

blue mountain **christian school**

# handbook

14 Silvertown Road • Jonestown, PA 17038

717-865-9650 • [www.bmcsdefenders.org](http://www.bmcsdefenders.org)







**BLUE  
MOUNTAIN  
CHRISTIAN  
SCHOOL**

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**STUDENT-PARENT  
HANDBOOK**

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# JONESTOWN BIBLE CHURCH

To God Be The Glory



Blue Mountain Christian School is sponsored by Jonestown Bible Church. You are always welcome at Jonestown Bible Church. Jonestown Bible Church has programs designed to meet the spiritual, mental, and physical needs of all age groups.

Our Sunday School has adequate facilities for all of our classes. These classes include nursery through college & career age classes and general adult classes. Each is taught by born-again Christians who desire to give forth the Word of God.

Join us every Sunday night in the sanctuary as we sing praises, hear the Word, give testimony, and fellowship with one another.

Wednesday Night is for the whole family. There is a supervised nursery, preschool activities, Olympian Club for boys and girls in grades 1-6, and Word of Life Clubs for Junior and Senior High students. Each of these groups help to show young people how to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. There is also a men's Bible study and a ladies' Bible study on Wednesday nights.

If you are interested in any of these programs, contact the church office or the pastor. Check us out at: [www.jonestownbiblechurch.org](http://www.jonestownbiblechurch.org)

## Services

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Fellowship Hour 6:00 PM

All Wednesday Evening Activities 7:00 to 8:15 PM

**Phone:** Church Office – (717) 865-4732

**Pastor:** Larry Greiner

*Member of IFCA International*

# JBC Elder Board / BMCS School Board

The Article below is taken directly from the Constitution of Jonestown Bible Church and defines the organizational and spiritual oversight of Blue Mountain Christian School, which functions as a ministry of Jonestown Bible Church. This constitutional provision establishes the authority, governance, and operational structure of BMCS.

## Article XVII – Blue Mountain Christian School: A Ministry of JBC

### **Section 1 – Relationship of BMCS to JBC**

Blue Mountain Christian School (BMCS) is a ministry of Jonestown Bible Church (JBC). Therefore, it operates directly under the authority of the JBC Elder Board.

### **Section 2 – Role of the Elder Board**

The Elder Board serves both as the School Board of BMCS and as the spiritual leaders of the school. In this role, the Elders seek God's will and direction for the school and take responsibility for the preservation and restoration of right relationships, primarily our relationship with God (Galatians 6:1–2; James 5:19–20; Isaiah 55:7).

### **Section 3 – Responsibilities of the Elder Board**

The responsibilities of the Elder Board include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Establish and uphold the policies of the school.
2. Hire qualified administrators.
3. Approve all new faculty and staff for the school.
4. Approve the annual school budget.
5. Monitor income and expenditures in accordance with the budget.
6. Take corrective action when needed to ensure good stewardship.
7. Maintain open communication with faculty, parents, alumni, and friends of the school.
8. Maintain proper relationships with government authorities.
9. Provide vision and direction for the future of the school.
10. Monitor all school activities to ensure they align with the mission and values of JBC.

### **Section 4 – Delegation of Responsibilities**

The Elder Board may choose to appoint a School Committee/ School Board and delegate to it certain responsibilities to carry out the work of BMCS. The committee shall operate and remain active, or be dissolved, according to the needs of the school; however, no such action may be taken without a vote of the Elder Board. The Elder Board shall remain the final authority in all matters of the school.

## Organizational Standing

Blue Mountain Christian School (BMCS) is recognized under IFCA International as a tax-exempt charitable organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and operates as a subsidiary ministry of Jonestown Bible Church. Accordingly, all financial contributions made to BMCS are considered tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law. Donation receipts may be requested for documentation of contributions and for use in federal and state tax-filing purposes.

## JBC Vision Statement

To see that Jonestown Bible Church is a mission-oriented church. Effectively spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ to our surrounding community, and around the world, through the ministry of the Word, our faith, our fellowship and our facilities and our personal witness. This will be carried out by the equipping of every believer and the building up of one another in the love of Christ.

## BMCS Mission

Blue Mountain Christian School (BMCS) is a ministry of Jonestown Bible Church (JBC). Therefore, it is directly under the authority of the elder board of JBC.

To be spiritual leaders in the school, to seek God's will and direction for the school, and to take responsibility for preservation and restoration of right relations, primarily our relations with God (Galatians 6:1,2; James 5:19,20; Isaiah 55:7).

- Establish the policies of the school.
- Hire qualified administrators, faculty, and staff for the school.
- Approve the annual budget.
- Monitor income and expenditures against the budget, and take corrective action if needed.
- Maintain open communications with the faculty, parents, alumni, and friends.
- Maintain proper relationships with government authorities.
- Have a vision for the future of the school.
- Monitor all school activities.

In summary, the elder board exercises final authority in the school in all matters. Parents are encouraged to present concerns to the elder board if they are not addressed or resolved by the staff, faculty, or administration team. The email address for the elder board is listed under the "Faculty & Staff" page on the BMCS website.

Our responsibility at Blue Mountain Christian School is to train young people through instruction, discipline, and example. It is our goal to train our students intellectually, physically, socially, and above all spiritually; and to enable them to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord.

We use a classroom approach where Biblical principles are applied throughout the day and integrated into all subject areas. Students are guided by qualified, born again teachers who nurture students in a loving, caring environment. Every student is encouraged to use his or her gifts and talents for the Lord.

Believing that Blue Mountain Christian School is an extension of the home and church, we encourage parents to pray diligently for our school as we work together to promote Christian growth in our children.

# **Statement of Faith**

As a ministry of Jonestown Bible Church, Blue Mountain Christian School upholds the Statement of Faith of Jonestown Bible Church which follows:

## **1. The Holy Scriptures**

We believe that the Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God, His revelation to man, inerrant in the original writings and that it is therefore the supreme and final authority in all matters of doctrine, faith and life (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

## **2. The Trinity of the God-Head**

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).

## **3. The Pre-Existence, Deity, and Incarnation of Jesus Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ ever existed with the Father and The Holy Spirit, and that in His incarnation was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary and is true God and true man (John 1:1-19; 1 Timothy 3:16).

## **4. The Creation and Fall of Man**

We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature, are totally depraved and for those who reach moral responsibility become sinners in thought, word, and deed, and that they must be born-again to be accepted of God (Romans 5:12; Romans 3:10; 3:23; John 3:1-21)

## **5. The Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ**

We believe that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice, and that all who believe in Him are justified on the grounds of His shed blood. We believe that He arose bodily from the dead on the third day in the same body in which He suffered and died. We also believe that our Lord ascended into heaven; that He is now seated at the right hand of the Father and is our High Priest and divine Advocate with the Father. We believe that by His finished work of the cross and His unceasing ministry of intercession in Glory, that Jesus Christ has procured for every believer Eternal Redemption, Eternal Salvation, and Everlasting Life (1 Corinthians 15:3; Romans 5:9; 1 Cor. 15:4; John 20:27; Mark 16:19; Hebrews 8:1; 7:25; 1 John 2:1; Hebrews 9:12; Hebrews 5:9; John 3:16).

