

The VIEW from my WINDOW



Theresa Deckert, NDHSA Office Administrator

The election is over. Hooray, no more campaign ads and commercials! Now that we all know who our local legislators are, we can begin visiting with them about the bill the NDHSA is proposing this session. The purpose of the bill is to address the 2007 Attorney General's opinion which dealt with parental qualifications and who can "supervise" home education. This ruling has caused a number of issues over the years.

This summer the NDHSA approached the Governor's Office about a new ruling. Governor Burgum's Office staff requested a meeting for us with one of the assistant Attorney Generals. After reviewing the original opinion and looking at newer legislation, it was determined that the best way to address the opinion is legislatively.

The bill will change the first section of the home education statute referring to definitions. *Currently* the law reads:

15.1-23-01. Home education - Definition.

For purposes of this chapter, "home education" means a program of education supervised by a child's parent in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

New language underscored below.

19.0351.02000

Sixty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

BILL NO.

Introduced by
Representative Johnston

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-23-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of parent and supervise in home education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-23-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-23-01. Definitions.

In this chapter:

1. "Home education" means a program of education supervised by a child's parent in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.
2. "Parent" includes a child's legal guardian.
3. "Supervise" means the selection of materials, determination of an educational philosophy, and oversight of the method, manner, and delivery of instruction.

2019 Homeschool Bill

This bill will make it clear that a legal guardian may home school rather than be assumed. It will also clarify that a parent is the one who determines what methods and manner of instruction are employed. This will allow a parent to use a tutor, choose an online program or be part of a collaborative learning situation such as Classical Conversations. Hopefully these changes will clarify this for both parents and school districts.

The Attorney General's office asked that we have the Department of Public Instruction look at the bill, as well, to make sure it was clear. The word delivery was added at their suggestion. They support the changes we are seeking. So please begin discussing these changes with your legislators. We do not have a bill number yet, but the above inset shows the language drafted by Legislative Council.

When talking with your legislators, please be courteous! I visited recently with a legislator who asked me why homeschoolers are so arrogant. Obviously this legislator had not had a good experience with his homeschool constituents! Sometimes the best answer to a question is, "I don't know" or occasionally, with a smile, just letting a comment slide.

I am very hopeful about this bill. It will be a positive change for the North Dakota homeschooling community!

If you have testimony relevant to this bill, please contact Theresa Deckert at: office@ndhsa.org or call 701-662-6347 ASAP.

www.ndhsa.org office@ndhsa.org 701.662-6347

The North Dakota Home School Association has been assisting parent educators since 1985.

BOARD COLUMN REMEMBER

By Mrs. Ken (Llora) Knight

I love Christmas. Let me repeat that – I LOVE CHRISTMAS! It is a wonderful time of year. As I contemplate the priceless, selfless gift God gave that first Christmas day, I stand in awe and wonder why HE would do that for me. Why would the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, the King of Kings leave the glories of heaven to come to earth? Why would the omnipresent God confine Himself to the restrictions, frailties, and mortality of a human body? Why would He set aside all of that for willful, rebellious, sinful man? Scriptures clearly teach that His sole motivation was His love for mankind and a desire to re-establish the relationship that sin destroyed in the Garden of Eden.

That Holy Birth was just another step in Almighty God’s plan of redemption, but it was a pivotal step. All of mankind’s history radiates from the birth of Christ – before and after. I know humanists are trying to replace our dating system of B.C./A.D., but I don’t believe they’ll succeed. Christ’s birth, life, death, resurrection, and their impact on the world will not be easily removed.

Why is Christmas important in our lives today? Why should we **remember** the birth of a Son to a young Hebrew virgin more than 2,000 years ago? Is it really necessary to **remember** or celebrate His birth? The world will tell you “No,” after all they don’t call it Christmas anymore. It’s “Happy Holidays” and schools don’t take Christmas vacation, they take a “winter break.” Satan wants us to forget Christmas, to forget the sacrifice that the Son of God began on the first Christmas, and thereby perhaps forget the love of God which draws us to Him. The skeptics would say, “Christmas is so commercialized, it doesn’t mean anything anyway” or “We don’t actually know what date it was. We don’t even use the same calendar.” So, why *should* Christmas be important in our lives today?

Scripture is always a good place to go for answers. Is this question asked and answered in the Bible? NO, but the Bible teaches a clear principle. God repeatedly told the Israelites to **remember important events:**

Ex. 12:14; Ex. 13:3; Deut. 32:7; Joshua 4:10; Psalm 77:11; Isaiah. 46:9; Esther 9:20-22.

Jesus told His church to **remember** His death and resurrection with observance of the Lord’s Supper:

Luke. 22:19; I Corinthians 11:24-25.

