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Homeschool parents have a great deal of freedom when it comes to making a transcript. Yet, there are particular information you ought to include but one thing I normally advise not including on a homeschool transcript. There is also great freedom in merging the many homeschool experiences into classes to put on the transcript.

The first thing your transcript needs is a title. Many families get creative with naming their homeschool and decide to use that name on the transcript. However, you don't even have to use the word homeschool unless you want to. A transcript also needs to include the student's name as well as some kind of identification of the student.

I don't suggest that you put the student's social security number on their transcript. I believe that it's too easy to lose these little pieces of paper. Besides, colleges will not need to have your social security number until after you have been admitted. You'll find various homeschoolers who will include their social security number but I do not suggest it.

You should put all of the educational experience in the middle of the document. This is also where you can place the final grade that you gave them. Most transcripts include a grading scale and a credit level. Putting the year the class was finished will help the college to recognize what high school year the particular class was taken.

When you are not using a curriculum it can get challenging to know ways to record classes. For some classes it's best to record the number of hours of the class. For example, if it was a theater performance then you know that you have a whole credit since you added up an huge amount of hours. But if it was something like dance, you might jot down only 40 hours of swing dancing and you can add it to the hours for additional forms of dancing to complete that credit.

My recommendation is to use sticky notes as an organizing tool. List each class as well as the number of hours then brainstorm the different subject areas that class might be in. What that means is if they had 40 hours of swing dancing the subject area might be fine arts; you might name it dance but you could also name it PE because anything that breaks a sweat can count as PE. That is where you do all that brainstorming.

If you do that with all your delight directed learning, then you should be able to blend them into different classes. If they spent 40 hours in taking first aid in a CPR class, then 40 hours riding their bike, and then 40 hours swimming, take a look at those three sticky notes and figure out what they have in common. In this case you could blend them all into a PE class.

The freedom to be able to show all of the wonderful homeschool high school experiences of your child is worth the additional work. It will pay off in the end.

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