## **6. The Personality and Ministry of the Holy Spirit.**

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person, that He convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment, and that He regenerates the sinner by the Word of God, that He permanently indwells the Church and the body of each believer, that He seals, enlightens, instruct, and guides every born-again person, and that He is the efficient power for godly living, Christian service, and spiritual worship (John 16:7-15; John 3:5-7; 1 Peter 1:23; Eph. 4:30; John 14:16-17, 26.).

## **7. The Nature of the Church**

We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ was begun at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended from Heaven and came into the church; that it is composed solely of born-again people who have been called out from among the Jews and Gentiles to become the Body and Bride of our Lord. Christ glorified in Heaven is its Head and the Holy Spirit on earth is the active agent of the God-head Who ever seeks to bring about within its ranks conformity and obedience to the Word of God and the Will of God. The one body unites believers to each other, and all to Christ; and its chief purpose of existence is to evangelize the world and to complete itself through the winning of lost souls to Christ (Acts 2; Romans 1:16; Acts 15:14; Eph. 5:23-24; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8).

## **8. Church Ordinances**

We believe that two ordinances are significant above any other that Christians are commanded to observe, namely, Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

While recognizing that Water Baptism has no saving merit, it is our conviction that after one is saved Baptism is the next step in order to portray to the world the believer's union with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. It is our conviction that the scriptural method of Water Baptism is immersion. We believe that Jesus Christ instituted the Lord's Supper to commemorate His death till he come. We further believe that Water Baptism by immersion is observed but once, and is a sign of identification, and a testimony to newness of life, but the Lord's Supper is commemorative and is to be observed often as a memorial of the Broken Body and the Shed Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ till He come (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:9-13; 1 Cor. 11:23-33).

## **9. Our Lord's Second Advent**

We believe in the Blessed Hope, the personal, premillennial, pretribulation, and imminent return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, which is known as the Rapture of the Church. We also believe in the personal, visible and glorious return of Christ to the earth with His Saints at the end of the Great Tribulation. This phase of His coming is known as the Revelation of Jesus Christ. When he returns to earth with his Saints, we believe that Jesus Christ will establish His millennial Kingdom and will reign for one thousand years (Titus 2:13; 1 Thess. 4:13:17; John 14:3; Revelation 19:11-21; Revelation 20:1-6).

## **10. The Resurrection of the Dead**

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just at the Rapture (1 Thess. 3:4-16; 1 Cor. 15:51-57) and of the unjust at the end of time. (Revelation 20:11-15; John 5:28-29.)

## **11. The Eternal State of the Saved and the Lost**

We believe in a Heaven and a Hell. Heaven, the place of eternal conscious joy for all who receive Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Hell the place of eternal conscious punishment in the Lake of Fire for all who reject Jesus Christ and those dying in their sin

(John 14:1-6; Psalm 16:11; Phil. 1:21, 23; Psalm 9:17; John 8:24; II Thess. 1:7-9; Revelation 20:10-15).

## **12. The Personality of Satan**

We believe that Satan is a personal being, a fallen angel, prince of demons, the god of this age, the great enticer and deceiver, the adversary of Christ and His people, the accuser of the brethren, whose end is the Lake of Fire (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:12-19; 2 Cor. 4:3-4; 1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 12:9-10; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10).

## **13. Separations and Sanctification**

We believe that the Scriptures clearly teach nonconformity to the world for every believer; that born-again people should be separated from the world unto Christ; that it is clearly commanded of God to all believers to live lives of separation from all worldly and sinful practices and to be holy as He is holy. We believe that positional sanctification occurs at the moment of regeneration and that practical sanctification is to be progressive throughout the entire lifespan of a believer here on earth. God's provision for holy living is in the believers identification with Christ in His death, resurrection and ascension; the indwelling person and power of the Holy Spirit and the believers' yieldedness to Him; and by the powerful Word of God (Col. 3:1-4; II Cor. 6:14-17; Titus 2:14; I Peter 1:14-16; Col. 1:13; Heb. 10:1; 14; II Cor. 7:1; II Cor. 3:18; II Peter 3:18; Romans 6:1-14; Eph. 1:15 to 2:6; I Cor. 6:19 and 20; Gal. 5:16-23; Romans 6:13; John 17:17; Heb. 4:12; Eph. 5:25-27).

## **14. Marriage**

We believe that scripture teaches that sexual activity should only be expressed within the context of marriage. Marriage is ordained by God and was created to be between one biological man and one biological woman (Matthew 19:4-6).

## **Nondiscrimination**

BMCS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

## Christlike Conduct Expectations

At Blue Mountain Christian School (BMCS), we believe that being part of our school and athletic programs is both a privilege and a blessing. As a community of born again believers, we are called to treat one another with kindness, honesty, and respect, following the Biblical command to “encourage one another and build each other up” (1 Thessalonians 5:11). For this reason, intimidation, bullying, or intentional misrepresenting the character of any student, parent, staff member, volunteer, or its leadership will not be accepted. Should these behaviors occur, appropriate steps will be taken. In some cases, this may include the loss of athletic participation, and in more serious or repeated situations, it may affect a family’s ability to continue enrollment at BMCS. Our goal in all things is to honor the Lord and preserve the unity of our school community.

## BMCS Social Media & Public Conduct Policy

Blue Mountain Christian School partners with families to educate students in accordance with biblical truth and Christian character. All students are considered ambassadors of Christ and of BMCS, both on and off campus, including on social media and public platforms. This policy applies to all students enrolled at BMCS as well as homeschool students who participate in BMCS athletics or extracurricular programs.

Families and students are expected to:

- Uphold biblical values in all public behavior and online activity
- Refrain from engaging in or promoting content, behavior, or lifestyles that are contrary to Scripture
- Use social media in a way that reflects respect, integrity, modesty, and Christlike conduct

Public actions and online activity directly affect the testimony, reputation, and ministry of BMCS. Because of this, behavior that openly contradicts biblical values will be reviewed by the administration. Failure to comply with this policy may result in:

- A meeting with the administration
- Disciplinary action
- Possible disenrollment from BMCS

By enrolling at BMCS or participating in BMCS-sponsored programs, families agree to support and uphold this policy and understand that continued enrollment or participation is dependent upon alignment with biblical and school values.

# Blue Mountain Christian School Philosophy

Our responsibility at BMCS is to train young people through instruction, discipline, and example. It is our goal to lead them to faith in Jesus Christ.

We use a classroom approach where Biblical principles are applied throughout the day, integrated into all subject areas. Students are guided by qualified, born-again teachers who nurture students in a loving, caring environment. Every student is encouraged to use their gifts and talents for the Lord.