Christmas is an important event. Without the coming of the Christ Child and His subsequent life, there would have been no fulfillment of the law (Mt. 5:17), no sacrifice for sin (Heb. 9:26), no promise of resurrection (I Cor. 15:19-21), no establishment of the church (Mt. 16:18), and no hope of eternal life (Jn. 3:16, Titus 3:7).

Once we understand that Christmas is important, the next logical question is, “How should we celebrate Christmas?” I’ll leave the answer to you. You don’t need to spend money to make the day

important – volunteer to help a food or toy drive, serve at a soup kitchen, carol at a rest home, or visit shut-ins. If you’re buying gifts, don’t forget to buy a gift for Jesus – after all, it is His birthday.

Where I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

11 Pet. 1:12

How do you buy a gift for Jesus? Look for a need in your church – we once purchased a new American flag for our church as a birthday present for Jesus. Send an offering or care package to a missionary. Donate to a food pantry. Look for a need and pray for leading – you’ll find that God will lay something on your heart.

Traditions are a way to **remember that Christmas** is an important event in the history of the world. Many families have a variety of traditions from food and activities, books and decorating, to movies and music. Our family has more than a dozen Christmas traditions, things that we always do, and my children look forward to them every year. One is a children’s book we read on Christmas eve. One year a grown son called home on Christmas eve to join in with the reading. A few of our traditions are even on their second generation.

Christmas is important. We should remember it. We should celebrate it – lest we forget all that God has done for us.



HOMESCHOOL DAY at THE CAPITOL
March 25, 2019

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Great field trip!

Now is the time to make those year-end gifts to sustain the work of the NDHSA. Donations are down but the work continues to grow. **Help if you can.**



Send clipped labels for **BOX TOPS for Education:**
Laurie Morstad
9175 80th St. NE,
Hampden, ND 58338
Check expiration dates.

For legal assistance
JOIN
Home School Legal
Defense Association.
www.hslda.org

Find a support group near you at:
www.ndhsa.org
click on support groups.

NDHSA Convention
Feb. 28--March 2, 2019
Jamestown Civic Center
Keynote: Dr. Brian Ray



ANIMATION COURSE

We are excited about a spring class opportunity for your group – North Dakota Home School Association! Our 2019 Spring Session of Online Animation and Drawing Classes is taking registrations at www.theanimcourse.com! My husband, Chad Stewart, has been an animator for almost 30 years, working on films such as *Tarzan*, *Emperor's New Groove*, and *Polar Express*, etc. We are nearing the end of our homeschooling journey and are excited to offer these classes, which might enrich your families' homeschooling endeavors! It has been our joy to share this opportunity with many families and we wanted to pass it along to you as well!

Thankfully,
Kayla Stewart

kayla@theanimcourse.com
[Facebook/The Animation Course](https://www.facebook.com/TheAnimationCourse)
661-755-5775 (cell)



Apologia Online Academy

From the editor: I saw this advertised in *Practical Homeschooling* magazine and thought that if I were still homeschooling I would use some of these offered courses for the child who thrives using an online course.

They offer oodles of science courses (of course, it's Apologia!), seven courses on worldviews (I'm using the *What We Believe* Vols. 1-4 in my Sunday School class), math (pre-algebra, Algebra 1, Algebra 2 and high school geometry), and Latin, Spanish, American Literature, American Government, and Constitutional Literacy. Hey, I might take one of these courses myself. For more information visit:

apologiaonlineacademy.com

Here's another goodie I found in *Practical Homeschooling* magazine. Need help with multiple learning problems? You might want to check out ABC Foundations.

330.347.4096

www.abcfoundations.org

I have subscribed to *Practical Homeschooling* for many years. I have used other mags, but they come and go. I still get the quarterly *The Old Schoolhouse* magazine which is also an amazingly helpful publication. Both have stood the test of time.

You can subscribe to *Practical Homeschooling* at:

home-school.com

The North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo), through our affiliate, the Institute of Local Government (ILG) is pleased to announce **SIX \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded in 2019**. To qualify, **students must have a parent or grandparent currently employed by a county**, including elected and appointed officials as well as other full-time county employees. The student must be enrolled (or planning to enroll) for the 2018-2019 school year at an accredited North Dakota college or technical school. Application deadline is Friday, June 7. Winners will be announced within approximately 30 days of the deadline and will accept their honor at the NDACo Annual Conference in October. The scholarship application is available for download at www.ndaco.org/scholarship or by contacting the NDACo office in Bismarck at 1-800-932-8730 or by e-mail at ndaco@ndaco.org. For more information, contact Jeff Eslinger, Communications Manager at (701) 328-7332 or jeff.eslinger@ndaco.org.

