

Grace Christian School

A Ministry of Grace Bible Church

9403 Scot Street

Hudson, FL 34669

Tel: 727-863-1825

PARENT HANDBOOK

2016-2017



*“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,
just as in fact you are doing.”* *I Thessalonians 5:11*

37 Years of Providing Quality Christian Education

TO BE EDUCATED

If I learn my ABCs and can read 600 words per minute, and can write with perfect penmanship, but have not been shown how to communicate with the "Designer" of all language,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I can deliver an eloquent speech and persuade you with stunning logic, but have not been instructed in God's wisdom,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I read Shakespeare and John Locke and can discuss their writings with keen insight, but have not read the greatest of all books, the Bible, and have no knowledge of its personal importance,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I have memorized mathematical facts, multiplication tables, and chemical formulas, but have never been disciplined to hide God's Word in my heart,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I can explain the law of gravity and Einstein's theory of relativity, but have never been instructed in the unchangeable laws of the ONE who orders the universe,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I classify animals by their family, genus and species, and can write a lengthy scientific paper that wins an award, but have not been introduced to the Maker's purpose for all creation,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I can recite the Gettysburg Address and the Preamble to the Constitution, but have not been informed of the hand of God in the history of our country,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I can play the piano, or violin, or several other instruments, and can write music that moves men to tears, but have not been taught to listen to the Director of the universe and worship Him,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I can run cross-country races, star in basketball or do 100 push-ups without stopping, but have never been shown how to bend my spirit to do God's will,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I can identify a Picasso, describe the style of da Vinci, or even paint an A+ portrait, but have not learned that all harmony and beauty comes from a relationship with God,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I graduate with a perfect 4.0 and I am accepted at the best university with a full scholarship, but have not been guided into a career of God's choosing for me,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

If I become a good citizen, voting at each election and fighting for what is moral and right, but have not been told of the sinfulness of man and his hopelessness without Christ,
I HAVE NOT BEEN EDUCATED.

However, if one day I see the world as God sees it, and come to know Him, Whom to know is life eternal, and glorify God by fulfilling His purpose for me,
THEN, I HAVE BEEN EDUCATED!

By **Carolyn Caines**, Supervisor
Columbia Heights Christian Academy
Longview, Washington
Permission to use granted by Moody Radio in Chicago

I am much afraid that schools will prove to be wide gates to hell unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution in which men are not constantly occupied with the Word of God must become corrupt.

-Martin Luther

* * * * *

“The end then of learning is to repair the ruins of our first parents by regaining to know God aright, and out of that knowledge to love Him, to imitate Him, to be like Him.”

- John Milton in “Of Education”

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Office Hours:

School Office:	7:30-4:00 Monday – Friday
Business Office:	8:00-4:00 M-W and Friday / CLOSED Thursdays

Extended School Day Program:

Before School Care	7:00 am to 7:50 am
After School Care	3:15 pm to 6:00 pm

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INTRODUCTION

Grace Christian School is an outreach and discipleship ministry of Grace Bible Church. It supports the families of our community in three ways, by providing an academic education that meets the individual needs of students, by developing good character in students through teaching God's Word, and by helping students build a Christian view of the world.

MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that every child is a precious gift from God. We believe each child is unique and special. They differ in the degree of their spiritual, mental, emotional, physical and social maturity. They develop at their own rate in each of these areas and have individual learning styles with strengths and limitations.

We believe it is our mission to provide a high quality, Christ centered educational program that includes both basic skills and thinking skills. We believe it is our responsibility to provide instruction that will promote success for each child.

Our goal is that upon completion of the prescribed course of study each child will be prepared academically to take his/her place in society, and will have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ that will give direction throughout life. In short, our mission is to evangelize, educate, equip and edify.

GOVERNING BOARD

Members of Grace Christian School Committee shall consist of no more than nine members: the senior pastor of Grace Bible Church or his representative, the principal of Grace Christian School, and seven Grace Bible Church representatives. The principal of Grace Christian School is a non-voting member of this committee.

AFFILIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

In 1979 Grace Christian School was formed as a ministry of Grace Bible Church. Grace Christian School is a member of the Association of Christian Schools, International (ACSI).

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

Grace Christian Schools admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally afforded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

This statement of faith describes what we believe and teach about major Biblical teachings and are the positions taken in the classroom by the teachers.

THE SCRIPTURES - The Christian Bible, both Old and New Testaments, are the divinely, verbally, inspired, word of God, and without error in the original writings. It is the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of mankind, the true center of Christian union and the supreme and final standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried. (2 Tim. 3:15-17, 2 Pet. 1:20, Psalms 19:7-9)

THE GODHEAD - We believe in the only one true God, who is the Creator, Sustainer, Sovereign Ruler of all things, and eternally existing in three persons (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit), who are equal in nature, attributes, and perfection. (Deut. 6:4, Matt. 28:19, 2 Cor. 13:14)

PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST - The Lord Jesus Christ is true God and true man, the eternal Son of God, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary in order to reveal God and redeem sinful mankind. He accomplished this redemption by offering Himself on the cross bearing our sin, as the sinless substitutionary sacrifice, thereby satisfying God's righteous judgment against sin. After substantiating this redemption by His bodily resurrection from the dead, He ascended to the right hand of God the Father, and intercedes for those who trust Him. (John 1:1, 2, 14, 18; Luke 1:34-35; Rom. 3:24-26, 8:34)

PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, who convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and regenerates the unbeliever, and sanctifies and teaches those who believe in Jesus Christ. At the moment of regeneration, the Holy Spirit baptizes seals, indwells, and sovereignly bestows spiritual gifts upon each believer for the edification of the body of Christ. (Eph. 1:13, 4:30; John 16:7-11; 1 Cor. 12)

We believe that the gifts of speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles ceased as the N.T. was completed and its authority established. They were given as signs to the Israelites in fulfillment of O.T. prophecy but were not signs of spiritual superiority or maturity. (1 Cor. 12:4-11, 13:1-3, 14:22, 23; and Eph. 4:7-12)

We believe that God may heal miraculously today when it is His perfect will to do so, but healing is not in the atonement. (2 Cor. 12:8-10; Jas. 5:14-16)

SATAN - We believe in the distinct personality of Satan, and that he is the unholy god of this age. We hold him to be man's great tempter, the enemy of God and His Christ, the accuser of saints, and author of all powers of darkness, sin, and false religion. He is destined to the judgment of an eternal justice in the lake of fire. (Matt. 4:1-11; 2 Cor. 4:4; Rev. 20:10; John 14:30)

CREATION - We believe in the literal 6 day account of creation; that the creation of man lies in the special, immediate, and formative acts of God and not from previously existing forms of life. (Gen. 1:26-27, 2:7-9, 16, 17, 3:1-19)

MANKIND - We believe that human life (mankind) begins at conception (Psalm 139:13 - 16). We believe that mankind was uniquely created in the image of God and is therefore different,

special and sacred. (Genesis 1:27, 2:7) God set man above all other life forms. (Genesis 1:28 - 30) Abortion or the active taking of the life of a human is therefore murder. God only allows for the taking of another human's life as an act of self-defense of self, family or country or as a form of capital punishment in cases of certain crimes. (Genesis 9:6; Exodus 22:2)

The first man, Adam, was created innocent, but through willful disobedience to God, he became spiritually dead bringing sin and physical death into the human race. This spiritual depravity has been transmitted to all mankind, so that man is sinful in nature and by practice. Therefore, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential to the salvation of man. (Gen. 1:26, 3:1-24; Rom. 3:10-18, 5:12; Eph. 2:1-3)

SEXUALITY AND MARRIAGE - We believe mankind was created male and female with each fulfilling their sexual role in a heterosexual monogamist marriage. We also believe that all forms of sexual activity outside of a heterosexual marriage are a perversion of God's sexual design. Sex changes, transvestitism, and sexual activity such as homosexuality, lesbianism, sodomy, and pedophilia are sinful perversions, and no child of God can maintain such a sexual lifestyle. (Gen. 2:18-25; Eph. 5:21-33; Rom. 1:24-32; Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Jn. 3:4-9). We believe that God desires a man and woman to honor their marriage vows till death parts them (Matthew 19:4). God hates divorce. (Malachi 2:16) God only allows for divorce in cases of fornication/adultery and/or desertion by an unbelieving spouse (Matthew 19:8-9; 1Corinthians 7:15)

SALVATION - Salvation is the gift of God's grace, not gained by meritorious works, and freely given to all who trust in the finished work of Jesus Christ at Calvary. Thus, all repentant sinners are forgiven and born into God's family by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit. Evidence of salvation appears in the holy fruits of repentance, faith, and newness of life. (Eph. 2:8-9; John 1:13; John 3:3-6; Matt 7:16; Titus3:5).