Based on scripture we require high standards of discipline, respect for authority and good moral behavior. We believe in the power of prayer, and come before God each day in the classroom with praises and petitions

Blue Mountain Christian School is an extension of the home and church. We support the ideals, which Christian parents emphasize in their homes. We encourage parents to pray diligently for our school as we “work together” to promote Christian growth in our children.

This Philosophy of Christian Education for BMCS shall be the guiding tool to apply Biblical principles to teaching practices. All philosophies of subjects, policies of the school, curriculum materials and teaching methods shall conform to the Philosophy of Christian Education.

## Spiritual Goals

- To teach that the Bible is the inspired and the only infallible authoritative Word of God, thus developing attitudes of love and respect toward it (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).
- To provide each student with opportunities for salvation (Rom. 10:9-10).
- To provide each student with opportunities to know God, discern His will, and to communicate the Gospel to others.
- To provide each student with opportunities to identify and develop spiritual gifts.
- To teach Biblical character qualities and provide opportunities for the student to demonstrate these qualities (1 Sam. 16:7 Gal. 5:22-23).
- To help the student develop a Christian world view by integrating life, and all studies, with the Bible (2 Pet. 1:3).
- To teach the student to hide God's Word in their heart through memorization and meditation.
- To teach the student how to study God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15).

## Academic Goals

- To provide a learning environment that allows students to achieve their full potential.
- To provide a curriculum that prepares students for college, technical school, or employment upon graduation.
- To provide learning opportunities that develop critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and independent and cooperative work skills.
- To provide learning opportunities that promote practical application of information and skills learned.
- Use current affairs in all areas, teaching the student how they relate to God's plan for man.

## Social & Emotional Goals

- To promote the Biblical concept that each student is uniquely and wonderfully made (Ps. 139:14).
- To create a learning environment that promotes self-confidence and enhances self-esteem.
- To promote an attitude of good citizenship, respect, courtesy, and etiquette within each student.
- To promote the Biblical view of dating, marriage and the family (1 Thess. 4:1-7, 1 Tim. 4:12, Gen. 2:18-25, Eph. 5:22-33).
- To promote Biblical attitudes toward material things and their responsibility for using them to God's glory (1 Tim. 6:17-19, Matt. 6:19,20, 1 Cor. 10:31).
- To encourage the student to develop self-discipline and responsibility from God's perspective (1 Tim. 4:7, 1 Cor. 9:24-27).
- To teach the student an understanding of and an appreciation for God's world, developing an awareness of man's role in his environment and his God-given responsibility to subdue, use and preserve it properly (Ps. 8:6, Heb. 2:6-8).

## Physical Goals

- To promote good habits of personal hygiene and nutrition.
- To provide activities that promote coordination, grace, poise, strength and balance.

## Parent/Guardian Expectations

- Regular attendance at a Bible-believing church.
- Agreement with JBC's Statement of Faith.
- No involvement with organizations that contradict our statement of faith.
- Support for our discipline policies. (Please review our demerit guidelines)
- Accepts financial responsibility and agrees to honor financial obligations to the school.
- Desires for children to grow spiritually as well as academically.

## Student Expectations

- Students are academically prepared to cope with the level of performance expected by the school.
- Student agrees to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the Lord Jesus Christ, upholding BMCS Policies and Biblical standards.

## Tuition Fees

Tuition, registration, and testing fees are determined each year by the Elder board. Tuition may be paid in monthly payments or in full. Registration fees cover the cost of testing, textbooks, consumable work-books, paper, pencils, crayons, etc. This is due when your child is registered for school. The tuition is used toward the expenses of the school. These include teachers' salaries, taxes, workmen's insurance, etc. We make an ongoing effort to keep tuition as low as possible, while maintaining a high level of educational excellence. This is only possible as long as accounts are kept current.

## Monthly Tuition Policy and Late Fee

Tuition payments are due the **FIRST** of the month. A **\$25 LATE FEE** will be added to accounts if payment is not received by the 15th of the month.

Notification informing the parent/guardian of their past due account which will result in suspension of student(s) within 90 days of the date of the letter, if the account is not paid in full.

No report card or transcript of record will be released until account is paid in full. Re-enrollment of students of families with past due accounts will not be permitted until account is paid in full.

## Admissions Steps For New Families

Blue Mountain Christian School is a closed-enrollment school with the mission of helping Christian parents to educate and train their children. We desire to equip and discipline students by partnering with the parents and the local church. Therefore, the teachings and doctrines taught at school should also be reinforced and taught at home. New families should take a moment to review the [BMCS Statement of Faith](#) before completing the registration. The steps are listed below:

### 1. **Review Our Mission & Beliefs**

Families are encouraged to read our doctrinal statement at:  
[www.bmcsexcellence.org/jbc-doctrinal-statements](http://www.bmcsexcellence.org/jbc-doctrinal-statements)

### 2. **Submit an Admissions Form**

Complete the BMCS Family Application Form as the first step.

### 3. **Application Review**

The BMCS School Board and Administration will prayerfully review the application. Submission does not guarantee acceptance.

### 4. **Family Interview & Tour**

Families may be invited for an in-person interview and school tour if values align and space is available.

### 5. **Admission Notification**

Accepted families will receive an email invitation to complete enrollment.

### 6. **Complete Enrollment**

Families finalize enrollment by submitting documents and paying the registration fee.

## K-5 Enrollment Requirements

Parents of students who will not turn five (5) before **September 1<sup>st</sup>** may enroll in our K-5 program, provided they pass the K-5 Readiness Test and a probation period of four (4) weeks in school.

## Re-enrollment

Returning families will complete a re-enrollment form online. Early re-enrollment is encouraged for a discounted rate.

## Limitations Regarding Special Educational Needs

BMCS may lack the resources to meet the educational needs of a student with a learning disability. If in question, BMCS may require entrance testing to determine if we can meet the educational needs of the student.

# Limitations Regarding Physical Disabilities

Handicapped students are eligible for admission when the BMCS program is deemed appropriate for their needs. As appropriate, modification may be made for a student in the regular classroom setting to meet the needs of handicapped students.

## Attendance

### **Attendance Matters:**

Consistent attendance is vital to student success and classroom learning. Instruction, activities, and classroom experiences are designed to build progressively, and missed time cannot always be fully recovered. Regular attendance is not only essential for academic growth but also required in accordance with Pennsylvania truancy guidelines. Frequent or prolonged absences may negatively affect a student's progress and could lead to consequences as outlined by state law. At BMCS, we value our partnership with families to ensure both student success and compliance with these important regulations.

### **Concerts & School Programs:**

Attendance at scheduled performances and programs is mandatory, as these events are essential parts of the curriculum. Excused absences require a written request from parents in advance.

### **Reporting Absences:**

All absences, late arrivals, or early dismissals must be reported via the school's attendance form by 9:00 AM. If the absence is known ahead of time (e.g., vacation), parents must collect assignments in advance.

