

Faith Elementary & Middle School

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Student Handbook *2011 – 2012 School Year*



Mr. David L. Jones, Administrator
Mrs. Oclivery F. Jones, Head Teacher

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May 15, 2011

Dear Parents:

Welcome to the Faith Elementary School Family. Your participation is appreciated. You are invited to review the information here and to visit the school's website: www.feschool.org. We invite you to pray that God will bless your child and your family for your decision to enroll or re-enroll him or her in FEMS for its thirtieth (30th) year. We expect that you will find us making earnest efforts to live up to the standards set forth in the **Student Handbook** and on the website. If your child will study at another school next term, be sure to prepare for and initiate appropriate transfer and registration procedures on time. We pray for your success.

Faith is interested in parents who are serious about student scholastic achievement and good student conduct. Our teachers and staff enjoy knowing that they are working for parents who have realistic expectations about their child's abilities and behavior. Even if, in your view, your child needs growth in some area, we can work with him or her successfully, as you as the parent, recognizes the student's need for development. When a parent is in denial, we consider this a problem for the child as well as for our teachers.

God has blessed our school with a competent and committed faculty and staff. This is one of the reasons thinking parents would select a specific school for their child. It is difficult for a parent to work with a teacher he or she does not respect professionally. Over the years our school family has worked very hard to develop a record of professionalism, model Christian living, and teaching personal responsibility to all of our students and families.

It is important that each parent study the school standards and expectations. We realize that having good and positive relations with parents is essential for us to be successful in training your child effectively in academics and citizenship. We simply must be on the same page. It is a necessary expectation of the school that only parents who have worked out an acceptable payment arrangement with the school may enroll a student for the 2011 -2012 academic year. Currently, we are sorry that no student scholarships exist. Finally, those who sign on with us must remember that we are here together, we should do all within our power to work together for the benefit of your child and other children and families involved in the school and for the glory of God.

Sincerely in Christian faith,

David L. Jones, Administrator Emeritus
Oclivery F. Jones, Head Teacher

ABOUT US

The Faith Elementary and Middle School is a small Christian School with an enrollment of less than fifty students in preschool (age 3) - grade 6. Faith is an independent, non-denominational school. It is an approved 501 (C)(3) non-profit organization. The school was founded in 1982.

Character building and strong academic achievement in students are two of the primary aims of FEMS. Teaching students a positive self-image and responsible discipline are among other important hallmarks of the school. Many of our students consistently score two and three grade levels above current grade assignment. Faith students are generally highly respected for exceptional public speaking and dramatic abilities. Faith attempts to train students to become responsible leaders.

Faith Elementary and Middle School has operated in crowded, rented (but legal) facilities throughout its existence. An absence of state and federal funding, or the regular support of any church congregation, and the lack of corporate or foundation sponsorship is reflected in the humble, but clean and beautifully decorated facilities the school lease. The school is grateful for the voluntary financial support it has received from the Edward T. and Dr. Gertrude Findley-Christian Family, the IMA, and others over the years. Every gift has been a tremendous blessing.

Faith is a highly motivated school of hard-working and ambitious families and teachers. The school welcomes students, workers, leaders, and volunteers from all races, religions, or national backgrounds, who believe they can be a blessing and receive a blessing working for community students and their families through this Christian, community effort. While the school is integrated on most levels, the school is largely African American. It has never felt the need to apologize for being largely African American. Faith is interested in serving those who need help regardless of racial or religious identity or affiliation. It is interested in diversity because it believes this would more perfectly reflect the character of God, and God's purpose for the human family. Nevertheless, the school is proud to serve whatever constituencies that expresses a need and appreciation of what it has to offer.

Many Faith parents channel their involvement in the school through the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), the Board of Directors, and as volunteers in the some other facet of school life. The Faith Elementary and Middle School family invites all who believe in prayer and children and youth to pray for the school, and its needs and mission to all children. Prayers and any additional efforts anyone may feel impressed to make in support of this deserving organization are appreciated. By the grace of God, Faith will be experiencing its thirtieth year of service in the year of our Lord 2011-2012.

LOCATION

Faith Elementary and Middle School is located at 90 Saulsbury Road, Dover, Delaware. It is housed in the VFW or Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9962 Building, and a Double-wide Modular Classroom.