HSLDA Art Contest Now Accepting Entries through February 1

We're delighted to announce the re-opening of our annual art contest! You may be excited to know that we have decided to take another tour of art history—encouraging you to embrace a new set of artistic elements.

We're also excited to announce that our prizes have increased—winners can now receive up to \$500 in prizes!

All contest profits go to our charitable arm, [HSLDA Compassion](http://HSLDACompassion.org), which provides resources to help make homeschooling possible for families facing hard times.

Keep reading to learn about the themes for each category (age group). For details on how to enter, [click here](#).

Category 1 (ages 7—10): Incorporate one element of Post-impressionist art in your entry.

Here are a few elements common in post-impressionist art. Choose *one* to include in your artwork.

- Pointillism
- Evocative color palette
- Distinctive brushstrokes

Natural subjects captured

Category 2 (ages 11—14): Incorporate one element of Expressionist art in your entry.

Here are a few elements common in Expressionist art. Choose *one* to include in your artwork.

- Bright color palette
- Exaggerated subjects
- Generous paint application

Gestural brushstrokes

Category 3 (ages 15—19): Incorporate one element of Surrealist art in your entry.

Here are a few elements common in Surrealist art. Choose *one* to include in your artwork.

- Symbols used to convey personal meaning
- Concepts presented in an unusual manner
- Distorted perspective

Highly imaginative scenarios portrayed

The Legislative WATCH will begin publication the first week of January.

GOVERNOR SEEKS HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Bottineau – Governor Doug Burgum appointed Glenda Fauske from the Coalition for Conservation and Environmental Education to serve as North Dakota's selection coordinator for the 2019 National Youth Science Camp (NYSC) scholarships. Two high school seniors will receive full scholarships to exchange ideas with scientists and other professionals from academic, governmental, and corporate worlds. The nearly month-long experience includes lectures; research projects presented by U.S. scientists; overnight outdoor trips into the Monongahela National Forest; and a visit to Washington, D.C. Selected delegates must demonstrate academic achievement in science and show potential for thoughtful scientific leadership.

The NYSC is offered at no cost to participants so that selected delegates may attend regardless of their financial status. Contributions to the National Youth Science Foundation allow delegates to participate in this "once in a lifetime" experience. Educational and recreational programming, as well as meals, lodging, and round-trip air travel, are provided free of charge.

Delegates arrive in Charleston, West Virginia, on Thursday, June 27, and depart on Saturday, July 20, 2019. The NYSC is held near Bartow in the eastern mountains of West Virginia, within the Monongahela National Forest. The application process is available on the NYSC website at <http://apply.nysc.org>. Applications must be submitted by Thursday, February 28, 2019, by 6 p.m. EST. For more information, contact Glenda.Fauske@ndsu.edu / (701) 228-5446.

JOIN TODAY!

The NDHSA depends upon the gifts and memberships of interested parties to maintain their current staff and services. Membership allows you access to member-only sections of www.ndhsa.org and discounted convention fees.

Now is the time to make those year-end gifts to sustain the work of the NDHSA. Donations are down but the work continues and grows.

Help if you can.



Gifts

He does not whisk us at once to Glory. We go on living in a fractured world, suffering in one way or another the effects of sin—sometimes our own, sometimes others'. Yet I have come to understand even suffering, through the transforming power of the Cross, as a gift, for in this broken world, *in* our sorrow, He gives us Himself; *in* our loneliness He comes to meet us.

In His death Jesus Christ gave us life. The willingness of the Son of God to commit Himself into the hands of criminals became the greatest gift ever given—the Bread of the world, in mercy broken. Thus the worst thing that ever happened became the best thing that ever happened.

It can happen with us. At the Cross of Jesus our crosses are changed into gifts.

The Love that calls us into being, woos us to Himself, makes us His bride, lays down His life for us, and daily crowns us with lovingkindness and tender mercy, will not, no matter how it may appear in our loneliness, abandon us. "I will never (the Greek has five different negatives here), never, never, never, never leave you nor forsake you."

Elisabeth Elliot, *Loneliness*

The Board of directors and staff of the NDHSA wish you a blessed **CHRIST**mas season. May Christ be exalted in all our thoughts, events and activities. Merry **CHRIST**mas!