### **Excused Absences Include:**

- Personal illness (doctor's note required for 2+ days)
- Serious illness or death in the family
- Medical appointments
- Court appearances
- School-approved trips
- Acts of God

Unexcused absences result if proper notification is not provided. 18 or more total absences may jeopardize promotion.

### **Communication Protocol:**

If a student is absent for 2+ days without notification the school will:

1. Send an email.
2. Call home.
3. Call the workplace.

If there is no response within 3 school days, the absence is unexcused.

## Early Dismissals & Late Arrivals

- Early dismissals must be handled through the front office.
- Late arrivals require sign-in at the office.
- Students who arrive after **11:30 AM** will be marked absent for the full day, unless the reason qualifies as an excused absence (see list below) and the parent submits the Attendance Form.
- Students who leave before **11:30 AM** will also be marked absent for the full day, unless the reason qualifies as an excused absence and the Attendance Form is submitted by the parent.
- Unexcused tardies (e.g., oversleeping) may result in detentions.

## Cellphone and Electronic Guidelines

iPods, cell phones, and similar electronic devices must be left at home or in locked box in the office. Items may not be taken out from the time they arrive at school until the close of school.

## Care of Property

It is everyone's responsibility to help care for school property and equipment. Parents will be held responsible for repairing and replacing any school property which is lost, damaged, or destroyed by their children. Parents and teachers are to work together to instill a proper sense of stewardship in children.

## Classroom Procedures

Preschool and Elementary (K-4 through grade 4 ) teachers and staff will use a disciplinary system that works for their classroom. Teachers will share classroom discipline with parents at the beginning of the school year. Gradelink will be a source of communication in place to help keep the administrator and parents aware of continued concerns with a specific child.

Jr./Sr. High (Grades 5-12) teachers will use a system of merits/demerits and detentions (before and after school) to control the environment of their classroom and enhance the atmosphere of learning. Gradelink will be a source of communication in place to help keep the administrator and parents aware of continued concerns with a specific child.

## 5th- 12th Grade Merit System

A merit system has been implemented for students in grades 5-12. It will focus on creating servant hearts, looking for needs of others and rejecting egocentric character traits. It is important to recognize and cultivate behaviors that go above and beyond. It is our hope that this will push students towards qualities and characteristics we are looking for on a much larger scale than simply classroom performance. It is intended to create an avenue to allow and encourage students to be part of the community and more importantly the body of Christ, using their individual talents where needed.

### Suggested service hours per grade

- Fifth - Eighth Grade Students – 15 hours
- Freshman and Sophomore – 25 hours
- Juniors and Seniors – 35 hours

Service hours accrued over the summer months apply for the following school year. Service hours are only counted if the Service Form is properly completed and submitted to the office.

These hours will mostly consist of activities outside of the school day, and would require and allow involvement of teachers, parents, and the church (Philippians 2:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:27; Matthew 6:22; 2 Corinthians 8:3-5; 9:7; Galatians 5:22-23).

### Service Merit System

Services are recorded in half-hour intervals, accumulating to full hours. The following is not an exhaustive list of services:

- Church events
  - Examples: Church work day, setting up before/tearing down after events
- School service projects
  - Examples: PTF event helper, setting up before/tearing down after sport events,  
tutoring younger grades, teacher's aide, lunch aide, bake sale
- Volunteer work
  - Examples: JOY Pantry, Align Life Ministries, Ronald McDonald House, Jubilee Ministries
- Coordinate or plan an event or fundraiser for the school
- Missions trip

## **Rewards**

Once the student has acquired 10 total service hours, they may “spend” their accrued hours on various rewards. Rewards categories scale as follows: 10 hours, 30 hours, 60 hours, 100 hours. The student may choose one of the options from the respective category.

### **10 hours**

- Free school lunch (pizza on Wednesday and hot lunch on Thursday) Two additional dress down days for the week (Wednesday and Thursday)

### **30 hours**

- \$25 Amazon gift card
- BMCS merch of choice from the school store

### **60 hours**

- \$50 Amazon gift card
- Two free tickets to Hersheypark

### **100+ hours**

- \$100 Amazon gift card
- 5% tuition discount for the following school year

# 5th-12th Grade Discipline System - Demerits

To help teach and guide our students, we use a demerit-based discipline system for grades 5–12. For every 5 accumulated demerits, a student must serve a one-hour Thursday detention. Once a detention has been served, those 5 demerits no longer count toward the student's total.

If a single incident results in 25 demerits, the student may either serve five individual detentions or receive one day of in-school suspension, as determined by administration. Students who reach 50 demerits in a marking period will receive two days of in-school suspension, and those who reach 75 demerits will receive three-days of in-school suspension or possible expulsion. If repeated behaviors continue into a new marking period, administration may skip steps to address the concern more effectively.

Below is a list of possible violations and their associated demerits. This list is not exhaustive, and other actions may result in demerits if necessary.

## *Violations Earning 1 Demerit*

- Dress code violation (forfeit dress down on Friday's Spirit Day)
- Late for class
- Talking in class w/o permission
- Incomplete or missing homework
- Violation of bus/van regulations
- Chewing Gum
- Locker violation (disorderly)
- Unprepared for class
- Failure to sign in/out (restrooms)

## *Violations Earning 5 Demerits*

- Walking out of class w/out permission
- Direct disobedience
- Crude or inappropriate language
- Disrespect
- Electronic device violation
- Foolish behavior that leads to damage (cost of repair must be covered)

## *Violations Earning 10 Demerits*

- Reckless driving on campus
- Vulgarity/profanity
- Intentional/inappropriate contact with another student

## *Violations Earning 25 Demerits and a 1-Day Suspension*

- Dishonesty (stealing, lying, cheating)
- Bullying (first offense)
- Racial language (first offense)

## *Violations Earning 50 Demerits and/or expulsion*

- Drugs, alcohol, smoking, or use of vaping device
- Immorality
- Bullying or racial language (second offense)

Damage to or destruction of School Property may earn up to 50 demerits and/or expulsion based on the offense.

## Detention

A student is required to serve one detention for every five (5) demerits accumulated. Detention is regularly held on Thursdays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. During detention, students are assigned a Bible verse for reflection and written copywork, which they are expected to complete for the duration of the detention period. Each detention session is 60 minutes in length. If a student is scheduled for detention, they will not be allowed to participate in any school activity after the detention on that day

## In-School Suspension

Students assigned to in-school suspension will spend the entire school day in a supervised area, such as the library. During this time, they are expected to work independently on all assigned classwork and follow all school guidelines. They will not attend regular classes or participate in school activities during the suspension period.

## Student Enrollment Policy on Sexual Purity and Parenthood

Students who are pregnant, are parents of children, or who have fathered children are not eligible for enrollment at BMCS. This policy is not to diminish our love or respect for students who faced these challenges, but rather to uphold the Biblical call to holiness and to encourage students to walk in obedience to God's design for purity and marriage. We will gladly support families and students outside of enrollment through prayer, church fellowship, and the pastoral care of Jonestown Bible Church.