REPENTANCE AND FAITH - We believe that repentance and faith are solemn obligations, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the quickening Spirit of God; thereby being deeply convicted of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ and openly confessing Him as our only and all-sufficient Savior. (Acts 20:21; Mark 1:15; Acts 2:27-38; Luke 18:13; Romans 10:13; Psalms 51:1-4, 7; Is 55:6,7).

REGENERATION - Regeneration is the instantaneous act of the Holy Spirit, whereby the sinner, who is dead in trespasses and sin, is brought to spiritual life and is made partaker of the Divine nature. This act is brought about, not by culture, not by character, nor by the will of man, only by the operation of the Holy Spirit in connection with the Word of God (John 1:12-13; John 3:8).

JUSTIFICATION - Justification is the judicial act of God whereby the sinner is declared righteous in view of Christ's shed blood, in which punishment is absolved (having suffered in Christ), and the sinner is restored to Divine favor. (Romans 5:1-9, 4:4-5; Acts 13:39).

SANCTIFICATION - Sanctification is the act of God whereby He sets apart the sinner unto Himself for holy living. This is presented in the scriptures in a threefold aspect:

1. **POSITIONAL SANCTIFICATION**, which is true of every believer (1 Cor: 1:2), the result of the sacrifice of Christ (Heb 10:10), is perfect in its intent and character (Heb. 10:14), and is through the exercise of faith (Acts 26:18).
2. **PROGRESSIVE SANCTIFICATION** begins with salvation and continues until it is brought to completion in the glorified body. It is a result of "growth and grace" (2 Peter 3:18, 2 Cor. 7:1). Every believer is sanctified by the reading of the Word of God, by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Jn. 17:17; Eph. 5:25-26; 2 Cor. 3:18; Phil. 1:6).
3. **ULTIMATE SANCTIFICATION** is attained when the spirit, soul, and body are freed completely from sin and when the believer is brought into the presence of Jesus Christ. (Rom 8:28-30; 1 Jn. 3:2) "...we shall be like Him..." (1 Thess. 5:23).

SECURITY, ASSURANCE, AND RESPONSIBILITY - We believe that all the saved, those in whom God has accomplished His transforming work of grace, are kept by His power and are thus secure in Christ forever. It is their privilege to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation. However, this assurance must not be the occasion for sin, for God in holiness cannot tolerate persistent sin in His children, and in infinite love, He corrects them. Faithfulness to Christ is the hallmark which distinguishes them from superficial professors. (John 10:27-30; Rom. 8:31-39; 1 John 5:13; Heb. 12:6; Matt. 7:20; Jas. 2:20)

CHURCH - We believe in the Church, a living, spiritual body, of which Christ is the Head, and of which all regenerated people are members, and that the local visible Church is a company of regenerated baptized believers in Jesus Christ, associated together for work, worship, and fellowship. (1 Cor. 12:1-31; Matt. 16:16-18; Acts 2:42-47).

ORDINANCES OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER - We believe in the observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper in obedience to the Lord's command; that Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water as his identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, and is a public recognition of the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Rom. 6:1-7; Matt. 28:19-20).

We believe that the Lord's Supper is a memorial service, for believers, in which the elements of bread and grape juice remind us of the vicarious, bloody sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross and is to be observed with solemn, self-examination in anticipation of His second coming. (Matt. 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:23-30; Acts 8:36-38; Rom. 6:3-4).

SECOND COMING OF CHRIST - We believe in the personal, imminent return of Christ to receive the saints and later to establish His millennial kingdom on this earth, and ultimately to establish His eternal reign in the new heavens and the new earth. (1 Thess. 4:13-18, 5:1-11; Rev. 20:3-7).

JUDGEMENT - We believe that the believer's sins are judged in Christ on the cross (2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13; Jn. 5:24) and that his works will be judged for rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ at the time of His coming (1 Cor. 3:8-15; 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor. 4:5; 2 Tim 4:8). We believe that the impenitent wicked will be raised at the second resurrection of the dead to stand at the judgment before the Great White Throne of God. This takes place after the thousand year reign of Christ (Millennium). These will be consigned to the Lake of Fire (Hell), there to suffer torment forever together with the Devil, Antichrist, and False Prophet. We believe that the souls of the impenitent dead are now in a state of conscious suffering in Hades, awaiting the second

resurrection (Ps. 9:16; Luke 16:19-31; Ecc. 12:14; Mark 9:43-48; Rom. 2:8-9; Heb 9:27; Rev. 14:9-11; Rev. 20:10-15, Rev.).

THE ETERNAL STATE - We believe that at death the souls of those who have trusted Christ for salvation pass immediately into His presence and there remain in conscious bliss until the resurrection of the body at His coming for the Church, when soul and body reunited shall be associated with Him forever in glory. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain after death in conscious misery until the final judgment and forever thereafter. (Luke 16:26; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 20:11-15).

GUIDELINES FOR ADMISSION

1. The entire application packet must be returned, preliminary records received from the previous school (if applicable), and a pre-admission interview completed prior to any student's being considered for admission. In addition, prospective students in grades 7 through 12 must provide three character references, which must also be received prior to the interview. Character references must be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered by the persons providing the references. References hand-delivered by prospective students and/or their parents must be in sealed envelopes. (Students of these grades must indicate a willingness to cooperate with the school.) Character References forms, along with a stamped envelope, should be provided to each of the following people:
 - (1) the senior or youth pastor of the church that the student attends;
 - (2) the principal or guidance counselor of the school the student has most recently attended; and
 - (3) an adult who is not related and has known the student personally for at least one year
2. Each prospective student and at least one parent must have a pre-admission interview with the Admissions Committee prior to a child's acceptance. Parents, as well as 7th through 12th grade students will be asked to give an account of their salvation experience.
3. **A registration fee of \$100.00 per child must accompany the registration packet** and will hold a place for **prospective new students** while their applications are being considered. If, for some reason, a prospective new student's application is not approved, the \$100 registration fee will be refunded. However, a refund will not be given to families opting not to enroll after applying. If, for some reason, a student or family is asked not to return, the re-enrollment fee will be refunded. However, a refund will not be given to families opting not to return after re-enrolling.
4. Each applicant must give evidence of potential academic success in the school's program based on school records, entrance tests, and interviews. Each student must have a grade point average of 2.0 (C) or higher. (Consideration may be given to students with extenuating circumstances.) The principal will assign new enrollees to the appropriate grade level.
5. Effective April 1, 2014
All newly enrolled students will be placed on probation for the first 9 weeks of school. The school board will re-evaluate them after this period and make appropriate recommendations.

6. Students must be five (5) years old by September 30th in order to enter kindergarten.

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Grace Christian School believes that God has commanded that sexual activity should be between one man and one woman who are married to each other. Parents/Guardians seeking to enroll their children and who are not married to each other are in opposition to what the Christian Bible teaches and what we are trying to teach. Such enrollment applications for admission will be denied.

GENERAL POLICIES

SCHOOL HOURS

- 7:00 am Before School Program available (7:00-7:50 am)
- 7:50 am Students arrive in classes
- 8:00 am Classes begin/TARDY at 8:00 am
- 2:45 pm Dismissal of grades K5-5
- 3:00 pm Dismissal of grades 6-12 students and remaining grades K5-5 students.
- 3:15 pm All students remaining on campus must report to the After School Care program unless they are involved in extracurricular activities

ARRIVAL

All students arriving to school between 7:00 and 7:29 am will go to the Kindergarten classroom for our Before School Care program. Parents will be charged a fee for this service.

Students arriving at 7:30 a.m. will not be charged a fee.

Elementary students (K-5) arriving after 7:30 am will go to the Kindergarten classroom.

Secondary students (6-12) arriving after 7:30 am will go to the Bible classroom.

DISMISSAL

At 2:45 pm students in grades K5-5 are dismissed from the West side parking lot. At 3:00 pm students in grades 6-12 and the remaining K5-5 students are dismissed from the East parking lot. Parents are to remain in their cars in the pick-up line for safety of all children, parents and teachers. Students will be brought to your vehicle by a staff member.

All students not picked up by 3:15 pm will be taken to the extended school day program except those participating in after school curricular activities. Students picked up after 3:30 pm will be charged a fee for this service. Only parent/guardian approved persons will be allowed to pick up students (refer to page 33).

ATTENDANCE/ TARDINESS/EARLY DISMISSAL

ATTENDANCE:

Regular attendance in school is necessary for your student to achieve the best possible education. When a student is absent, he/she suffers academically. As an educational institution, we discourage absences from classes other than those that are absolutely necessary. Excessive absences affect a student's grade and could place his/her promotion in jeopardy. Excessive absences may also affect scholarships.