- The school is located in west Dover, near Route 9;
- We are 2 blocks from the intersection of Forest Street (Route 8) and Saulsbury Road;
- Two doors north of Happy Harry's (Walgreens) Drug Store, Saulsbury Road (corner of Forest St. or Rte. 8 and Saulsbury Road;
Next door to Academy of Dover Charter School, 104 Saulsbury Road;
- Next door to Culligan Water Supply Co.;
- Across the street from Clems Auto;
- Across the street from Percision Auto Body, Inc.;
- Across the street from Mercer Dental Associates;
- Between intersections of Forest Street (Rte. 8) & Saulsbury Rd.; and Saulsbury Rd. & McKee Rd.
- Nearby Schools include William Henry Middle, Booker T. Washington Elementary, and Academy of Dover Charter.

Approaches From North

From Wilmington - Route 1 to exit 104, West Dover; After Toll; Cross over Hwy. 13; Proceed west on Scarborough Extension; Continue through intersections of College Road and McKee Road, and McKee Road and Walker Road; Pass Four Seasons (a new development on the right), Green Meadows; and Academy of Dover Charter School.

Highway 13 South - Exit Hwy. 13 at College Road after passing Delaware State University; Turn left at McKee Road; Pass the Hamlet Shopping Center on the right approximately 1 mile; Proceed through the intersection of McKee Road and Walker Road; Pass Four Seasons, (a new development on the right), Green Meadows; and Academy of Dover Charter School.

Approaches From South

From Dover Air Force Base - Highway 113 north; Merge into Hwy. 13; Proceed two blocks, turn left onto W. Division Street (Route 8); Proceed about three miles west; cross railroad tracks, Bennie Smith Funeral Home, Booker T. Washington Elementary School, and Capital School District Office; Turn right at the Subway Restaurant unto Saulsbury Road; the school will be the third building on your left, after Happy Harry's (Walgreens) Drug Store, and Culligan Water Supply Co.

From Harrington, Felton, Camden - Take Highway 13 N. to Dover; Turn left onto South State Street, near Carrolls Shopping Center; Pass South Elementary School, Bay Health (Kent General Hospital), Holy Cross Elementary School; Turn left unto W. Division Street; Cross railroad, Bennie Smith Funeral Home, Booker T. Washington Elementary School, and Capital School District Office; Turn right at the Restaurant unto Saulsbury Road; the school will be the third building on your left, after Happy Harry's (Walgreens) Drug Store; and Culligan Water Supply Co.

AFFILIATION AND MEMBERSHIP

In the interest of carrying out the school's mission, objectives, and vision, the school seeks to collaborate with individuals and organizations that will assist the school in fully realizing its desired outcomes to the benefit of children and the glory of God. *The school is a member of, or is associated with the organizations listed below:*

- 1. ACSI – Association of Christian Schools International***
- 2. PACS – Philadelphia Association of Christian Schools***
- 3. USS – Urban School Services***

The IMA – Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Dover and Vicinity has always been supportive and demonstrates a parent interest in Faith Elementary and Middle School.

AFFILIATION AND MEMBERSHIP COMMENT

Faith Elementary and Middle School is an independent school; it not owned by any church or school district. The school is not a member of any church or school district. The school welcomes support and participation from churches and other religious and secular organizations. The school welcomes financial assistance and other donations from all sources. Solicited and voluntary donations from businesses, corporate organizations, fraternal organizations, families, and individuals are all needed. The improvement and survival of the school depend upon the good-will of all prospective donors, philanthropists, all others who value the scholastic and citizenship efforts of local community educators. FEMS is working to meet the needs of children and families who can benefit from the focused small classroom settings, responsible discipline, emphasis on positive student self-image, while highlighting developing leadership as well as academic skills, in children, working in concert with their parents and families of diverse socio-economic, racial, and cultural backgrounds.

The school is independently organized and operates independent of all churches and other organizations. The school is interested in membership in organizations such as Association of Christian School International for accreditation and other educational purposes. In this vain, the school enjoys friendly association and contacts with other Christian schools, other non-public schools, and also public schools, charter schools, and institutions of higher education. The focus of the school's interest in these schools is primarily educational and cultural enrichment for students. Staff development is another way in which this school benefits from association with other schools. A final product of this school's association with other educational institutions is to provide practicum experiences for students who will later enter the profession of teaching. In its association with churches, organizations, and individuals, the school will not knowingly participate or allow participation with persons, churches, or organizations that are known to be discriminatory in their policies and operations against minorities or anyone on the basis of race, national origin, skin color, ethnicity, or other discriminatory standard.