## Dress Code

1 Corinthians 6:19 clearly states that the body of the believer is not their own but God's and was bought by the blood of Christ. This verse alone should be enough for Christians to understand that they should dress modestly and be opposed to the world's standards of dress. Christians are to separate themselves from the world and set high standards taught only by the Bible.

All students are expected to use good taste and judgment at all times in their choice of dress. With a concern for consistent guidelines in the area of dress, we ask that those volunteers who are engaged in classroom and/or instructional assistance (as opposed to recreational) abide by the same dress code as our students and professional staff.

Parents: it is your responsibility to be sure your child is dressed in accordance with the following guidelines.

## Dress code: BOYS K4 - 12th Grade

- Shirts with fold-down collars (K4 May wear shirts without fold-down collars).
- Button-down shirts must be tucked in at all times. Only the first button from the top may be left unbuttoned. Polo shirts do not need to be tucked in.
- BMCS 1/4 zipper pullovers may be worn anytime, but students must be in the dress code to wear them.
- Trousers or cargo-style pants. Pants should be modest, loose-fitting, and not given to fads ( k4 boys may wear pants with gathering at the waist)
- Pants with back or side gathering
- Belts are to be worn with slacks that have loops for them.
- Socks must be worn with shoes or sneakers at all times.
- Sweaters, light jackets, and hoodies are permitted as long as the neck area of the student's dress code shirt remains clearly visible at all times. Only small manufacturer logos are allowed. Graphic designs, wording, and large logos are not permitted.

## Hair & Jewelry

- Boys must keep their hair neat and well-groomed. Hair may not cover the ears, collar, or eyebrows. Extreme or punk hairstyles or colors are not permitted.
- Hair color, including any highlights, must remain within natural human hair tones. Unnatural colors (such as blue, green, purple, pink, etc.) are not permitted.
- No facial hair, earrings or body piercing permitted
- Tattoos are to be covered and not visible while at school.

## Gym Clothes

- K4- 3rd-grade students do not need to change clothing
- 4th-12th-grade students are required to change into gym clothes for P.E class
- Loose-fitting plain T-shirts (no designs or logos) (BMCS T-shirts are allowed)
- Loose-fitting knee-length shorts (preferably black)
- Long-loose fitting sweatpants (preferably black)
- Sneakers and socks

## Clothing that should not be worn:

- Any shirt or pants covered with decorative patches
- Jeans of any color
- T-shirt, tank tops, sleeveless tops
- Shirts with flashy writing or symbols
- Henley shirts
- Any clothing that represents fad styles such as hospital scrubs, camouflage, fluorescent, fish netting, Rock culture, etc.
- Leisure or recreational clothing such as running suits or sweatshirts, etc.
- Undershirts with pictures, writing, or colors that show through the outer shirt.
- Tight-fitting clothing or extremely baggy styles are not appropriate. Pants must be worn at the waist.

- Flip flops, sandals, etc ( School attire: cleats are not to be worn inside buildings)
- Crocs may be worn only on spirit days
- Sunglasses, hats, caps, or bandanas
- No earrings or other body piercings. Tattoos are to be covered and not visible while at school.

## Dress code: GIRLS K4 - 12th Grade

- Girls are to wear dresses, skirts, or dress slacks and blouses. Elementary girls must wear shorts or slacks under their dresses/skirts during play or inclement weather.
- Dress/skirt length should be to the knee. This also applies when sitting. A good test is to kneel. If the skirt touches the floor while kneeling, then it's long enough.
- Dress slacks should be modest, loose-fitting and not given to fads.
- Sundresses are only allowed with a blouse underneath or a jacket over the top at all times.
- Denim skirts and jumpers are allowed.
- Leggings or jeggings are only allowed under dresses/ skirts that are compliant with dress code guidelines.
- BMCS 1/4 zipper pullovers may be worn anytime, but students must be in the dress code to wear them
- Shoes or sneakers must be worn at all times.
- Dressy sandals and other dressy open-toe shoes are permitted as part of the school dress code. Casual flip-flops or beach-style sandals are not allowed. For safety purposes, it is strongly recommended that students change into sneakers or other closed-toe athletic shoes when participating in any physical activities.
- Sweaters, light jackets, and hoodies are permitted as long as the neck area of the student's dress code shirt remains clearly visible at all times. Only small manufacturer logos are allowed. Graphic designs, wording, and large logos are not permitted.

## Gym Clothes

- K4- 3rd-grade students do not need to change clothing
- 4th-12th-grade students are required to change into gym clothes for P.E. class
- Loose-fitting plain T-shirts (no designs or logos) (BMCS T-shirts are allowed)
- Loose-fitting knee-length shorts (preferably black). Leggings are recommended to wear under shorts that are too loose.
- Sneakers and socks

## Hair

- Hair must be worn so that the eyebrows are fully visible
- Hair color, including any highlights, must remain within natural human hair tones. Unnatural colors (such as blue, green, purple, pink, etc.) are not permitted.
- No extreme mod or punk styles or colors.

## Makeup & Accessories

- Makeup should be used modestly. It is not encouraged in elementary school.

- Tattoos are to be covered and not visible while at school.
- Girls may wear one pair of modest earrings. Earrings should be small, simple, and appropriate for a school setting. No additional facial or body piercings are permitted.

### **Clothing that should not be worn:**

- Anything that has an open back, a low neckline, exposing armholes, is sleeveless, is a halter or crop top, bare midriff, too tight, fish netting, etc.
- Shorts, scooter skirts type style
- Leisure, playwear, and recreational styles such as sweatshirts, etc.
- Anything not properly buttoned/ fastened.
- T-shirts or shirts with writing or pictures.
- Long shirts may not be worn as dresses.
- Flip flops
- Hats, caps, sunglasses, or bandanas
- Crocs may be worn only on Friday spirit day

## **Piercing Medical Exemption**

Medical exemptions for piercings may be granted when there is a documented medical need. A medical note from a licensed provider or a signed letter of explanation from the parent/guardian is required and must be submitted to the school office.

## **School Sponsored Athletic or Recreational Activities**

Regular school clothes, warm-ups, sweats or other recreational wear is appropriate. Shorts may be worn that extend to the knee. No biker shorts, spandex, or any kind of tight-fitting shorts will be permitted. Manufacturer's logos are fine if they're appropriate.

## **Dressy Occasions**

Some occasions require a more formal appearance. Boys wear suits and ties. Girls wear "dressy" dresses or formals. These must be modest in appearance, may not be strapless, backless, have spaghetti straps, or plunging necklines. Dresses must come to the top of the knee.

## **Work Clothes**

Students may change into work clothes after final hour.

## **Dress Code Violations**

Teachers will note violations of dress code standards and will provide counsel and warning as necessary for students. Obvious violations of the dress code may necessitate a student remaining in the office until the parents bring a change of clothing or take the student home until the dress code is met. If the office has clothing available, BMCS will provide a change of clothes for the student.