ABSENCES/TARDIES:

Absences or tardiness will be excused for personal illness, a death in the family, college visits for 12th graders, or pre-planned family activities with written notification to the principal one week before the activity and planned date.

A note from the parent will be required to explain why the student was absent or tardy. The note must always state the reason for the absence or tardy, and the reason must be accepted by the principal. Bring all absence and tardy notes to the school office when the student returns to school.

DISMISSALS:

When it is absolutely necessary for a parent/guardian to take a child out of class before the normal end of school day, the parent/guardian must send a note or call before the child will be released. The parent must report to the school office and sign the child out. If a student is driving himself to an appointment or leaving early for another reason, a note, phone call, or visit from the parent is necessary before the student may leave the campus. The student driver must sign out at the office before leaving campus.

* Students involved in dual-enrollment at PHCC must provide a parent-signed "permission to leave school" note each year they participate in the program.

Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. **or** after the beginning of each period (gr. 6-12) are considered tardy. Students arriving late to school must go to the office and secure a late pass and then return immediately to class. Excused tardies must meet the same conditions as excused absences. Students in grades 6-12 with five unexcused tardies will receive one absence. **(Oversleeping, sleeping late after ball games and other activities, being caught in traffic and the like, will not be excused.)**

Grades 6-12 – If a student is late 25 minutes or more to a class, it will be considered a class absence. Proper written notice with a reason for the absence is necessary.

Florida State statutes require the following minimal instructional hours for schools:

- **Kindergarten: 3 net hours per day or 540 hours per year**
- **Grades 1-3: 4 net hours per day or 720 hours per year**
- **Grades 4-8: 5 net hours per day or 900 hours per year**
- **Grades 9-12: 135 hours per year per credit (67.5 hours for ½ credit)**

Florida Statute 1003.436 advises that a [secondary] student may not be awarded a credit for graduation if he/she has not been in attendance for instruction for a "minimum of 135 hours". A secondary student who is absent more than 10 days per semester will fail each subject in which he/she has more than 10 absences, even if he/she has a passing grade. All absences, (excused or unexcused), count toward the limit of 10 days per semester. The number of planned absences may be no more than five days for secondary students.

Students with excused absences or tardies will have the same number of days to make up work or tests as they were absent (absent three (3) days = three days to make up work). Students with unexcused absences will receive a zero for homework or tests that they missed.

Attendance Points: Students in grades **K-5th** achieving perfect or good attendance for each quarter will receive points added to their quarter grade. This applies only to the first class of the day.

0 absences/0 tardies	+ 4 points
1 absence/1 tardy	+ 3 points
2 absences/2 tardies	+ 2 points
3 or more absences/3 or more tardies	0 points

Students in grades **6-12** achieving perfect or good attendance for each quarter will receive points added to their quarter grade. This applies to all classes in these grades.

0 absences	+ 4 points
1 absence	+ 3 points
2 absences	+ 2 points

3 or more absences

0 points

* Five tardies will count as one absence.

If a student has had at least ten (10) absences or tardies within a calendar month it will be reported to the school principal or his designee that the student may be exhibiting a pattern of non-attendance. The school principal or designee will contact the parent/guardian to resolve any possible issues. If the initial parent/guardian meeting does not resolve the problem, then additional interventions may be utilized to resolve the problem.

CODE OF CONDUCT (Students)

We believe that parents have the primary responsibility for the discipline of the child. The school will not spend a disproportionate amount of time dealing with discipline problems. Grace Christian School is dedicated to the training of children in a program of study, activity, and living that is Christ-centered. Discipline is firm, consistent, fair, and tempered with love. Our faculty maintains standards that encourage good behavior in the classroom through kindness, love, and a genuine regard for their students. When disciplinary action becomes necessary, it is carried out with firmness, tempered by good judgment and understanding.

The teacher will initially correct misbehavior. When warranted, the teacher will confer with the principal and/or parents to resolve a behavioral problem. When a student's behavior is continuously in discord with school policies and/or principles, that student may be placed on probation. The parents will be notified of such in writing and may be called in for a conference. If a student's conduct or cooperation with the school is not in keeping with the school's requirements and/or interferes with the educational process, that student's enrollment may be ended by the school.

The following is a list of activities that will not be tolerated at Grace Christian School by any student, as well as the penalties that the School Committee has determined will be assigned for violation of school policies. Penalties will be grade level appropriate. The Code of Conduct is subject to change. Final interpretation of the Code of Conduct will be made by the principal and/or School Committee.

1. Cheating, copying, or allowing work to be copied, either on or off campus - (elementary students - "F" on the assignment or test and a possible suspension); (secondary students - "0" on the assignment or test and one day of suspension for the first offense; "0" and one detention plus one day of suspension for the second offense; "0" and two days of detention plus one day of suspension for the third offense; "0" and expulsion from school for the fourth offense)
2. Chewing gum while on campus, on the bus, or on field trips - (infraction or detention)
3. Skipping one class - (one day suspension); skipping all day - (two day suspension)
4. Forging another's name - (one day suspension)
5. Fighting (which includes hitting, biting, slapping or punching) while on campus or at school functions - (1-10 day suspension)
6. Cursing, using vulgarity, telling off-color jokes, or making obscene gestures, including mooning, while on campus or at school functions - (one or more days suspension)

****If you have any questions about inappropriate words, a list can be provided upon request.***

7. Deliberate destruction of, damage to, or defacing of school, church, and/or faculty property (10 day suspension or expulsion and the student must pay the cost of any repairs)
8. Public display of affection (includes holding hands) while on campus or at school functions (detention and/or suspension)
9. Touching other students while on campus or at school functions (considered an invasion of privacy may be subject to disciplinary action)
10. Any arrest or immoral conduct, either on or off campus including but not limited to fornication, adultery, homosexuality, or other forms of sexual misconduct- (up to expulsion) (Refer to the Statement of Faith; boyfriends and girlfriends cannot live together.)
11. Unauthorized use or possession of tobacco (includes smoking, dipping, and chewing), either on or off campus - (five days of out-of-school suspension for first offense; expulsion for second offense)
12. Use, possession, or distribution of alcohol or illegal drugs, either on or off campus - (expulsion)
13. Lying or disrespect while on campus or at school functions - (1-2 day suspension).
14. Use, possession, or distribution of any over-the-counter or prescription medication while on campus or at school functions. (up to expulsion)
15. Belligerent or derogatory comments about the school, staff, administration, or other students while on campus or at school functions - (detention, and/or suspension)
16. Stealing or taking someone's property without permission (includes removing articles from a hallway or locker and eating another person's lunch) - (1-2 day suspension)
17. Possession of firearms, knives, weapons, or fireworks while on campus or at school functions – (expulsion)
18. Inappropriate driving while on campus or at school functions - (driving privileges suspended for one week for first offense; driving privileges suspended for one month for second offense)
19. Possession or viewing of pornographic material either on or off campus - (subject up to expulsion)
20. Playing loud and/or secular music on car radios while on campus or at school functions - (driving privileges suspended for one week)
21. Possession of any electronic equipment including, but not limited to, beepers, cell phones, laptop computers, game boys, portable radios, tape players, etc. while on campus without administrative pre-approval - (confiscation of item)
22. Failure to return Progress Reports within two (2) days and/or Report Cards within two (2) weeks allotted time - (30 minute detention will be issued for grades 6-12 students.)
23. Failure to serve detention - (additional 30 minute detention for first offense; additional 30 minute detention and suspension from school until detention is served for further offenses)
24. Inappropriate behavior during detention - (dismissal from detention and additional 30 minute detention for first offense; dismissal from detention, additional 30 minute detention, and suspension from school until detention is served for further offenses)
25. Repeated dress code violations (subject to detention and/or suspension)
26. Body piercing-any visible body piercings are subject to a minimum one-day suspension.
27. Tattooing, including visible temporary or permanent tattoos are prohibited. Any visible tattoos are subject to a minimum one day suspension.

INFRACTIONS: (Grades 6-12)

Any failure to abide by school rules or class rules may result in an infraction. If a student accumulates three infractions in a quarter, he/she will receive a 30-minute detention.

EXAMPLES OF INFRACTIONS:

Going to the bathroom without a pass	Dress code violation
Disrespect	Derogatory comments
Did not serve assigned detention (30 min. detention)	Eating/drinking in class without permission
Failure to follow teacher directions	Chewing Gum
Did not return Progress Report (30 min. detention)	Public display of affection
Rude to students	Tardy to class
Unacceptable classroom behavior	Unprepared for class

The principal may administer more severe discipline in cases where there is reoccurring, frequent or aggravated violations of the school rules.

