



# Hope CHESS !!



## Build Brain Power In: School, Sports, Work, & Life

Join us this fall for an amazing experience! Learn thinking and problem solving skills that help in school and sports! Chess wires your child's brain for math, science and creative thinking. Once you understand the mechanics of chess you know why it is the perfect activity for your child. Chess teaches how to think by teaching problem solving, calculation, concentration, and creativity.

**There is no chance in chess. Whoever sees further ahead wins.**

**Chess is a great way to get involved with your child!**

**Chess Helps With School:** Chess is science and math combined into a fun game! Every game is a lesson on the scientific method. Formulate a plan in your head and try it out in a game. Adjust it, test it again and learn from your mistakes. Advanced students can use computers to improve their play. Chess is all logic: hence, chess teaches math! The way I teach chess is a blueprint kids can use for tackling their schoolwork. I break chess down into parts that are manageable, even for beginners, practice, then continue. Girls play on an equal footing with boys.

**My best teams are half girls and half boys.**

**Chess Helps in Sports:** Want your child exposed to competition and the comradery of team sports? Chess is both an individual activity and a team competition. Kids who aren't athletically inclined can gain self-confidence from chess. Coaches love athletes who cross-train, ie: if you're in soccer, run to improve your endurance and speed. Chess teaches creativity and how to quickly analyze a potential move (or play) and accept or reject it. Cross-train your brain! My focus for those who want team competition is the Maine State Scholastic Team Chess Championship (3/14/20). What sport can your child play where girls and boys can be teammates? The Maine Team Championship is for boys and girls K/12: imagine taking all of your kids to the same big event of the year!! Even better: there is room for everyone who wants to compete: no cuts and no one has to sit on the bench. Every child plays every game! Hurray: chess is now a sport at HES!

**Chess Helps With Work:** My motto: "Hard Work Always Pays Off!" Kids need to work hard because the robots, computers, and machines are coming to steal their jobs. Those who learn how to think, how to solve problems with creativity, how to work hard and how to get along with others will thrive. I tell my students that playing video games and watching TV won't help them.

My students learn the value of hard work: at the Maine Team Championship in March I had the top 7 kids in K/1, the top 13 in grades 2/3 and in grades 4/6 I had 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and five who tied for 8<sup>th</sup>. In the K/1 teams division I had 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>; in grades 2/3: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>; and in grades 4/6: 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Chess Helps In Life:** Chess is the perfect activity for learning how to look out for yourself. Unlike most sports, chess tournament directors do not intervene when they see an infraction. The only way they get involved is if asked. In chess kids learn the rules, how to settle disputes on their own, how to get along with others, how to protect themselves and when to seek help.

**Knowledge is power. Our kids need to learn how to stand up for themselves!**

*Wednesdays after school starting Sept 18, 2:45 - 4 PM. Classes are open to all Hope students, parents and grandparents and are free of charge. To attend you must register on the HES Athletics web page: select chess. Questions? Email BruceHaffner@gmail.com, text or call Bruce Haffner at 847-987-3091.*