

**JUDITH BASIN COUNTY
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT/
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**
PO Box 427 – 91 Third St N, 3rd Floor
Stanford, MT 59479

Melanie K. Schott, Clerk/Superintendent
Julia Lillegard, Deputy Clerk

Phone (406) 566-2277, opt 6
Fax (406) 566-2211
Email: clerkofcourt.judithbasin@mt.gov

July 1, 2026

Dear Home Educator:

You are receiving this letter because you had notified my office of your intent to home school last year. Please return the completed Home School Notification to this office at the address above or bring it to the third floor of the Judith Basin County Courthouse by September 9, 2026.

As the County Superintendent of Schools, my role is to inform you of the requirements for home schooling in Montana and your responsibilities concerning notification outlined in law (MCA 20-5-109(5)). Annual notification of your intent to home school is required, and a form is enclosed for your convenience. According to Montana Law 20-5-109, 20-1-301, and 20-1-303 MCA, nonpublic schools (including home schools) must provide 720 hours (grades 1-3) and 1080 hours (grades 4-12) of instruction or the equivalent and an organized course of study that includes instruction in the subjects required of public schools as a basic instructional program. The County Superintendent may also request attendance records from you. I know several of the online programs provide an attendance record, however I have included one for you to use if needed.

Participation in federal programs and state student achievement testing are options for your consideration. The state requires public schools to test in grades 3-8 and grade 10 in reading and math on a Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT). A Norm-Referenced Test (NRT-Iowa) in grades 4, 8 and 11 in five subjects is also required. There are also other programs available through your local public school. Please contact the school directly for additional information if desired.

Best wishes for a successful educational experience for you and your child(ren) this year. If I can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact my office at (406) 566-2277, option 6, Clerk of District Court/County Superintendent.

Sincerely,

Melanie K. Schott
County Superintendent of Schools

Enclosures