DETENTION:

Grades 3-5: A teacher may issue a detention for infraction of school or classroom rules. A detention slip will be issued at least one day before the scheduled detention so that transportation arrangements can be made. This slip must be signed and returned by the detention date.

Grades 6-12: A detention slip will be issued at least one day before the scheduled detention so that transportation arrangements can be made. This slip must be signed and returned by the detention date. Students whose detention slips are not signed and returned will receive additional detentions until their slips are signed and returned. If a student cannot serve a detention on the date assigned, a note from the parent/guardian with explanation must be submitted. Detentions are work details around the school grounds. Detentions will normally be assigned for after school hours Tuesday – Friday; however, occasionally detentions will be assigned for a Saturday. Parents will receive phone notification if a Saturday detention is assigned.

Infractions per Quarter:	3 infractions = ½ hour detention
	3 more (6 total) = 1 hour detention
	3 more (9 total) = 2 hour detention plus a \$5.00 charge
	3 more (12 total) = 2 hour detention plus a \$5.00 charge
	3 more (*15 total) = 4 hour detention plus a \$20.00 charge
	(*A Discipline Meeting will be required)

Additional infractions may result in further discipline such as suspension, probation or removal from the school.

DISCIPLINE MEETING: (Grades 6-12)

When a student has received 15 or more infractions a parent conference (to include the student, parent, principal or vice principal) is required before the student may return to class.

SUSPENSIONS

ISS (In School Suspension) – This is a working suspension. Students are to report to the school office in the morning in appropriate work clothes (a solid colored T-shirt and jeans and sneakers). Students are not permitted to attend classes; however, they are expected to get their missed work from their teachers at the end of the day. They must complete all missed work. They will receive credit for the work.

OSS (Out of School Suspension) – Students are not permitted to be at school or on school property for the duration of an Out of School Suspension. They are required to make up missed work (homework, quizzes and tests) but they will receive zeroes. This is also recorded as an unexcused absence.

PROBATION

Probation is meant to be a time of observation and reporting of a student's progress and performance. Students will be placed on probation for one of the following reasons:

1. All new incoming students will be placed on probation to help them acclimate to Grace Christian School. This is not a disciplinary action for new students. The normal probation period for new students is nine weeks. However, some students may stay on probation for longer periods of observation and reporting.
2. Students will be put on probation if they are academically failing one or more subjects and it is recommended by a teacher, the principal or the school committee. Students will remain on probation until they are passing all classes and/or they have a 2.0 grade point average.
3. Students will be put on probation if they have unsatisfactory attitudes and/or behaviors and it is recommended by a teacher, the principal or the school committee. Students will remain on probation until the student has satisfactory improvement in attitude and/or behavior. If satisfactory improvement is not achieved after a period of time, determined by the school committee, the student will be suspended or expelled.

Students on probation will have monthly observation reports completed by their teacher(s) and reviewed by the principal and school committee. Teachers will meet with the parents of probationary students every two or three weeks to review the students' progress. Parents will receive weekly progress reports and all assignments will be made available to the students and parents at the beginning of each week.

DISMISSAL/EXPULSION FROM SCHOOL

The school reserves the right to deny admission to or dismiss any student or family for any reason that the principal and/or School Committee deems necessary. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to cooperate with the educational process, an inability to respond to our curriculum, chronic unexcused absences or tardiness, persistent dress code violations, and rebellion toward discipline on the part of the student, as well as attitude incompatibility, chronic complaining, sowing discord, unchristian conduct, and a lack of compliance or support on the part of either the student or the parents.

RULES OF GOOD CONDUCT

1. Students are to be honest, courteous, and kind at all times.
2. Respect for teachers and other adults is expected and required. (Teachers will also address the students with respect.)
3. During regular school hours, students must be signed out by a parent or guardian before leaving school grounds, regardless of their reason for leaving early.
4. Student drivers are to sign in upon their arrival on campus and sign out before their departure each day. They must have their parent's written permission and sign out before leaving school grounds during regular school hours, regardless of their reason for leaving early.
5. There is to be no running, horseplay, or excessive noise in the hallways.
6. Students cannot leave or have other students or people, except their parents, leave school to get food for them.
7. Candy, food, and beverages are to be eaten in designated areas only.
8. Gum chewing is not allowed on campus.
9. Students are to be in their seats and ready to begin class with all necessary materials when class is scheduled to begin.
10. Students are not to talk in class unless they raise their hands and are recognized.
11. Students are to stay in their seats during class unless given permission to get up by the teacher.
12. Students must have permission from the principal to sell anything on school grounds.

CODE OF CONDUCT (Parents)

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

We welcome suggestions or questions by parent. It is important to keep the lines of communication open between teachers, parents, administration and the school board. Grace Christian School follows the guidelines set forth in Matthew 18:15-17 as the standard for conflict resolution. If a parent has a problem with a teacher, an appointment should first be set up with the teacher to discuss the problem. Usually any issues can be resolved at this meeting. If unresolved on this level it is then appropriate to request a meeting with the teacher and the principal.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Please refrain from smoking tobacco products, drinking alcoholic beverages or participating in any questionable activity while on school grounds or while representing Grace Christian School.**
2. Grace Christian School believes that God has commanded that sexual activity should be between one man and one woman who are married to each other. Parents/Guardians are to refrain from cohabitation without the benefit of marriage as it could result in the dismissal of your student(s) from Grace Christian School.
3. Please keep in mind that our conversation is to be a "sweet smelling savor" to our Lord. Please refrain from using profanity and vulgar or inappropriate language on campus and at school sponsored activities. Loud conversations inside or outside the buildings are inappropriate.

4. Please refrain from gossiping. If you have any issues that need to be discussed, please make an appointment to see the principal.
5. Please refrain from holding “parent conversations” in the school hallways.
6. Whenever you are on campus your dress should be modest and appropriate for the activity. Clothing should not be cut low at the neckline, too tight, too short, or have inappropriate or offensive language on it.
7. If you are in your vehicle on campus, be sure your music is appropriate and is on low volume.
8. When chaperoning a field trip, please abide by the rules and regulations established by the school and the classroom teacher.
9. Be sure to check your student’s satchel or back-pack daily for Progress Reports, field trip forms, homework assignments, teacher notes etc. Be sure to sign all appropriate papers and return to the teacher promptly. Be sure to sign his/her planner.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Open communication between parents and teachers is important. We appreciate the support you give to the teacher by being involved in your child’s education process. Written notes are the most helpful means of communication, however, if you need a meeting, please schedule an after-school appointment. Conferences at drop-off or during the school hours are not appropriate. For a brief up-date on your child’s progress, Parent Meetings are scheduled two times a year (see the Activity Calendar for dates).

GENERAL DRESS CODE

GIRL’S DRESS CODE

We believe the way students dress strongly influences their behavior, self-image, and the effort they exert in school. It is our desire to encourage students to develop an attitude about their appearance, which will show a high degree of self-respect and self-worth. The school dress code is intended to guide students to dress in a clean, neat, and modest fashion, which reflects self-respect and femininity in girls. All clothes should reflect a girl’s desire to be modest; emphasizing a sense of what is fit and proper at all times. A girl’s dress should display modesty in correct fit, including length and necklines.

All students are expected to dress neatly and modestly. Clothing appropriate for specific activities may be worn with permission, but must still meet the general spirit of the dress code. This standard will apply to field trips, athletic events, banquets, and all other school functions.

The Dress Code is subject to change. School personnel will make final interpretation. Questions as to the acceptance of clothing not specifically addressed in the dress code should be discussed with the Principal. Generally, a conservative position will be held. All dress and hair code rules and regulations are in effect until the students leave the school campus.

Pants ... Pants must be “uniform-type” and may be either navy, khaki, olive green, forest green, or black. Pants with belt loops must be worn with a belt. Pants must fit properly. Athletic pants, bell-bottoms, Hip-huggers, Low-riders, Capri pants, cargo pants, carpenter pants, corduroys, denim pants, “denim-look: pants, overalls, sweat pants, stretchy material and any other type not generally considered “uniform” are PROHIBITED. Pants may NOT be too tight or too baggy. Pants may not be of stretch type material.

Skirts ... Skirts must be “uniform-type” and may be either navy, khaki, olive green, forest green, or black. Skirts must fit properly and must reach the top of the knee. Skirts with belt loops must be worn with a belt. Corduroy skirts, denim skirts, “denim-look” skirts, spandex-type skirts, and any other type not generally considered “uniform” are PROHIBITED. Skirts may NOT be too tight or too baggy. Skirts whose lengths or slits are higher than the top of the knee are PROHIBITED.

