

LibraryLinkNJ Webinar Chat Transcript

Helping Homeschoolers in the Library – Part 1

April 4, 2012

Presenter: Adrienne Furness, www.watat.com

Sophie Brookover: (4/4/2012 09:31) Good morning & welcome! We're going to start in about 30 mins. Meanwhile, please feel free to say hello here in the chat box, introduce yourselves & talk a bit about what you're looking forward to discussing & learning this morning!

Joanne Roukens: (09:33) Good morning everyone! This is Joanne Roukens. I am providing tech support this morning. If you have any problems with your audio/video during the program, we find that exiting and re-entering the meeting room fixes most things. If your problem persists or you are having another tech issue, please call me at 201-874-6885.

Sophie Brookover: (09:57) And we welcome you to follow us on Twitter (@librarylinknj) and like us on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/librarylinknj>

Sophie Brookover: (09:58) Good morning & welcome to Part 1 of Helping Homeschoolers in the Library!

Sophie Brookover: (09:59) Please introduce yourself and let us know where you're coming from this morning.

Jen Servello: (09:59) Hello from the NJSL Talking Book & Braille Center

Keisha M. Miller: (09:59) Top of the morning everyone! Keisha, here, from South Orange PL & looking forward to this webinar!

Keisha M. Miller: (09:59) thanks for hosting! :-)

Julie Bramley: (09:59) Hello everyone! :)

lisa jorgensen: (09:59) Good Morning from Wayne NJ

Kathleen Breitenbach: (09:59) Good morning from Hamilton Township Public Library

Kelly Fitzgerald: (09:59) Good morning from the Weehawken Library.

Julie Bramley: (09:59) West Milford Township Library, I work with Elyse above. :)))

Sandi Cronic: (09:59) Sandi here in lovely Willingboro, NJ!!!!

Liz Burns 2: (09:59) hello!

Elyse Schear: (09:59) Julie's my co-worker - we're in separate locations this a.m.

Rebecca Crawford: (10:00) Hello Rebecca Crawford and Carol Levin are here from the Somerset County Library System

Katharina Radcliffe: (10:00) Katrina from Delanco Library - Burlington County

Susanna Chan: (10:00) Hello from South Brunswick Public Library in Middlesex County.

Meghan MacLauchlan: (10:00) Good morning from Cherry Hill Public Library.

Jen Williams: (10:00) also from sb

Liz Burns 2: (10:00) huh. wonder why i called myself Liz Burns 2. sometimes i need 2 of me!

Marie Downes: (10:01) Good morning

Marie Downes: (10:01) West Deptford Public Library

Joanne Roukens: (10:02) Good morning everyone! This is Joanne Roukens. I am providing tech support this morning. If you have any problems with your audio/video during the

program, we find that exiting and re-entering the meeting room fixes most things. If your problem persists or you are having another tech issue, please call me at 201-874-6885.

Carolyn Aversano: (10:03) wil the links be available in the archive?

Joanne Roukens: (10:04) #LLNJ_homeschooling

Sophie Brookover: (10:05) Adrienne's blog: www.watat.com

Sophie Brookover: (10:06) Hi, Carolyn -- yes!

Sophie Brookover: (10:06) We'll post them to the page for this webinar:

<http://librarylinknj.org/content/helping-homeschoolers-library>

Carolyn Aversano: (10:06) thanks :)

Sophie Brookover: (10:06) my pleasure!

Sophie Brookover: (10:08) Part 2: April 18, 10-11:30 AM. See you there!

Sophie Brookover: (10:13) Two of my good friends homeschool their kids and participate in a VERY diverse homeschooling co-op. They are un-schoolers & while some in their co-op are, too, there's also a large group of more conservative religious homeschoolers in the group.

Sophie Brookover: (10:18) Interestingly, I see many progressive in-school educators advocate for a lot of unschooling principles now: immersive experiences, real work.

Andrea Cline: (10:20) I homeschool my kids and we do a little bit of schooling and unschooling

Sophie Brookover: (10:21) Andrea, I'd love it if you discussed what you do w/your kids -- how you organize the day, put together activities for their different age groups.

Sophie Brookover: (10:21) Sorry, ages, not age groups!

Carolyn Aversano: (10:22) is the rise in Catholic homeschooling due in any part to closing of parochial schools?

