pharos TERMINAL

PRESS FACT SHEET

Pharos Terminal: open it and teach

A curriculum for grades 7–12 built from primary sources, great books and real events.

What it is

Pharos Terminal is a curriculum for families who teach at home, and for co-ops, tutors and learning pods, with students in grades 7–12. New Nexus Points arrive daily, each turning a real event into a lesson ready to teach, with its sources attached. Multi-day lesson packets are aligned to West Virginia Department of Education academic standards in English language arts, science and social studies, and full courses run for weeks, not days. A parent tracker records lessons, hours, subjects and standards for every student and exports a year-end portfolio.

Who it's for

Families who teach at home, plus co-ops, tutors, learning pods and micro-schools, with students in grades 7–12.

What's inside

1. **Nexus Points.** New every day. A real event turned into a lesson ready to teach, with sources attached, discussion questions, a writing task and a Teaching Value score from 0 to 100.
2. **Lesson packets.** Multi-day units with a parent guide, readings, activities and a portfolio page, aligned to West Virginia Department of Education academic standards in English language arts, science and social studies.
3. **Full courses.** Courses that run for weeks, taught from the primary-source record and great books, each with its own introduction and a note for the parent.
4. **Parent tracker.** Records the date, hours, subject and standards for each lesson, and exports a year-end portfolio.
5. **The Classroom.** A teacher, co-op leader or tutor invites families with a join code, assigns work to the whole class and follows progress. Up to 25 students per classroom.

> **Values.** Pharos Terminal is built so that parents can teach their students to seek truth in primary sources and great books, to test claims and state opposing views at their strongest, and to grow in virtue and citizenship through experience rather than theory.

Founder

Zac Northup is a writer, historian and researcher in West Virginia. He has taught students in high schools, career tech centers and universities, and has been a published writer since 1996. From 2016 to 2021 he founded and ran an educational nonprofit that taught rural West Virginia high school students to pitch and launch small businesses; it was the subject of a one-hour WV Public Broadcasting documentary in 2019. He is a former member of the West Virginia America250 Commission, holds a B.A. in political science from Marshall University and an M.A. in history from the University of North Carolina Wilmington, and is a veteran of the U.S. Army and Army National Guard.



Photo courtesy of Zac Northup

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