Jumpers ... Jumpers must be “uniform-type” and may be navy, khaki, olive green, forest green or black. Jumpers must have the “Grace Christian School” monogram. Jumpers may only be worn with polo-style shirts and/or turtlenecks underneath. Jumpers must reach the top of the knee. Corduroy jumpers, denim jumpers, “denim-look” jumpers, overall jumpers, spandex-type jumpers, and any other type not generally considered “uniform” are PROHIBITED.

Shorts & Skorts ... K-5 through 6th grade students may wear navy, khaki, olive green, forest green, or black modest length “uniform type” shorts with a minimum of finger-tip length. Shorts and skorts with belt loops must be worn with a belt. Shorts and skorts must fit properly. Athletic shorts, cargo shorts, carpenter shorts, corduroy shorts and skorts, denim shorts and skorts, “denim-look” shorts and skorts, overall shorts and skorts, sweat shorts, and any other type not generally considered “uniform” are PROHIBITED. Shorts may NOT be too tight or too baggy. They must have traditional front and back pockets. Grades 7-12 are PROHIBITED from wearing shorts or skorts.

Shirts ... All shirts must be “polo-style” with the “Grace Christian School” monogram and may be ordered through the school. Shirts must fit properly and be tucked in. Shirts other than “Grace Christian School” polo-style shirts are PROHIBITED. Shirts may NOT be too tight or too baggy.

Turtlenecks ... Turtlenecks may be worn under “Grace Christian School” polo-style shirts or “Grace Christian School” jumpers. Turtlenecks may NOT be worn without either “Grace Christian School” polo shirts or jumpers over them.

Sweatshirts ... Grace Christian School approved sweatshirts have to have the Grace Christian School monogram OR LETTERING. All sweatshirts are to be purchased through the school.

Sweaters ... may be worn to school, but are not permitted in the classroom.

Jackets ... Jackets can be worn to school and at recess but not in class. Jackets cannot have inappropriate language or graphics on them.

Belts ... Belts must be worn with all pants, skirts, shorts and skorts that have belt loops. Fad-style belts or those strongly associated with “worldliness” or gangs are PROHIBITED. Belts may NOT be oversized or hang down in the front. Belts must have a buckle on them.

Shoes ... Tennis shoes, as well as most other shoes, are permitted. 7th through 12 grade girls may wear high heels up to 2” high. Backless shoes and flip-flops are PROHIBITED. Girls under 7th grade may not wear high heels. Boots must be mid-calf or lower, no full length to the knee boots.

Socks or hosiery ... Socks or hosiery must be worn at all times, unless sandals or open-toed shoes are worn.

Undergarments ... Proper undergarments must be worn at all times.

Hats and caps ... Hats and caps may only be worn OUTSIDE and may only be worn before and after school. Hats and caps worn inside of the building or during school hours will be confiscated.

Jewelry and fashion accessories ...

Jewelry and fashion accessories, (i.e. Earrings, necklaces, watches, and bracelets, etc.) may be worn in moderation. This is subject to the interpretation of school personnel. Excessive jewelry and fad-type fashion accessories strongly associated with “worldliness” or gangs are PROHIBITED. Gloves are not permitted in the classroom. Chains and ropes may not be worn around the neck or on wallets, keys, etc. Ladies are only permitted to have two (2) pair of pierced earrings in their ears.

Body piercing ... Body piercing of any type (i.e. Tongue rings, belly-button rings, eyebrow rings, gauges and nose-rings) is PROHIBITED.

Make-Up ... 7th-12th grade girls may wear makeup in moderation. This is subject to the interpretation of school personnel. Girls under 7th grade may NOT wear makeup.

Hair ... Hair is to be kept clean, appropriately cut, and neatly styled. This is subject to the interpretation of school personnel. Fad type haircuts and hair styles strongly associated with “worldliness” or gangs are PROHIBITED. Odd colored hair (i.e. blue, green, purple, orange, etc) is PROHIBITED. Hair must be of natural color.

Tattoos ... Tattoos (temporary and permanent) are **PROHIBITED**.

BOY’S DRESS CODE

We believe the way students dress strongly influences their behavior, self-image, and the effort they exert in school. It is our desire to encourage students to develop an attitude about their appearance, which will show a high degree of self-respect and self-worth. The school dress code is intended to guide students to dress in a clean, neat, and modest fashion, which reflects self-respect and manliness in boys. All clothes should reflect a boy’s desire to be modest; emphasizing a sense of what is fit and proper at all times.

All students are expected to dress neatly and modestly. Clothing appropriate for specific activities may be worn with permission, but must still meet the general spirit of the dress code. This standard will apply to field trips, athletic events, banquets, and all other school functions.

The Dress Code is subject to change. School personnel will make final interpretation. Questions as to the acceptance of clothing not specifically addressed in the dress code should be discussed with the Principal. Generally, a conservative position will be held. All dress and hair code rules and regulations are in effect until the students leave the school campus.

Pants ... Pants must be “uniform-type” and may be either navy, khaki, olive green, forest green, or black. Pants with belt loops must be worn with a belt. Pants must fit properly. Athletic

pants, bell-bottoms, low-riders, Hip-huggers, Capri pants, cargo pants, carpenter pants, corduroys, denim pants, “denim-look” pants, overalls, sweat pants, and any other type not generally considered “uniform” are PROHIBITED. Pants may NOT be too tight or too baggy. Pants may not be of stretch type material.

Shorts ... K5 through 6th grade students may wear navy, khaki, olive green, forest green or black “finger-tip” length “uniform type” shorts. Shorts with belt loops must be worn with a belt. Shorts must fit properly. Athletic shorts, cargo shorts, carpenter shorts, corduroy shorts, denim shorts, “denim-look” shorts, overall shorts, sweat shorts, and any other type not generally considered “uniform” are PROHIBITED. Shorts may NOT be too tight or too baggy. Shorts must have traditional front and back pockets. Grades 7-12 may not wear shorts.

Shirts ... All shirts must be “polo-style” with the “Grace Christian School” monogram and may be ordered through the school. Shirts must fit properly and be tucked in. Shirts other than “Grace Christian School” polo-style shirts are PROHIBITED. Shirts may NOT be too tight or too baggy.

Sweaters ... may be worn to school, but are not permitted in the classroom.

Jackets ... Jackets can be worn to school and at recess but not in class. Jackets cannot have inappropriate language or graphics on them.

Sweatshirts ... Grace Christian School approved sweatshirts must have the Grace Christian School monogram.

Belts ... Belts must be worn with all pants and shorts that have belt loops. Fad-style belts or those strongly associated with “worldliness” or gangs are PROHIBITED. Belts may NOT be oversized or hang down in the front. Belts must have buckles.

Shoes ... Tennis shoes, as well as most other shoes, are permitted. Sandals and flip-flops are PROHIBITED.

Socks ... Socks must be worn at all times.

Hats and caps ... Hats and caps may only be worn OUTSIDE and may only be worn before and after school. Hats and caps worn inside of the building or during school hours will be confiscated.

Jewelry and fashion accessories ... Jewelry and fashion accessories (i.e. necklaces, watches, and bracelets, etc.) may be worn in moderation. This is subject to the interpretation of school personnel. Gloves may not be worn in the classroom.

Earrings & Body piercing ... Body piercing of any type (i.e. Earrings, tongue rings, belly-button rings, eyebrow rings, gauges and nose-rings) are PROHIBITED.

Tattoos ... Tattoos (temporary and permanent) are PROHIBITED.

Hair ... Hair must be neatly tapered both in the back and on the sides. Hair is to be kept clean, appropriately cut and neatly styled. This is subject to the interpretation of school personnel. Hair may NOT touch the collar, the ears, or the eyebrows when in a normal wearing position. Fad-

type haircuts and hairstyles strongly associated with “worldliness” or gangs are prohibited. Odd colored hair (i.e. blue, green, orange, purple, etc.) is PROHIBITED. Hair must be a natural color.

Facial Hair ... Boys in 11th & 12th grade may wear mustaches if kept neatly trimmed. Sideburns may only be grown to the bottom of the ear. Sideburns may NOT grow past the bottom of the ear. This is subject to the interpretation of school personnel. Boys under 11th grade may NOT wear facial hair. Students are NOT permitted to have beards.

Approved Elementary Dress Code Additions (9/18/12)

- Uniform style shorts may have side 1” to 2” wide pencil pockets at the leg.
- Girls may wear leggings under skirts
- Thigh high or knee socks may be worn
- Knee high **nylons** are not permitted.