NDHSA Board of Directors

- ~Ken Knight, president & Llorra Knight, W region spt.grp. coordinator 701.880.6126 knight_publishing@hotmail.com
- ~Pas. Jeff Kapelle, director & Karol Kapelle, convention coordinator 701.262.4446 kapklan@gondtc.com
- ~Susan Huntington, director 701.663.7858 sooznh@gmail.com
- ~Jeff Deckert, director & Theresa Deckert, office administrator & E region spt.grp. coord. 701.662.4790 intdeck@gondtc.com
- ~Pas. Brian, director & Bev Skaar, convention choir director 701.247.2875 walkalongdeut6.7@hotmail.com

NDHSA Statement of Faith

We believe in Almighty God, the Author of all creation, eternally existing in three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; the Bible as the inspired, infallible, written Word of God, complete in 66 books and our sole basis of faith and practice; the fallen state of man, guilty by nature and by act and therefore condemned before God; the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, except without sin, the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sins, His visible bodily resurrection demonstrating His power over death and sin, His personal return; and regeneration by God, the Holy Spirit when we accept His free gift of salvation by His grace, through our personal faith, and not by any works we can do.

Mission statement

To provide a comprehensive home education information system to support, train and protect every willing North Dakota individual, family and church in the methods of privately funded, parent-directed home education.

NDHSA Statement of purpose

1. Encouraging and assisting Christian families in the education of their children according to Biblical principles;
2. Providing to home educators and the general public information pertaining to the Biblical, academic and legal aspects of home education;
3. Entering into activities, in filling out contracts necessary, incidental or beneficial to the accomplishment of the nonprofit purposes of this corporation.

The Eclectic Report

Gail M. Biby, editor

The Eclectic Report is published monthly by the NDHSA and is provided free to anyone who asks. The NDHSA is a Christian 501(c)(3) organization funded by the gifts and memberships of interested parties. No substantial part of the activities of the NDHSA is used for the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, promote any political campaign, or on the behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Legal issues are for instructive purposes only and do not constitute the giving of legal advice. If you need legal advice concerning homeschooling, contact Daniel Beasley, Home School Legal Defense Association attorney of reference for North Dakota, if you are a member family, or contact an attorney familiar with homeschool law. Any comments or opinions are those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NDHSA board or staff members. Bylined articles ditto! Advertisements likewise. If you have something that may be of interest to homeschoolers, or if you have comments or corrections, send them to the editor at billbiby@msn.com.

Gail M. Biby is the publications editor for the NDHSA and has been joyfully working with parent educators for more than 28 years. She has served on the advisory board for Lamplighter Publishing, writes a newsletter for her church gals, and volunteers with Caring Hearts Jail Ministry and Metropolitan Prison Pen Pals Ministry. She and her husband Bill are recipients of the 2017 NDHSA Homeschool Pioneer Award. Contact her: billbiby@msn.com. She is blessed beyond measure and once had a very long bucket list. She now prefers buckets of June berries.

NDHSA P.O. Box 1066 Devils Lake, N.D. 58301 701.662.6347

www.ndhsa.org office@ndhsa.org

Like us on FB: [North Dakota Home School Association](https://www.facebook.com/NorthDakotaHomeSchoolAssociation) Visit us at: www.ndhsa.org Instagram link: <https://www.instagram.com/ndhsassociation/>

North Dakota Home School Hall of Fame Inductees

- 2014 Rev. Clinton & Judi Birst, Mark & Lynette Dagley, Dr. Ray & Rita Larsen, Gerald & Sheryl Lund
- 2015 Neil and Chris Toman, Dr. Graef Gannon, Rev. Edward and Sue Huntington
- 2016 Michael Farris J.D., Rev. Thomas & Peggy Patzer
- 2017 Bill & Gail Biby, Morris & Jackie Conklin, Allen & Barb Entzel
- 2018 Linus & Anna Evinger

Prayer Reminders:

ASK God to continue to give wisdom in all governance affairs of the NDHSA to our board of directors: **Ken & Llorra Knight, Jeff & Theresa Deckert, Pas. Jeff & Karol Kapelle, Sue Huntington, and Pas. Brian & Bev Skaar.**

PRAY for Christians worldwide. Pray for the missionary family from Cameroon whose father/husband was recently murdered. **PRAY** for the family of the young missionary murdered in the Andaman Islands.

SUPPORT your local support group in prayer and volunteer to help.

INTERCEDE for those wavering in obedience.

PRAISE God for Home School Legal Defense Association and for our attorney, **Daniel Beasley.**

PRAISE the LORD for the nurture and love of church families and the blessing of belonging.

PRAY for your Pastor and his family. Pray for him, his wife, and children regularly and encourage them. **ASK** God to protect them from evil.

PRAISE GOD for homeschooling dads who participate in this adventure.

REMEMBER this: **PRAY** for those in prison. It is a hard life for Christians.

PRAY for wisdom as you homeschool. **ASK** God to help you see what is *necessary*.

PRAISE God that we live where we have the freedom to homeschool. Pray for those in countries where no such freedom exists.

PRAY for the W. family; Mommy delivered healthy baby girl but two weeks later had a heart attack; home recovering.

PRAY for the upcoming legislative session. May God's will be done.