Repeated violations of the dress code will result in detentions and discipline as described in the Discipline Policy. Areas of subjectivity are left to the discretion of the teachers and Administration.

## Summary

The BMCS dress code is presented in detail so that our school families will have a clear understanding of the standards agreed to when students are enrolled in BMCS. The intent of the standards is to present a school atmosphere. The school does not impose rules for students outside of school, rather the school recognizes parental authority and depends on parents to support the dress code by checking their children before school each day.

## School Delays and Closings

BMCS follows the Northern Lebanon School District for weather-related delays and closures. In addition, families will receive notifications via text or email based on the contact information we have on file.

### **Please note:**

BMCS does not require make-up days for weather-related closures. In the event of a snow day, students are expected to complete pre-prepared snow day packets to ensure learning continues without interruption.

## Lunch and Milk Program

**Milk Purchase:** Students may purchase white or chocolate milk.

**School Lunch:** Pizza is available for purchase every Wednesday. Hot lunches may be purchased Thursday throughout the school year. From time to time, additional lunches are provided for sale on other days and are announced to the students ahead of time.

## Lunch Payment Policy

To ensure a smooth lunch process, please do not send lunch money with your child to the classroom. All lunch payments must be made in the school office or online.

You may view the lunch menu, place orders, and make payments by visiting:

[www.bmcndefenders.org/lunch-menu](http://www.bmcndefenders.org/lunch-menu)

- Lunches can be ordered in advance.
- If a student does not have sufficient funds in their lunch account, they will still be provided with a meal.
- Parents will receive an online statement and payment reminder if their account balance is low or past due.

Statements are sent every Tuesday.

## School Pictures

School pictures are taken each year through a school photographer. Packages will be made available for purchase.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

It is recommended but not required that parents have a conference with the student's teacher(s). Pupil progress, conduct, spiritual growth, and achievement will be discussed. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled during the month of November.

Parents or teachers may request additional conferences any time throughout the school year. We encourage you to bring any problems or concerns to the teacher. It is our desire that parents and teachers work together in educating the child. If further assistance is required, the Administrator is to be contacted.

## Extended Care Program

BMCS Extended Care is a service available only for students enrolled at BMCS in K5 to 12th grades. Hours of operation are 7:00 to 8:00 AM and 3:00 to 4:30 PM and are only available on BMCS school days. Extended Care can be used as needed; payment is only required for the days that the service is used.

Charges are assessed per hour per child. Any portion of a half hour that is used will be billed as a full half hour. Payment is due within 10 days of receipt of statement. Extended Care charges are considered a financial obligation that is separate from tuition.

The student must be present in school and be in good health to be eligible to use the Extended Care Program each day.

Before school care and after school care students will be taken to the elementary study hall room in the school building. Please note that advance notice of intended use of BMCS Extended Care is required. To submit a request and see current rates please visit [bmcsdefenders.org](http://bmcsdefenders.org).

## Work Release Program

Work release programs for high school students can help them gain job experience and prepare for the transition from school to work. Blue Mountain Christian School students are eligible for the work release program upon entering the 12th grade. Tuition is adjusted accordingly. Students applying must meet the following requirements:

- Be in good academic standing.
- Be on track to meet graduation credit requirements by the end of the 12th grade
- Have parental written permission.

## Field Trips

Teachers plan field trips for their students at various times throughout the school year. A permission slip must be signed by a parent in advance in order for children to participate. The primary purpose of field trips is educational.

All parents that wish to participate in School field trips are required to have a “Child Abuse history clearance” and a “Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Records Check”. The appropriate links are listed under “Resources” on the BMCS website.

# Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF)

## Mission Statement

The Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) is dedicated to enhanced educational opportunities, family events that foster social enrichment, and fundraising support for program and campus improvements that can't be covered by tuition alone. The PTF functions in coordination with the administration of the school and is under the authority of the Elder Board.

## Positions and Terms

The officers of the PTF are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers will be elected at the end of the school year. Officers can serve up to a 2-year term, at which time they can choose to be nominated for re-election.

- President and Secretary are elected at the end of odd-numbered years.
- Vice President and Treasurer are elected at the end of even-numbered years.

An officer of the PTF can resign the position at any time throughout the term, at which point the position will become available for nominations and voting.

## Qualifications of Officers

All officers shall be members of the PTF who have given evidence of being born again believers in Jesus Christ, who have a good Christian testimony among the parents, in their home churches, and in the community at large. Since they will represent BMCS and the PTF, all officers are to uphold the same biblical standards required of BMCS faculty and staff. They must have the recognizable abilities needed to fulfill their offices and have a commitment to the PTF and the Blue Mountain Christian School Philosophy. They must be willing to commit themselves for the time needed to fulfill the duties of their offices. In pursuit of proper representation of the student body, it is desirable, but not necessary, that all the officers attend different churches to properly represent the PTF. The Nominating Committee shall approve all persons nominated for office.

Please visit the PTF page on the BMCS website for current officers.

### President

- Coordinates the entire PTF program and supervises the work of the other officers.
- Appoints committees and leaders as needed and supervises their work.
- Supervises the planning of the calendar and programs for the year.
- Presides over PTF meetings.
- Represents the PTF to the Elder Board.

### Vice-President

- In the absence of the President, the Vice President will take over all the duties of the President.
- Carries out such other duties as are assigned by the President.

### Treasurer

- Receives, deposits, and disperses all PTF funds as authorized.
- Keeps financial records.
- Makes a written financial report at each PTF meeting (for PTF minutes).
- Carries out such other duties as are assigned by the President.

### Secretary

- Takes minutes at all meetings of the PTF and keeps them on file.
- Prepares PTF announcements for the school, as needed.
- Carries out such other duties as are assigned by the President.

### **Nominations**

1. Nominations should be submitted by the interested party, other parents, and/or faculty in the school to the Nominating Committee.
2. The Nominating Committee – consisting of the Elder Board, PTF President, and Administrator – reviews submissions.
3. Candidates that have been approved by the Nominating Committee are then presented to the parents for a vote.
4. A person elected by a majority vote shall fill the office.

### **Vacancies**

A person elected by a majority vote shall fill a vacancy occurring in any office for the unexpired term. At their discretion, the Elder Board can ask an officer to step down at any time for reasons regarding qualifications.

### **General PTF Responsibilities**

- Coordinates physical aspects of the PTF meetings and events.
- Plans annual operating PTF budget for the year.
- Disperses funds for approved expenses.
- Responsible for advertising PTF events.
- Recruit volunteers for PTF events.

### **PTF Meetings**

Meetings are scheduled as needed. All meetings should be attended by the officers of the PTF and the school administrator as needed.

To help school families be informed of upcoming events, fundraisers, and projected PTF budget, the PTF will coordinate a back-to-school PTF meeting as a “Family Fun Night”. At the end of the school year, another “Family Fun Night” will be held to gain feedback from school families, provide a financial report, and elect new officers as needed.