ALTERNATIVE DRESS CODE ... For special school functions

Friday Dress Code:

Khaki slacks or long jeans may be worn with the current year’s Grace Christian School Tee Shirt. Jeans must be classic waist line, straight-leg style and full length of denim material. Jeans must be solid blue in color without any color variations (faded look). Jeans may not have rips, shreds, studs or fringes. Jean shorts are NOT permitted. If the student chooses not to wear the alternative Friday uniform, then the student is required to wear the regular GCS uniform.

- In addition, students **MAY** wear khaki pants, skorts, skirts or shorts with the Friday T-shirt.
- Hip Huggers, Low riders, bell bottoms, skinny jeans or jeans of stretch material are unacceptable.
- Jeans may not be faded.
- Jeans may not have designs or ruffles on them.
- Jeans may not be black or any other color other than plain blue.
- Jeans may not be worn with the polo-style Grace Christian School uniform shirt or any other shirts beside the current Grace Christian Tee Shirt.

SPIRIT DAYS

On Spirit Days students and teachers can participate. Students must dress modestly and safely. Student are encouraged to participate in Spirit Days, but they are not required to participate. If a student does not participate they must wear the normal school uniform. Students must still follow the dress code with a few exceptions. Shirts do not have to be tucked in. Clothing does not have to match. Students can wear classic cut jeans.

We still require belts. Flip flops, bathroom slippers, cleats, ice skates, roller skates are not allowed. **No** holes in the garments and no skinny jeans (pants). **No** tank tops, temporary tattoos, hair dyes, or face painting. Grades 7-12 cannot wear shorts.

Field Trips

Regular Grace Christian School dress code should be worn on all field trips unless alternate dress is approved by the principal.

Homecoming Week

During homecoming week, the students may dress according to the theme as instructed remaining within the Grace Christian School guidelines.

Homecoming Banquet: Formal Attire

Gentlemen must wear a tie, dress shirt, dress pants and dress shoes.

Ladies must dress modestly in gowns or party dresses that touch the bottom of the knee. Ladies may not have their shoulders exposed. Necklines must be modest and not low-cut in the front or back. Their shoulders must be covered with a jacket or a shawl that is not see through and remain on at all times.

ATHLETIC DRESS CODE

Students in grades 6-8 have P.E. every day. The P.E. uniform navy blue shorts must be purchased through the school. A solid-colored navy blue tee shirt can be purchased through the school or bought in a store. Shorts must have a minimum of a 7 inch inseam length and must be loose fitting.

Students who participate in athletic programs (extracurricular activities) will remain in regular school dress code unless authorized to change into athletic wear by the principal, athletic director or the coach.

Practice Attire: Students are required to wear solid colored t-shirt with athletic shorts that are loose-fitting and they must be at least finger-tip length and approved by the coach. Athletic shoes/sneakers with socks must be worn for practice.

Game Attire:

Team participants may be dismissed to change into standard uniform as specified by the athletic director, coach or principal. Uniforms will include the proper game color shirt, including under shirt if required, uniform shorts, socks and sneakers/footwear.

EXTRACURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

ATHLETIC REQUIREMENTS

Joining an athletic team is a commitment. Games and practices are not optional. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Any unexcused absences are subject to loss of playing time. Students must attend at least 3 ½ hours of school in order to be eligible to practice or play in a game on that day. Any student may be removed from the team for misconduct at the discretion of the administration.

Students participating in athletics are required to have on file the following:

- A current year Florida Athletic Physical Form (in addition to school Health Physical)
- A current year Athletic Participation Form
- A copy of the Health Insurance that covers the student

Also, to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, students will need to pass all courses in the previous quarter and maintain a 2.0 GPA. Eligibility for the first quarter of the school year will be determined using the fourth quarter of the previous year. Students who earn eligibility will remain eligible for the entire quarter.

Ineligible Students

- Ineligible students will not participate in any interscholastic events, including tournaments, until the end of the quarter report is issued. They may practice and attend meetings.

CLUBS

Honors Club

Honor's Club Requirements (rev. 6.21.2011)

1. Returning students must be on Honor Roll (all A's and B's) or Principal's List (all A's) for the 4th quarter of the previous year and all 3 quarters of the current school year.
2. New Students must be on the Honor Roll or Principal's List for all 3 quarters of the current school year.
3. Student may not have any suspensions or accumulate more than 2 hours of detention of the current school year.
4. Students must pay a \$50.00 non-refundable deposit after second quarter for the Honors trip.
5. Students must help with all fundraisers or be responsible for their part of the expenses for the trip.
6. All money raised for the Honors Trip is the property of the Honor's Club. If any student cannot go on the trip for any reason, all money that they have raised or contributed will go toward the next trip the Honor's Club takes.
7. If the Honor's Club does not raise enough funds for the trip, all Honor's Club members going on the trip will be responsible for the difference.

Proposed Fund Raisers:

1. Friday Morning Bake Sales
2. Christmas & Valentine's Day Flowers/Candy
3. Classroom - candy bars
4. Car Washes (as a last resort)

Student Council

Students serving on the Student Council must commit to full participation by attending all meetings and functions and participating in all fund raisers.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

All tuition payments are due on the first of each month beginning in August and ending in May. Accounts are considered delinquent by the 10th of each month and a \$20.00 late fee will be assessed for that month. If payment remains unpaid by the 20th of the month, a \$1.00 per day late fee will be charged from the 21st day of the month through the last day of the month. If a payment becomes 30 days past due, the student will be suspended until the account is brought up to date. A \$25.00 fee will be charged for checks returned due to “insufficient funds.” If a check is returned for any reason for payments of any school program, the school will NOT accept checks from this account for the remainder of the school year. In cases of student withdrawal from the school, school records will not be released until full payment of tuition, fees, and/or any other unpaid balances are made.

WITHDRAWING AND/OR END OF YEAR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Parent/guardians are responsible to keep all fees paid and current. Any delinquency in fees owed will result in report cards and/or other records from being released. If fees become delinquent a notice will be given to the person responsible or the bill. Once the fees are paid in full then the records will be released. If a student is withdrawn at the end of the school year or prior to the end of the school year, then the parent/guardian will be responsible to contact the school office and complete a Withdrawn Form. This person will then be required to make contact with the bookkeeper to ascertain if any fees are owed. Scholarships do not pay all fees if a student withdraws before the end of the school year. Once all fees and unpaid balances are paid in full, then records can be released. We will strive to have all records up to date and released within one week of full payment of all monies owed. Fees include lunch money, before and after care; tuition, registration, graduation fees, material fees and any other unpaid balances that may have occurred. Any overpayments will be processed as quickly as possible and returned to the appropriate person(s).

TUITION & FEES

The following rates are set for the 2015-16 school year.

K5 – Full Day	\$4,270.00
Grades 1-6	\$4,515.00
Grades 7-12	\$4,635.00

MATERIALS FEES: A non-refundable **\$460.00** Books & Materials Fee (per student) must be paid prior to August 1st.

SENIOR GRADUATION FEE: A non-refundable \$75.00 Graduation Fee (per senior) must be paid prior to February 15th.

6TH GRADE GRADUATION FEE: Fees to be determined annually. Parents will be notified at the beginning of the second semester of the school year.

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION FEE: Fees to be determined annually. Parents will be notified at the beginning of the second semester of the school year

REGISTRATION FEES: A registration fee of \$100.00 per child must accompany the registration packet and will hold a place for prospective new students while their applications are being considered. If, for some reason, a prospective new student's application is not approved, the \$100 registration fee will be refunded. However, a refund will not be given to families *opting not to enroll* after applying.

RE-ENROLLMENT FEES:

The appropriate re-enrollment fee must accompany the re-enrollment packet in order for us to hold a place for returning students. The re-enrollment fees for returning families are as follows:

- **March & April** - \$ 50.00 per child
- **May & June** - \$ 75.00 per child
- **July & August** - \$100.00 per child

RE-ENROLLMENT DISCOUNT:

For second and subsequent years of enrollment, families whose fees are current by December 1st will receive half off of December's tuition. Also if fees are current by May 1st you will receive half off of May's tuition payment.

FAMILY TUITION REDUCTION:

Volunteer 10 hours for the school and receive a \$100 tuition discount at the end of the year.

REFERRAL DISCOUNT: Any parent who recommends the school to a new parent, who then enrolls their child(ren) in our school for the entire year, qualifies for the referral discount. The recommending parent will receive a referral discount of \$250. This discount will be credited to the last month's tuition. Referrals must be made prior to registration. Please be sure to write the name of the referred family on the Financial Agreement and notify the bookkeeper which family you referred when requesting the referral discount.

MULTIPLE CHILDREN DISCOUNT:

2nd child = 10% discount 3rd or more = 20% discount. (families with multiple students and financial needs, see the principal.)

