

The Academy at Charlemont

To: Academy Parents

From: John Baldwin



Textbook Purchasing

All students at the Academy are required to purchase some books for their course work. In the case of a seventh grader it may be only half a dozen novels, whereas an upper classman may need 20 books or more. With the advent of the internet and other book resources the best way for each family to find the most economic way to meet this need is to put you in control of this educational expense. The Academy has contracted with **MBS Direct** to be our bookstore supplier. MBS Direct is one of the nation's largest textbook sellers, and they are providing a web site specifically for our school with all the required texts listed by course. There are many other online new and used book sellers as well.

Parents can shop for deals: By providing you with the book information off our database now, you will have an opportunity to shop around. Although MBS Direct has guaranteed to stock the books for our courses you can shop alternatives like your local independent book store, or a variety of online booksellers like Amazon, or Barnes and Noble for new or used books. When purchasing books from sources other than MBS, *be sure to get the correct edition* so your child will have the same pagination and other features his/her classmates have. To get the correct edition use the ISBN numbers provided on the book list or check online at MBS Direct to get the correct ISBN.

Greater opportunity to purchased used books: Because of our size the Academy was never able to stock a large inventory of used books. When an edition or course material changed we could provide only new books. Over 40% of MBS Direct sales are used books, which can save you money. Their online purchasing provides a live inventory of new and used books. Other online suppliers stock used books as well.

Book buy back: MBS Direct will purchase your used books after the course is complete which can provide you with additional savings. MBS Direct also will take back books purchased if a student drops a course within two weeks. *Each year parents of Academy students sponsor a book sale/swap. Please see the enclosed material for dates and other info.*

Please review the enclosed material regarding the program with MBS. If you have any questions regarding books don't hesitate to call John Baldwin at the Academy, or for questions regarding MBS Direct services call their toll free number 1-800-325-3252.

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How to Purchase Textbooks

Student's Textbook List: We have provided a textbook list with the correct ISBNs, for the courses your child signed up for in this mailing. Most art, photo, and music courses do not require books. [Link to Textbooks by course](#)

Junior School Students (Grades 7 & 8) most of the more expensive textbooks are handed out to the class at the beginning of the year, and then turned back at the end of the course. This will be noted on your book list. Most novels will need to be purchased.

Student Course Signup: Be sure to review the course sign up list with your child before you purchase books. If there is a course missing let the school know and we can get you the book list or login to MBS Direct online and search by course to find the material. MBS Direct will take back books for dropped courses within two weeks after a course starts.

Go Shopping: Once you have confirmed you child's course list, choose a book supplier to fit your need. In addition to the Virtual Bookstore provided online by MBS Direct, MBS also processes phone and mail orders. The MBS Direct web site is <http://direct.mbsbooks.com/charlemont.htm> . This web site will be available **starting July 15th**. You will find a broader range of purchase options for paperback novels compared to hardcover textbooks, although a web search will locate many new and used textbook sellers. **Be sure to purchase the correct edition of each book.**

Ship the Books Home and Allow Time for Shipping: Have all your book purchases shipped to your home. All books suppliers have varying shipping methods and lead times, be sure to allow additional time for shipping the books to you.

Take Care of Your Books: Students who take care of their books will have a greater opportunity to recoup the expense should you decide to sell the books back to MBS Direct, or other used book buyers.

Sell Back your Books. Within two weeks of the end of a course MBS will send you an offer to purchase your books back.

Special note for the Key Curriculum Math Series. (Geometry; Algebra II, Pre Calculus, Calculus) Key Curriculum press is one of the few publishers who sells books direct to the public. The savings can be 20-30% of the retail prices charged by MBS. We have asked MBS to provide a link to the Key Curriculum web site for your convenience. The link is: <http://www.keypress.com/index.html> , again be sure to order the correct edition.