Faith Elementary and Middle School, Inc. is proud to be a school of the community; and the school is equally proud to be blest with the participation, support, prayers, and fellowship of all people within the context of the school's philosophy, mission, objectives, and interest in providing challenging academic and character training to boys and girls. The school has been comparatively under-funded over its existence. This fact has limited its appeal to some parents, individuals seeking employment, and contacts with successful funding sources. School leaders and staff have consistently been willing to offer services to students registered at great personal sacrifice and considerable commitment to help as many students as possible. The school plans to systematically solicit funds from foundations, corporations, churches, businesses, and individuals for operational budget, debt reduction, capital improvements, and curriculum changes, all geared to attract more diversified participation on all levels of school life.

Faith is proud of the parent interest that the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Dover and Vicinity expresses in the school. Both organizations were founded the in 1982. The financial support from the IMA to Faith has its roots in the love of the IMA leadership and its constituents supporting memberships which represents a wide array of Christian Protestant Churches in Central Delaware. The school intends to continue to maintain its independence, but looks forward to affiliation with individuals and other organizations to enhance and support its offerings to more community students and families.

MISSION STATEMENT

The attainment of academic, spiritual, social, and cultural experiences of quality that are provided within an alternative educational setting designed to accomplish twelve explicit objectives is the mission of Faith Elementary and Middle School.

To achieve its mission, the school must receive economic support from diversified groups and individuals.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose for founding and operating this school is to offer a challenging academic Christian education to boys and girls of all faiths without malice or bias toward any denomination or persuasion; to offer a thoroughly rigorous academic, basic education to boys and girls of all races, creeds, colors, ethnic membership, or national origin; to promote, foster, and otherwise uphold good discipline, to develop, adopt, and build on programs emphasizing the following characteristics: (1) Christian Growth and Positive Character Development; (2) High Academic Achievement; (3) Responsible Citizenship in school, home, church, and community; (4) Promote the ideals of Individualism, Tolerance for Diversity, Self-Help, Business Ownership, and Individual and Cultural Pride.

VISION STATEMENT

The school is much in need of financial support. However, though it has many needs, the school is well on its way of liquidating old debts and moving closer to fiscal stability, Faith Elementary is Christ-centered, community oriented, and a school where maximum student academic success and welfare are paramount. Its services are offered in wholesome, safe, and attractive modern environments that are owned by the school. Further, our visionary or future realities of the school include increased development projects and incidences where these improved and expanded offerings are, in part, made possible by the increasing collaborative efforts and support of school leaders, faculty, staff, parents, students, charitable individuals, families, businesses, churches, corporations, foundations, organizations, philanthropists, and associations supportive of educational programs, capital projects, and funding for student scholarships and staff development. In acknowledging adequate support sources school leaders rely heavily upon counsel offered in Romans 4:17, (paraphrased): “Calling those things that be not as though they are....”, in daring to hope for an increasingly stable future of school growth and sustainability.

OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS

1. To Offer Challenging Academic Training in a Structured, Christ-Centered, Teacher-Directed Learning Environment where optimal student development is the object of teaching and nurturance.
2. To Maintain a Well-Ordered, Disciplined Setting in Which Students Study and Practice Respect for self and others, and learn to be Obedient.
3. To Motivate Each Student to Reach the Maximum of His or Her Capacity to Prepare Himself or Herself for a Satisfying Life in America's Mainstream - Spiritually, Culturally, Economically and Technologically.
4. To Encourage and Inspire a Positive Self-image in Students by Teaching and Modeling a Love And Acceptance of the Student Self By Presenting Successful Others Like and Unlike the Student.
5. To Develop in Students a Strong Foundation in Basic Elementary Skills and Concepts. So as to Enable Them to Function Successfully in All Academic and Moral Areas.
6. To Encourage Cooperation and Active Involvement Between the Home, Community and School in the Training, Welfare, and Development of the Students.
7. To Emphasize Positive Role Models for Students, Using Biblical, Local, State, National, and International Personalities and Projects.
8. To Teach an Awareness and Appreciation of Individual Differences and History Relative to Cultural, Racial and Religious Orientations.
9. To Direct and Motivate Students to Develop a Desire to Excel in All Pursuits of Life.
10. To Provide the Best Education Possible for All Students in Relation to the Statements of Faith, Philosophy, Mission, Objectives, and Purpose of the School, Regardless of Race, Religion, Sex, Nationality or Ethnic Heritage.
11. To Teach Students the Value of Entrepreneurial Activities in our Capitalistic Society by the Development and Implementation of Self-help and Self-directed Projects as a Viable Method of Improving Economic Stability for Hard-Working Persons and Groups in American Life.
12. To Provide Training in Personal and Group Leadership Through Public Speaking, Writing, and Student Participation in Programs and Presentations for Family and Public Attendance and Enrichment.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in the existence of **one triune God**, Whom in unity, manifests Himself in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that **the Bible is inspired of God and is the authoritative revelation and will of God** for teaching relationships and obligations of righteous living among humans. We believe that **humans are accountable to God** for their thoughts, decisions, and actions.