GRACE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS:

****Pastor's Discount:*** Full-time pastors are eligible for a 25% tuition discount.

****Full-time Christian Worker Discount:*** Full-time Christian workers are eligible for a 15% tuition discount. Registration fees are not waived.

****Grace Bible Church Active members*** are eligible for a 10% discount. Registration fees are not waived.

**** Upon request and approval of the school board.***

Step Up For Students Scholarships / McKay Scholarships/ AAA Scholarship / PLSA Scholarship
Families receiving *full-tuition scholarships* are not eligible for additional scholarships. *Combination scholarships* may not exceed 45% of the student's *tuition cost* and cannot be used to pay *any other fees*.

*Families requesting multiple discounts must see the principal.

* All families (including Step Up for Students, McKay, AAA and PLSA scholarships) will be required to pay any outstanding balance at the time of withdrawal.

If, for some reason, a student or family is asked not to return, the re-enrollment fee will be refunded. However, a **refund will not be given** to families ***opting not to return*** after re-enrolling. No student has a *right* to re-enroll and applications for re-enrollment will be approved at the sole discretion of the school.

EXTENDED DAYCARE PROGRAM

Before School Care - K5-12th grade (7:00-7:45 a.m.)

Total for the year: \$450.00 - 1st child \$405.00 - 2nd child \$225.00 - 3rd & 4th child

Drop-ins: \$4.00 per a.m.

After School Care K5-12th grade.

Total for the year:

- **3:15 – 5:30 p.m.** \$850.00 - 1st child \$765.00 - 2nd child \$425.00 - 3rd & 4th child
- **3:15-6:00 pm** - \$1,210.00 - 1st child \$1,090.00 - 2nd child \$600.00 - 3rd & 4th child.

Drop-ins \$4.00 per hour

We are happy to provide this service for your family, but please keep in mind that the Day Care workers have family responsibilities and appreciate you picking up your children on time.

- Students with cell phone are to leave their phone with the daycare supervisor when entering the room.
- Daycare is a separate service provided for your children. Please pay separately from tuition or lunch.
- Parents of children participating in the Extended Daycare Program on a ***drop-in basis*** **will be billed** for the care provided.
- Parents of children participating in the Extended Daycare Program on a ***regular basis*** may either **pre-pay** the entire amount due for the year **or make monthly payments** on that amount. Payments are to be made by the **first day of each month**.
- ALL students who are **not picked up by 3:15 p.m.** will automatically be ***sent to daycare***, and their parents **will be billed** for the care provided. Older students **may not** assume responsibility for their younger siblings.
- ALL students who participate in after school extracurricular activities who, for various reasons are **not** participating in those activities, are **required** to go to ***daycare***. Also, if those students are **not picked up** immediately upon dismissal from practice they will automatically be ***sent to daycare***, and their parents **will be billed** for the care provided.
- A fee of **\$1.00 per minute** will be charged to parents whose children are ***not picked up by 6:00 p.m.***

GRADING

GRADING SCALE

Points: A	4.0 (100 - 90)	D	1.0 (69 - 60)
B	3.0 (89 - 80)	F	.0 (59 - 0)
C	2.0 (79 - 70)	Add "1" point for college courses	

Students are graded in the following areas: class work, homework, class participation, skill, comprehension, projects, quizzes and tests. All these factors make up quarter grades. It is important that each student comply, complete and turn in all assignments in order to achieve their best results.

Report Cards are issued approximately every 9 weeks. Progress reports are issued intermittently about every 3 weeks to keep parents informed of their student's progress. For exact dates see the yearly Activity Calendar.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following classifications are set to be considered for High School Grades: Students must have the following cumulative credits by the end of the designated year:

Freshman -	6 credits
Sophomore -	12 credits
Junior -	18 credits
Senior -	24 credits

Two years of a foreign language is highly recommended for students planning on attending college and is required by many colleges. Required courses may change year to year. We follow the Florida state standards.

Students must earn a total of 24 credits to graduate.

Bible	4 credits (or .5 for each semester a student attends G.C.S.)
English	4 credits with concentration in composition and literature
Mathematics	4 credits (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry)
Science	3 credits with 1 from Biological science w/lab, 1 from Chemistry w/lab and one other science.
Social Studies	1 credit in American History
	1 credit in World History
	½ credit American Government
	½ credit Economics or Comparative Economics
Physical Education	½ credit (personal fitness)
Health	½ credit
Performing Arts	1 credit
Life Management	½ credit
Electives	3 ½ credits
<u>Total</u>	24 Credits

Graduating seniors are required to have a minimum passing cumulative GPA of 2.0.

EARNING EXTERNAL CREDIT - DUAL ENROLLMENT

Dual enrollment with Pasco-Hernando State College is encouraged for those students entering grades 11-12 who wish to go to college after graduation from Grace Christian School. Dual enrollment students receive college credit and high school credit for college classes while attending Grace Christian School. Please contact the college for a course fee schedule.

The following criteria apply:

- Students must be enrolled at Grace Christian School. Students must be re-enrolled by May 1st to take summer dual enrollment classes.
- Students must have a cumulative non-weighted grade point average of at least a 3.0
- Be recommended by the principal
- Have a passing score on the CPT, P.E.R.T, SAT or ACT

HEALTH

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Grace Christian desires to maintain a healthful school environment by instituting controls designed to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. The term "communicable disease" shall mean an illness that arises because of a specific infectious agent that may be transmitted either directly or indirectly by a susceptible host, infected person or animal to other persons.

A teacher or administration official who suspects that a student or employee has a communicable disease shall immediately notify the principal. The reportable diseases include the following: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Aids Related Complex (ARC), Amebiasis, an animal bite by a potentially rabid animal, Anthrax, Botulism, Brucellosis, Campylobacteriosis, Chancroid, Dengue, Diphtheria, Encephalitis, Giardiasis (acute), Gonorrhea, Granuloma Inguinale, Hansen's Disease (Leprosy), Hemorrhagic Fevers, Hepatitis, Histoplasmosis, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Legionnaire's Disease, Leptospirosis, Lymphogranuloma Venereum, Malaria, Measles (rubeola), Meningitis, Meningococcal Disease, Mumps, Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning, Pertussis, Plague, Poliomyelitis, Psittacosis, Rabies, Relapsing Fever, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, R. Rickettsia, Rubella, including congenital, Salmonellosis, Schistosomiasis, Shigellosis, Smallpox, Syphilis, Tetanus, Toxoplasmosis Acute, Trichinosis, Tuberculosis, Tularemia, Typhoid Fever, Typhus, Vibrio Cholera, Vibrio Infections, Fever, or other recognized communicable diseases, infections, or parasites.

Any student who is suspected of having a contagious infestation (e.g. Head lice, nits) shall be referred to the principal and to the parent/guardian. The student will not be allowed to return to school until the infestation has been adequately treated and is no longer contagious. In cases of head lice or nits, students will not be allowed to return to school until all nits are removed. Periodic inspections are conducted throughout the school for the safety and health of the students and staff.

Any student or employee with a communicable disease for whom immunization is required by law or is available, shall be temporarily excluded from school while ill and during recognized periods of communicability. Students and employees with a communicable disease for which immunization is not available shall be excluded from school while ill. If the nature of the disease and circumstances warrant, our school may require an independent physician's examination of the student or employee to verify the diagnosis of communicable disease. This school reserves the right to make all final decisions necessary to enforce its communicable disease policy and to take all necessary action to control the spread of communicable diseases within the school.

ILLNESS AND MEDICATION

Please do not send sick children or children with a fever to school. Parents of children who vomit or have a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will be phoned and asked to pick their children up immediately. Children who are determined by school personnel to be genuinely ill will be sent home.

All medication is to be left with office personnel. **No** medication to include prescription, non-prescription, over-the-counter, diet pills, vitamins, Tylenol or its generic equivalent are to be kept by a child. This is to promote safety.

Prescription medications will only be administered if an accompanying physician-signed prescription comes with it. This includes any prescription or over-the-counter cold and allergy medications.

Tylenol or its generic equivalent, other pain medications, and cough drops may be provided without a physician's prescription.

Parents must also give **written** permission authorizing school personnel to administer medication to your child. This includes all prescribed medications, Tylenol or its generic equivalent, over-the-counter sinus and /or cold remedies, cough drops, vitamins, and/or herbal supplements.

All medication sent to school should be in the original container, clearly marked with the student's name, name of medication, dosage, and time it is to be taken.

NOTE: The school does not provide **any** medications.