Sophie Brookover: (10:22) Do you know what's driving the rising # of Roman Catholic homeschoolers? I think of the RC Church as having such a robust presence in terms of schools, even with consolidation.

Liz Burns 2: (10:23) i know some catholics who home school b/c they are more traditional than their parish

Liz Burns 2: (10:24) at TBBC we have a few families who homeschool

Andrea Cline: (10:24) I homeschool 3 out of 4 kids right now. Since I work 2 part time jobs I have been using an online program called time4learning and then I do activities along what they are learning. We also belong to a co-op that meets once a week They come to library programs they do dance. We go on many road trips for hands on experience. That is the beauty of homeschooling -the world is their school. Even a trip to the grocery store is a learning experience

Keisha M. Miller: (10:25) Good (?) Carolyn...never occurred to me

Sophie Brookover: (10:26) That's lovely, Andrea. My hat is off to you -- I know how hard you work at your two jobs! (Andrea is being very modest -- one of those part-time jobs is as Director of the Oaklyn PL here in Camden County).

Carolyn Aversano: (10:26) I've got an aspiring ballerina homeschooler at my library

Sophie Brookover: (10:27) Carolyn, does she have dance class & rehearsals during a lot of school hours?

Carolyn Aversano: (10:27) she spends about 6 hours a day in studio

Sophie Brookover: (10:28) OK, homeschooldiner.com should have opened up in your browser behind this window.

Sophie Brookover: (10:28) You can keep listening to Adrienne & look at the site at the same time!

Andrea Cline: (10:32) Parents do not have to notify school board that they are homeschooling. My kids have never been in school and the school doesn't even know we exist

Andrea Cline: (10:32) We also don't have to tell anyone about our curriculum

Andrea Cline: (10:40) It all depends on the day . We do what you have already said.

Andrea Cline: (10:42) You have to realize that homeschoolers do not commit to programs. IF something comes up or as I say of the wind blowe north they will do that instead of going to a program they said they would attend.

Kathy Mulholland: (10:44) Sign-ups don't work for ANY of my programs...

Liz Burns 2: (10:46) i guess if you're torn between two the answer is eclectic!

Sophie Brookover: (10:47) I also think eclectic reflects the generalist approach of many librarians!

Liz Burns 2: (10:47) i picked eclectic!

Julie Bramley: (10:47) I had a homeschooling patron tell me that the best way to find out information is to attend a homeschooling conference. How do you recommend that to a patron when many of the conferences (that I found anyway) are Christian or Catholic based?

Sophie Brookover: (10:47) I picked eclectic, too. :-) I would want Nell to learn how to spell AND do the things she loves, too.

Maureen Moffit: (10:47) We are currently developing libguides for homeschoolers and plan to create a dedicated space in our youth servcies area. Does any librarian have success stories to report or is this like programs where no one shows up?

Kathy Mulholland: (10:48) Do you ever find homeschooling parents want the librarian to take on an unreasonable amount of the "educating"?

Julie Bramley: (10:49) That is what she told me as well. But she did insist that it is a good place to start.

Dawn Bladzinski: (10:49) Do you find that as the subject matter gets more complex, many of the homeschoolers you deal with eventually opt for other schooling options for high school studies?

Andrea Cline: (10:49) We have a homeschool collection which is used mostly by parents of kids going to school. The most attended program I run at my library is a lego one I get at least 15 kids out once a month. I tried educational stuff and 2 people came out

Keisha M. Miller: (10:50) I'd like to be more of a presence to our homeschooling population. Right now we provide the meeting room space, extending our resources. But often parents would tell us "we're ok" and do their own thing. Sometime 2 people show up...other times 30 people show up.

beverly jacob: (10:51) I am reaching out to the homeschooled community and have had such positive feedback. I have 2 contacts that keep the rest of the groups informed. I taught the Dewey Decimal System to a group-very successful. Planning a Spanish teachin program, photograh group, and more. Very excited!

Keisha M. Miller: (10:51) Also, we get more people from around NJ coming to what we call "homeschooling social", so borrowing materials is limited (esp if they are from out of county)

Sandi Cronce: (10:51) We're going to have an open house this year and I am looking for some ideas of what to present.

Sandi Cronce: (10:51) An open house for home schoolers.

beverly jacob: (10:52) We are doing an open house in October. The Burlington County Library System is promoting homeschooling and developing a relationship with them. Each branch is having an open house.