We believe in **the sacrificial life and gift of Jesus Christ to atone for the sins** of humans. We believe in His intercessory work in heaven on behalf of mankind. We believe that **salvation rests with God through His son Jesus Christ**. We believe it is **incumbent upon individuals to accept the gift of salvation and to permit the Holy Spirit to produce righteousness in their individual life** as expression and evidence that **He** is indwelling one's life. We believe that **those who practice the teachings of Jesus should be charitable in their attitude and conduct and tolerance of non-Christians** to present a positive influence toward their conversion and salvation.

We believe in **the ministry of angels** among humans. We believe that **the Holy Spirit is active in influencing one's understanding of what is right and wrong** and the application of Scripture in our lives. We believe **the Holy Spirit's contacts and influence in one's life will be consistent with what the Bible teaches**.

We believe **that God is desirous that all humanity be saved**. We believe that **Christian education is a strong and effective medium through which God works** to help and to save adults, children and youth. We believe that **Christ-centered training provides the knowledge, nurturance, and empowerment** to a child's so that he or she will be prepared to make important life choices.

We believe it is **the responsibility of the church, home, and school to teach children that they are the creation of a loving, powerful, and helpful God**. We believe that **as Creator and Redeemer, God is the ultimate authority in one's life**. We believe **that children and youth should be taught to obey authority figures**, whether in family, church, community, state, nation, or the world community, **as long as expectations from them are not inconsistent with the revealed will of God**.

We believe that God severally endows each child and youth with abilities and resources consistent with His will for his or her life. We believe that **it is incumbent upon each parent, student and teacher to make conscious efforts to achieve up to his or her maximum individual potential** as an expression of acknowledgement and gratitude that God is the Giver of every good and perfect gift, as Scripture teaches in James 1:17.

We believe **in the existence of Satan and hell of the Bible**. We do not ascribe to an- ever burning hell where sinners are tortured indefinitely while the righteous and angels adore God in a heaven unaware of or indifferent to the on-going plight of the unsaved. We believe that **mankind is caught-up in the controversy between good and evil, as explained in the Bible**. Nevertheless, we believe **in an All-Wise, All-Powerful, and Ever- Present God, whom is able**

and willing to help all who call out to Him for help in accordance with His will. With the help of God we believe **that individuals can realize their best possible situation and, or learn how to endure hardness**, which can develop faith and trust in God. In the end, we believe it's up to each individual to decide.

We believe **in practicing the presence of God**, even as children. **The Bible teaches us that God will always be with us.** We understand **we need the support of His presence.** We believe **we should endeavor, by the Spirit of Christ, to live in harmony with His teachings so that we may be instruments of helping others** toward salvation and improvement in their quality of life by living and teaching the love and sacrificial life of Christ.

We believe that **the beginning and end of faith is not our perception of what God has done, or what God can do for us.** We believe **that faith is a gift from God which grows as one's relationship with God is developed, and an understanding of His Word is learned and accepted.**

Finally, we believe **in the effectiveness of prayer.** We believe that **God wants to assist us in making an acceptable offering to Him of our lives, and also in doing good for humanity and other living things and our physical environment.** We believe **that prayer brings us closer to love, appreciation, and acceptance of holiness; and** as a result, **increases and improves our methods and quality of thanksgiving and praise to God for Whom He Is**, rather than for what we want or imagine, or what He has done for us.

We believe that **Satan is against the school.** We believe that some individuals may unwittingly be leered into a position where they may have attempted to handle the school roughly for personal ego, gain, promotion, and perhaps some other reasons. In some instances, we believe that some individuals have not recognized the courage and the simple demonstration of faith in God to even start a project such as this school. We believe that some misgivings about the necessity or importance of keeping FEMS in operation may exist. We believe that there is an unseen agenda to stifle or prevent the school that maybe supernatural. We also believe that the school serves as a living testament of God working through humans to accomplish whatever He designs, whether the path to that unfolding is clear to man, even to those whom He directs to be servants of His ultimate design and will for the school. We accept and believe that the purpose of God for our school is His business. It is His business whether we are perceived by others or even by ourselves, to be worthy or successful in our attempt, to offer the services of the school to the community He choose to help through the school's presence.