### **Fundraising**

PTF events and fundraisers must be approved by the Elder Board



## Health Requirements and Procedures

K-4/K-5 students or those coming from a home-school environment must provide a copy of immunizations as required by the State of Pennsylvania or a religious exemption letter.

Physical Exam—K-5 or first year of school, 6th & 11th grades

Dental Exam—K-5 or first year of school, 3rd & 7th grades

It is preferred that medication not be administered to children during the school day. However, it is recognized that some children have unique medical needs and there are instances where medication may be required during the school day. If medication is an absolute necessity, it can be administered during the school day provided the request form is properly completed and signed. A form must be completed for each medication, prescription or non-prescription.

- Prescription medications require the signature of both physician/physician designee and parent.
- Non-prescription medications require only the advance instructions and signature of a parent. There will be no exceptions made.

Stamped physician signatures or physician signatures written by the physician's designee (followed by the designee's signature or initials) are acceptable on this form and on the doctor's/medical facility's letterhead. The properly completed form and medication should be delivered to the school office upon arrival at school. The medication must be in its original container and clearly identifiable. Unidentifiable medications will be treated as unauthorized substances and will not be administered.

If a child takes a certain medication on a long-term basis, one form will be good for the entire school year, providing the dosage does not change.

If a child is unable to open the container and/or actually take the medication, school personnel may hand the medication to the child and offer water. This procedure will be followed only when there is a statement indicating that the child requires assistance. If no assistance is necessary, the child must still take the medication in the presence of school personnel.

In case of illness the parent/guardian will be contacted by phone and the parents will be requested to come to the school to pick up the ill child. If the parent/guardian is unavailable, the emergency contact will be contacted by phone and requested to come to the school to pick up the ill child.

## Suggestions Regarding Health

Only a healthy child can learn well. Make sure that your child has enough sleep every night. TV programs and social activity should not interfere with regular and adequate rest. Provide an adequate, balanced diet with restrictions on sweets. This is essential for proper growth and development of your child. Provide clean, comfortable clothing, suitable for weather.

For your child's sake and for the protection of others, keep your child at home and call your physician when showing such symptoms as sore throat, nausea, running nose or coughing, inflamed eyes, earache, temperature, etc. If a child becomes ill during school hours, the parents will be notified and must pick up their child. A sick student will not be permitted to return to the classroom.

## Bus/ Van Transportation

Free transportation will be provided by your local district for students in K5 to 12th grade if you live in any of the following school districts:

- Annville-Cleona
- Cornwall-Lebanon
- Eastern Lebanon
- Lebanon City
- Lower Dauphin
- Northern Lebanon
- Palmyra
- Pine Grove
- Tulpehocken

Please visit "Resources" on the BMCS website for the appropriate school districts transportation form. In the event of an address change the appropriate school district must be notified. At no time may a child ride a bus other than the one he/she was assigned by the school district in which he/she lives.

## Bus/ Van Rules and Regulations

- School dress code is in effect on buses and vans.
- All parents and staff must adhere to designated traffic patterns on school property.
- High school students with proper licenses may drive to and from school. See **Student Driver** section immediately following for additional information.
- The school shall furnish transportation to some events not on campus. Students must have written parent consent to ride in school vehicles.

## Conduct On The Bus/ Van

- Obey the driver
- Exercise caution, good manners, and consideration for other people.
- Keep the aisle clear.
- Avoid loud talking and confusion that might distract the driver.
- Ask the driver for permission before opening windows.
- Keep arms and head inside the vehicle.
- Do not throw objects inside or out of the bus.
- Do not use the bus as a playground – No wrestling.
- Remain seated until the bus has come to a complete stop at your bus stop.
- Help your driver to keep the bus clean and in good shape.

## Getting Off The Bus/ Van

- Use the handrail and take one step at a time.
- Do not push or crowd other children.
- Go directly to your assigned place or home after you leave the bus.

If your child is being picked up at dismissal time you are to notify the teacher and the bus driver. In the interest of safety, no students are allowed to leave the sidewalk until ALL buses and vans have departed.

In the event of an emergency that requires your child to be picked up by someone other than the designated individual, the BMCS office must be notified as early as possible

## Student Drivers

Students who have a license may drive to school; however, they must strictly abide by the rules associated with that privilege.

Each student planning to drive to school needs to register and sign a Driver's Privilege Agreement at the school office before driving to school. Students' cars must be parked in the assigned area during the regular school day. Students should not be in their cars or in the parking lot around the cars during regular class hours without specific permission. Also, loud and/or inappropriate music will not be tolerated on campus any more than it would be in our classrooms. Students must drive slowly and cautiously while on campus. Any infraction will result in the loss of the driving privilege for the remainder of the year.

## Elementary Combination Grade Classes

Combination grade classes are sometimes necessary for the prudent planning of both the faculty and student needs, where enrollment does not justify a single section for each grade.

The following factors must be considered in the establishment of a combination classroom to maintain instructional soundness:

- The number of students should not exceed 18. Exceptions must be weighed very carefully. Ideally, combination classes would have less than maximum.
- Teacher's style, experience, and training for combination grade teaching.
- Physical classroom adequate working space and resource materials to accommodate both grade levels.

When placing students in a combination class the Administrator must consider:

- Minimizing the variability of overall class composition as it relates to student academic achievement data and maturity level.
- Meet individual student needs.

## Achievement Testing

The Iowa Assessments (often called “Iowa testing”) are standardized tests used by schools across the country to measure how students are progressing academically. These tests help us see how well students understand key subjects like reading, language, math, science, and social studies compared to other students their age nationwide.

Iowa testing is not a pass-or-fail exam. Instead, it gives teachers and parents helpful information about each child’s strengths, areas for growth, and overall academic development. The results guide us as we plan instruction and support students’s learning.

We do Iowa testing for 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> grades in April.

## Assessment Testing

- We do DIBELS testing for elementary age students.
- Assessment testing is recommended for new students to the school for grades 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> in English and Math.

## Assessment Policy for Middle and High School Students

At BMCS, we assess middle and high school students at the end of each instructional unit, rather than through traditional midterms and final exams. These unit-based summative assessments are designed to comprehensively evaluate students’ understanding of the facts, skills, and concepts taught throughout each unit.

### Benefits to this approach include:

- **Timely Feedback:** Students receive quicker feedback on their progress, allowing them to address learning gaps before moving on to the next topic.
- **Reduced Stress:** Smaller, more frequent assessments reduce the pressure and anxiety often associated with large cumulative exams.
- **Deeper Learning:** Regular unit assessments encourage consistent study habits and deeper engagement with the material.
- **Better Retention:** Reviewing and testing knowledge in smaller segments supports long-term retention and mastery of key concepts.

This approach helps ensure that students are continuously supported in their academic growth while maintaining a manageable workload.

