began to think: Could we expand this to include more families? Could we help other moms and students? We have a wealth of experience amongst ourselves...how could we share that with others and be a blessing to our community? Through many informal discussions—often at our co-op while the kids played after lunch—the idea of 3:17 Hybrid began to emerge. We spent countless hours planning, talking, editing, writing, and researching, and we pulled in one more homeschooling mother for her particular strengths and expertise. We created an official Board of Directors and gave Karen Hanley the position of Director of 3:17. Karen was the forerunner in engaging with the idea to form 3:17 and has a heart to see this school serve our community.

In March of 2021 we opened enrollment for the first year of 3:17 Hybrid School (2021-22), and we were overwhelmed when all our student slots filled up in just three weeks! We were able to open and fill about 20 more student slots. During our second year open to the public (2023-2024) we grew to include 96 children (60 families) and added an optional second day for students. For the 2024-25 school year, we are excited to offer one or two day enrollment options from preK through the 8th grade! We have so enjoyed walking through these first two school years with the teachers, students, and families, and we hope 3:17 Hybrid continues to meet a need and serve many families this year and in years to come.