

PENNSYLVANIA HOMESCHOOLERS

A Statewide Network for Sharing Information about Home Education Editors: Howard & Susan Richman
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Homeschool Excellence Day Goes Annual

from Howard Richman

Last year we wowed Harrisburg, and we're all set to do it again. This year's Homeschool Excellence Day will be Tuesday, September 24, 1996. From 9-11am projects will be set up on tables and bulletin boards in the Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg. Judging will occur from 11 to noon, and winners will be announced at the 1pm rally. State-wide winners will be awarded ribbons, and all participating students will receive certificates.

You may remember the AP article about last year's Homeschool Excellence Day headlined, "Lawmakers Laud Homeschoolers." It included this passage describing Pennsylvania's Secretary of Education looking at our displays:

Perusing a display of home school science projects in the

rotunda, state Secretary of Education Eugene Hickok said education officials would look at the home schooling approach as they revise state reforms

"We won't be implementing the ideas in terms of policies or programs, but the creativity, the entrepreneurship, the flexibility of home schooling are all important for our public schools," Hickok said.

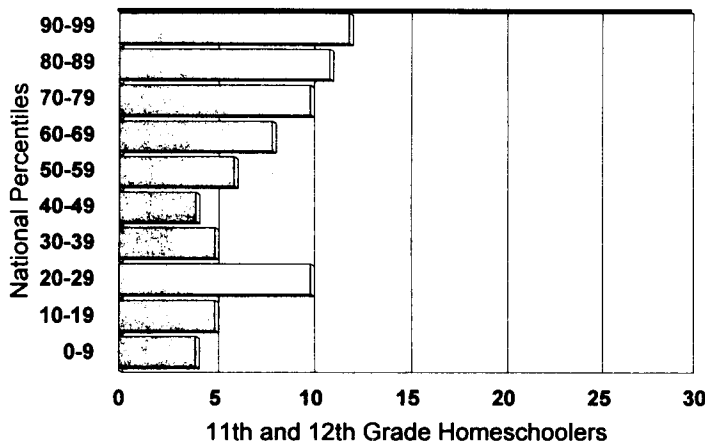
So, we've decided to make the fair an annual event. We want to keep reminding our lawmakers that we are out here and that our kids are doing well. We want to show our legislators what homeschooled kids are like.

Don't forget that our opponents portray us as hiding our kids in closets. For example, in November 1988 (when the home education law was coming up for a vote) the PSEA (Pennsylvania State

Homeschoolers Score High on College Boards

During the 1995-1996 school year, 75 11th and 12th grade homeschoolers (39 girls, 36 boys) in the Pennsylvania Homeschoolers Accreditation Agency (PHAA) diploma program took the SAT I and put down PHAA's school code number on their registration forms. Below is a graph which compares their scores with those of school students' national percentiles. The middle PA Homeschooler scored 600 (80th percentile) in verbal and 550 (65th percentile) in math. These scores were very similar to the 1993-94 school year when 35 homeschoolers took the SATs and the middle homeschooler scored at the 79th percentile in verbal and 65th percentile in math.

**Mathematics Scores on the SAT
1995-1996 School Year**



**Verbal Scores on the SAT
1995-1996 School Year**