## Academic Standards

It is the belief of BMCS that a quality education is the result of a curriculum that integrates God's truth into all courses and adequately prepares the student for future educational endeavors.

Teachers that are Christian, maintain a Christian lifestyle, and uphold the Statement of Faith.

Classes of 18 or less which enable the student to derive maximum benefit from their academic exposure.

Each student is expected to use all available school and home resources and to perform at their highest level in order to take full advantage of the educational program. Their originality and creativity are encouraged within the organized framework of the classroom.

## Academic Goals

- To provide a learning environment that allows students to achieve their full potential.
- To provide a curriculum that prepares students for college, technical school, or employment upon graduation.
- To provide learning opportunities that develop critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and independent and cooperative work skills.
- To provide learning opportunities that promote practical application of information and skills learned.
- Use current affairs in all areas, teaching the student how they relate to God's plan for man.

## Skipping a Grade

At BMCS it is the view that students should move through the planned curriculum in a step-by-step fashion that allows for both steady academic and social development.

Skipping a grade is not considered to be a beneficial practice and will rarely be allowed by the school.

Parents requesting their child be advanced a grade level beyond the normal promotion can present their request to the administrator. The school administrator will also consider other factors such as those that relate to maturity, social development, and student success in comparison to other students.

In addition, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students must have met accreditation requirements for the grade level being requested.

## Acceptance of Course Work for High School Credit

BMCS does not accept for high school credit any course work done outside BMCS except by the guidelines of the state department of education.

## Tutorial Help

We are committed to helping every student succeed. If a student is struggling in an academic subject, the first step is to reach out to the classroom teacher. Most teachers are willing to give extra time to students who are actively trying to improve. This additional support may be offered before school, after school, or during a planning period, with the teacher's approval.

In addition to teacher support, BMCS has qualified tutors available to assist students who need extra help. These tutors can work with students during designated times to reinforce understanding and improve academic performance.

Students may also be paired with peer helpers who have demonstrated strength in the subject area.

This layered support system ensures students have access to the resources they need to thrive academically.

## Promotion and Graduation Criteria

The spiritual, physical, social, and emotional growth of the student is considered alongside the academic achievement and attendance records of the student when considering promotion. Specific questions regarding this policy should be directed to the administrator.

## Graduation Requirements

BMCS is committed to helping every student achieve their God-given potential, whether it is pursuing a college career, a technical school, or joining the workforce. Our credits are designed to meet college admission requirements while providing a challenging and engaging learning environment for all students.

In order for a student to graduate and participate in graduation ceremonies, they must have all the necessary credits completed by the end of the school year.

English	4 Credits	
Bible	4 Credits	1 credit per year attending BMCS 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Mathematics	3 Credits	
Social Studies	4 Credits	
Science	3 Credits	
Electives	3 Credits	
Foreign Language	1 Credit	2 credits offered since most colleges require it
Health / Physical Education	2 Credits	½ credit per year attending BMCS 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade
<b>Total Graduation Requirements</b>	<b>24 Credits</b>	

## Criteria for Diploma

A diploma must be granted by the Administrator to anyone successfully completing the BMCS curriculum and having fulfilled all responsibilities, be signed by the Administrator, and shall bear the date of its issue.

## Music Education

Music education is important to the development of the students. Every student through 5th grade is required to participate in a music class scheduled each week.

Instrumental music will be offered to students in grades 1-12. Effort will be made for providing beginning instruction as well as a band program allowing for students to learn together. Opportunities for performances will be appropriately scheduled during the year. Exemplary events include the Christmas Program and Spring Program.

When a music teacher is available, private music lessons may be offered to students. Inquire at the office for availability and pricing.

## Physical Education

Physical education is important to the development of good physical and mental health. A P.E. curriculum has been developed for each grade level and is implemented by the P.E. and classroom teacher. All activities are planned in the best interests of a child's safety.

Physical education is provided for each student during the regular school day. Students will have P.E. outdoors or indoors depending upon the weather and the teacher's discretion.

Every student is required to participate during P.E. unless there is a note from a physician indicating that a student is not to participate. If such a note is received, the student will be excused from P.E. class until a note from the physician indicates otherwise.

A student may be excused for not more than three days at a time with a note from a parent. This may be done in cases of minor injury and/or sickness from which the student is recovering. No student will be excused for more than 3 days unless there is a note from an attending physician.

A student is required to have a pair of gym shoes which is used specifically for gym class. They may be kept at school. Any student who does not have the necessary equipment for gym class will not be allowed to participate and their non-participation will be reflected in their grade. The classroom teacher in charge of the class will determine necessary equipment.

Students will wear appropriate gym clothes for P.E. class.

## Health Education

Health education is required for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Boys and girls will be separated or combined as specific discussion dictates. Upon request, parents will be provided with an opportunity to meet instructors, review curriculum materials, and ask questions regarding the program.

## Athletics

The Christian philosophy of athletics must stem directly from the school's Christian philosophy of education. It is the goal that the athletes develop positive Christ-like character qualities and express them through the medium of athletics. Athletics is a microcosm of life. The athletes are confronted with all types of life situations, perfect learning situations for teaching Biblical principles. It is the job of the coaches to properly direct them in these situations to build character qualities.

Athletics should help foster vital relationships among team members coming from the team concept and direct leadership of the Christian coach. Athletics are a means to an end, not an end in themselves, in that athletics represent an aspect of the educational program, not the main focus of the program. It is a goal that the student become a well-rounded individual, striving toward his God-given potential.

The athletic program will:

- provide well-planned and well-balanced inter-scholastic activities for as many participants as possible, consistent with available facilities, or personnel, and financial support.
- be planned so as to present a minimal amount of interference with the academic program.
- function so as to involve not only the participants, but also the student body and school community.
- provide an opportunity for the loyalty of parents, and friends of the school to be renewed, strengthened, and united.

## Student Athletic Eligibility

No student may participate in a scheduled game unless he/she has submitted an authorization form signed by his/her parents. Students must maintain a "C" average in all subject areas in order to participate in the sport. A student found to be deficient in any one subject will be placed on a one-week probation in that subject during which time he may continue to practice and play in games. After that one-week probation, if a student is still deficient, a student will be found to be ineligible to participate in any practices or play in scheduled games. A student may be found ineligible if their behavior and/or cooperation in class is found to be unacceptable. The same rules of eligibility will apply to behavior as to academics.

## Game Day Eligibility

If a student is absent from school on a day where there will be a game, they will not be permitted to play in the game unless it was an excused absence and receives approval from the Athletic Director.

## Parent Notification of Policy Updates

At Blue Mountain Christian School, we are committed to transparency and clear communication with our families. Parents and guardians will be notified of any changes made to the policies outlined in this handbook.

To ensure clarity, the date the Handbook was last revised will be printed on this page. We encourage families to review the policies outlined fully and reach out to the school office with any questions.

*Thank you for partnering with us to support the mission and values of BMCS.*

revised 12/5/2025