HOMEWORK

The homework philosophy at Grace Christian School is that it should be used as practice to master skills or topics previously taught in the classroom. Assignments may be given any day except Tuesday for elementary students and Wednesday for secondary students. Homework is assigned only after the skill or topic has been taught in the classroom and students given an opportunity for guided practice and follow up. **Late assignments are not accepted for a grade.** Students are required to write all assignments in their planners. Parents should access **MySchoolWorx** for any updates in assignments.

Make up Work:

Students are permitted one day for each day of absence to make up missed homework, assignments, quizzes and tests unless advanced notice was given prior to the due date of the assignment. Make-up work is assigned by the teacher and due at the normal class time. Extensions are only permitted by administrative approval.

STUDENT PLANNERS

Grades K5-5: Parents are to review and sign planners daily for students in grades K5-5. Planners not signed for elementary students will result in loss of recess.

Grades 6-12: Parents of students in grades 6-12 are to sign the planner on Friday's. If the planner is not signed the student will receive an infraction.

HONORS AND AWARDS

VALEDICTORIAN / SALUTATORIAN AWARD

The students who receive this award must be a senior and have the highest/second highest grade average for the four years of senior high, grades nine through twelve. In order to be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian a student must have been awarded grades earned for senior high course work attempted at Grace Christian Schools for a minimum of two (2) semesters by the end of the first semester of their senior year, and must be a member of the graduating class at the time of graduation. Students must have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average. In the event of tied ranks for valedictorian and/or salutatorian, the principal shall award co-valedictorian and/or co-salutatorian positions.

The senior having achieved the cumulative grade point average as stated below will receive the following honor:

Honors:	3.0 or better	Magna Cum Laude	3.75 or better
Cum Laude	3.5 or better	Summa Cum Laude	3.90 or better

CLASSROOM CERTIFICATES

Christian Character - Students who were selected for the Character Honor Roll receive this certificate. One student from each class is selected who best displayed a consistent Christian Testimony for the reporting period (nine weeks).

Principal's Honor Roll - Students who were selected for the Principal's Honor Roll for any of the four quarters will be noted on our Honor Roll. Students with an "A" average with no grade less than a "A" for all classes for the year will receive a certificate.

"A & B" Honor Roll - Students who were selected for the Honor Roll for any of the four quarters will be noted on our Honor Roll. Students who received a "B" average with no grade less than a "B" for the entire year will receive a certificate.

HURRICANE DAYS

It is the policy of Grace Christian School that when Pasco County cancels school for severe inclement weather, Grace Christian School will also be closed. You can check Bay News 9 on the TV or check the Pasco County website at www.pasco.k12.fl.us.

LOCKERS (Approved 8/13/15)

Lockers and combination locks are provided by Grace Christian School for students in grades 6 through 12. Only school locks are allowed on lockers. Any student who loses or damages a lock or locker must pay for it. Lockers are to be kept neat and clean. Food or beverage items (other than the current day's lunch) may not be stored in the lockers. No open containers are permitted. All liquids must be in a container with a screw on top or sealed. Stickers, decals or writing in or on lockers is prohibited. At the discretion of the administration a student's locker may be checked at any time. If a student or parent refuses the search, the student may be subject to expulsion. No student should open another student's locker or touch another person's lock or locker. Locks are to be locked at all times except when accessing items from the locker. Failure to follow the Locker/Lock procedure will result in disciplinary action. Non-Grace Christian School issued locks will be cut off and discarded.

LUNCH PROGRAM

Grace Christian School is happy to provide a lunch program to ensure your student receives a healthy lunch each day. It is not required to order off the menu. Students may bring their own lunches. Students ordering, however, must use the order form provided and must turn in the total amount owed when the order is turned in. We will not keep a "charge account" for lunches. If a student accidentally does not have a lunch, one will be provided from the Daily Menu selection. A LUNCH MONEY DUE slip will be sent home that day and payment is expected to be turned in on the next school day. Students that bring their own lunches must be provided with their own utensils (if required). It is also requested that home lunches be "student friendly" allowing students to open or microwave without assistance. **NOTE: Students who bring their own water bottles must be sure they have a screw-type cap so as to prevent spillage.**

PHONE CALLS

Parents may contact a child through the school office. Permission must be obtained from the office for all phone calls. Permission will be given only for bona fide emergencies. **Students may not call for forgotten books, homework, P.E. clothes, sports uniforms, work, etc.** Arrangements for after-school transportation are to be made prior to the students' arrival at school each day. Phone calls may not be made by students wishing to make plans with a friend, go home with a friend, have a friend over, etc.

SPORTS SPECTATORS

Grace Christian School is a member in good standing with the Suncoast Christian Conference of Athletes. As part of our desire to present ourselves as a testimony of Christ, it is required that spectators to all athletic events dress modestly. Tops must have sleeves (no tank tops) with modest necklines. Shorts should be loose-fitting and must be a minimum of finger-tip length. Pants/shorts should be worn at the waist (not around the hips).

TRANSPORTATION

The school office must have on file the name of any person who has permission to transport your child. Students will not be released without proper authorization. If last minute changes are necessary, please call the school office. Students in grades 9-12 who may be driving a vehicle to and from school must register with the school office. Students who fail to drive responsibly on campus will forfeit the privilege to drive to school. Only students who have submitted a written parental permission slip to the school office, in advance, may ride with a student driver.

VISITORS

We welcome visitors at Grace Christian School. Visitors to classrooms must make prior arrangements with the principal. Parents who wish to observe their child's class must make prior arrangements through the principal. All visitors must sign-in at the school office and receive a Visitor Pass. They must also sign-out when leaving the building.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an important part of the ministry of the school. We encourage you to be involved in your student's education. All volunteers MUST have a background check completed before volunteering in any capacity at the school.

Procedure:

- Please pick up a Background Check Application at the school office.
- Contact the school secretary to schedule a 10 minute appointment with Mr. Pratt
- Be sure to bring your driver's license and the \$10.00 fee.
- This must be complete annually.

Dress Code: When visiting or volunteering on school grounds or during school functions elsewhere, it is important to maintain our Christian testimony in appearance. Therefore, we request that all forms of dress be appropriate for the occasion, modest. When volunteering for Grace Christian School either on or off school grounds, all volunteers must wear the Grace Christian School approved volunteer shirt. Volunteers may wear loose-fitting slacks, long jeans or mid-knee length skirts. Shorts are not permitted. The cost is \$12.00 and can be used year after year.

AGREEMENTS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Parents: Please read the following statements carefully.

I hereby affirm that I have read the Student Handbook and discussed its policies with my student. I certify that I consent to and will submit to all governing policies of the school, including all applicable policies in the Student Handbook.

I understand that the standards of the school do not tolerate profanity, obscenity in word or action, dishonors to the Holy Trinity and the Word of God, disrespect to the personnel of the school, or continued disobedience to the established policies of the school.

I understand that the services of the school are engaged by mutual consent, and that either the school or I reserve the right to terminate any or all services at any time. I understand that this Handbook does not contractually bind Grace Christian School and is subject to change without notice by decision of Grace Christian School's body.

Admission to the school is a privilege, not a right, and admission for one school year does not guarantee automatic admission for future school year.

Students in Grades 6-12: Please read the following statement carefully.

I hereby affirm that I have read the Student Handbook. I certify that I consent to, and will submit to all governing policies of the school, including all applicable policies in the Student Handbook. I understand that this Handbook does not contractually bind Grace Christian School and is subject to change without notice by the decision of Grace Christian School's governing body.

I understand that admission to the school is a privilege, not a right, and that any behavior, either on or off campus, which is not consistent with the school's standards could result in the loss of that privilege.

**THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE
WITHIN ONE WEEK OF RECEIPT.**

AGREEMENTS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Parents: Please read the following statements carefully and sign below.

I hereby affirm that I have read the Student Handbook and discussed its policies with my student. I certify that I consent to and will submit to all governing policies of the school, including all applicable policies in the Student Handbook.

I understand that the standards of the school do not tolerate profanity, obscenity in word or action, dishonors to the Holy Trinity and the Word of God, disrespect to the personnel of the school, or continued disobedience to the established policies of the school.

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Admission to the school is a privilege, not a right, and admission for one school year does not guarantee automatic admission for future school year.

Father's Signature _____ Date _____

Mother's Signature _____ Date _____

Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Students in Grades 6-12: Please read the following statement carefully and sign below.

I hereby affirm that I have read the Student Handbook. I certify that I consent to, and will submit to all governing policies of the school, including all applicable policies in the Student Handbook. I understand that this Handbook does not contractually bind Grace Christian School and is subject to change without notice by the decision of Grace Christian School's governing body.

I understand that admission to the school is a privilege, not a right, and that any behavior, either on or off campus, which is not consistent with the school's standards could result in the loss of that privilege.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____