Keisha M. Miller: (10:52) @Beverly, thanks! Think I may add this group to my outreach of school visits for doing summer reading.

Sophie Brookover: (10:53) I was just digging around on Google and found this (among other things): <http://unschoolers.com/newjersey.html>

Carolyn Aversano: (10:53) the most "unreasonable" request from a homeschool parent was to teach library skills to 30 teenagers. too many teens in one room & I'm uncomfortable and therefore ineffective.

beverly jacob: (10:54) At my branch-Bordentown Branch- we have a fairly large program room. I am in the process of offering the room to groups as a meeting place.

Keisha M. Miller: (10:56) yes - we provide mtg room space giving them access to board games, etc. They're allowed to have food and make it a social gathering

Kathy Mulholland: (10:57) Just like in my Scout troops, most of the homeschoolers I see come to events for the greater community. Our community is so small, I don't think there's critical mass for targeted programs yet. Reaching beyond our boundaries we may though.

Sophie Brookover: (10:57) Beverly, that sounds great -- maybe submit it as a program to the 2013 NJLA Conference? Never too early to plan! :-)

Sandi Cronce: (10:58) yes

Sandi Cronce: (10:58) Probably right after summer reading

Sophie Brookover: (10:59) The conferences they list run the gamut of unschooling to ENOCH & Chaplet.

Sophie Brookover: (10:59) Yeah, there's a tripod.com site there. There's also a meetup.com one.

Sophie Brookover: (11:00) And that one no longer exists, sigh.

beverly jacob: (11:01) My son was homeschooled in his junior and senior year of high school due to medical reasons. He is now a scholar in college, involved in 8 honor societies and was just accepted in the global affairs dept. for the PH.D program!

Keisha M. Miller: (11:02) @Beverly, awesome!!! :-)

Sophie Brookover: (11:02) I got so excited about an unschooling conference link, but it was in 2004. wah-wah.

Sophie Brookover: (11:02) Congratulations, Beverly!

Carolyn Aversano: (11:03) how do college admissions offices handle homeschooler's apps?

Kathleen Breitenbach: (11:04) Carolyn, I was an admissions rep for about five months and the homeschooler I dealt with had a transcript from a homeschooling "group" so she had some documentation

Kathleen Breitenbach: (11:04) but keep in mind, that was in a different state

beverly jacob: (11:04) My son had to get the GED to register for college.

Sophie Brookover: (11:04) I think it'd be great to get an admissions rep to come to your library to tell homeschoolers about the process.

Sophie Brookover: (11:05) I know homeschoolers who went to Stanford & other very competitive schools.

Carolyn Aversano: (11:05) I'm going to send an email to the rep I know right after this :)

Carolyn Aversano: (11:06) I already do a college app essay writing workshop with an admissions rep from Rutgers

beverly jacob: (11:06) I have had homeschooled students as teen volunteers for the Summer Reading Program. They have been very dependable. Excellent!

Sophie Brookover: (11:06) That's a nice way to build relationships w/the community!

beverly jacob: (11:08) Thank you very much! Looking forward to part 2.

Carolyn Aversano: (11:08) ditto what Beverly said :)

Elyse Schear: (11:08) This was excellent. Very informative. Thanks!

Glynis Wray: (11:09) thank you

Susanna Chan: (11:09) Thank you!

Kelly Fitzgerald 2: (11:09) Thank you.

Sophie Brookover: (11:09) :-)

Sophie Brookover: (11:09) You're welcome!

Keisha M. Miller: (11:09) Thanks! Great webinar!

Julie Bramley: (11:09) Thank you!

Liz Burns 2: (11:09) bye! thanks

Liz Burns 2: (11:09) 1

Jen Williams: (11:09) Thanks so much!

Kathleen Breitenbach: (11:09) thank you

Rebecca Crawford: (11:09) Thanks

Adrienne Furness: (11:09) email me at adrienne.furness@gmail.com

Jen Servello: (11:10) thanks!

Sophie Brookover: (11:10) I'm digging up the url

Sandi Cronce: (11:11) Looking forward to Part II!!!

Sophie Brookover: (11:11) for the survey, in case anyone wants it!

Sophie Brookover: (11:11) Thanks for coming, everyone!

Sophie Brookover: (11:11) <https://librarylinknj.wufoo.com/forms/prewebinar-survey-helping-homeschoolers/>