We believe that **some officials and persons of means and influence, whether small or great, have been sensitive and helpful to the school.** We believe that *the independent status of the school is a blessing to our community.* We believe **that few able individuals or entities in the school community, know of, or are sensitive to the impact their support of the school may have on its effectiveness in perfecting and stabilizing it's service to community children and families.** We believe the school has been unduly challenged, due in some part to, lack of funding, lack of state-of-the-art facilities, to some naiveté as to, how to get keep the entity alive and available with the available resources, while simultaneously keeping current with fiscal obligations to collect, match, report, and deposit required tax amounts regularly to revenue agencies, which though seemingly impossible, would have kept the school out of harms way.

We believe this failure or shortcoming have impeded the path of the school; nevertheless, we believe also that our weakness in this direction has been so painfully identified, that we are now more purposefully committed to a path of trusting God for successful funding and fund-seeking, and to improving stability, though it be difficult, as we work daily with present realities and pit these against keeping faithful to the school's calling under and by the grace of God, while meeting fiduciary commitments to our government revenue collecting agencies and other vendors.

In all things, we believe that **God has been faithful to His promises "to be with us";** We believe **God has blessed our student products, and will, in His own time, assist us in necessary improvements and resources.** *We believe that when God comes through in His strong way, He will enable us to* **not only remain in operation if this is His will, but to assist more students to secure a disciplined, Christ-Centered Education.** We believe that our students, while learning how to think more and more highly and positively about their self-worth as individual creations of God, and accept themselves as Christians, and that those who choose not to become Christians will be ashamed to not aspire toward the highest levels of their belief systems. Realistically, **if some of our students do not become Christians, we believe they will have been taught and seen demonstrated how and why they should be Christians, and will prayerfully, have sufficient preparation to make a deliberate decision later in life, reflecting the exercise of their free-will, which God has graciously given us all.** At the least we believe we will be able to assist our precious students in becoming better persons, able to live with others in an increasingly diverse world.

We fully believe that God will bless us to attract the resources, and gain the knowledge that will make our visions for students, student scholarships, staff development, and appropriate facilities, reality and bring further glory to His name. And, in the end, if God, in His wisdom, decides to temper what we may identify as His full handed blessings in resources and ease of struggles, we will trust our services and our motives to His final judgment with humble confidence. We believe that His will will be done. We believe that our humble and sometimes perceived, humiliated, path toward carrying out our mission, will not prevent God from being glorified by our efforts and dedication, nor prevent the school from rescuing, equipping, and blessing many young lives in setting strong foundations for future personal growth, leadership, and Christian service in our local, state, national, and world community, which all belong to God. That will be sufficient for this ministry of Christian service to children and families.

INDEPENDENT STATUS – A TREASURE

Faith Elementary and Middle School is not owned by any church. The school is not a member of any church denominational organization. The school welcomes support and participation from all churches and other religious and non-religious organizations. Some donations from organizations and churches are both solicited and voluntarily donated. To survive as a Christian school, the school depends upon the good-will of churches, other religious, and also, non-religious organizations and people.

The school is independently organized and operates independently of all churches and other organizations. The school is interested in membership in organizations such as the Association of Christian Schools International, for accreditation and other educational purposes. Similarly, the school enjoys friendly association and contacts with other Christian schools, other non-public schools, and also public schools and institutions of higher education. The focus of the school's interest in these schools is primarily educational and cultural enrichment for students. A measure of staff development is also a way in which this school benefits from association with other schools.

Faith is proud and grateful to have enjoyed the loving and willing support of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Dover and Vicinity (IMA), under the superb leadership of its former president, the Rev. Dr. Richard M. Avant. We welcome the recent ascendancy of Rev. Michael Rogers to the Presidency of the IMA. The IMA has made an at least \$500.00 per year donation, for nearly each year of its existence, and several times, in amounts much greater, even up to \$10,000.00 in one year, having been founded the same year as the school, 1982. During the winter-spring of 1999-2000, IMA leaders, the members of its various member churches constituencies, in cooperation with Mr. John Vincent, owner of the then Christian radio station WQVL, Heaven 1600, Dover, held a live broadcast praise-a-thon as a special fundraiser for Faith during a very critical time in its history. As a result \$41,206.00 from this beautiful cooperative effort was donated to the Delaware Division of Revenue and IRS. The support was substantial. It was necessary and saving.

The combined cooperative efforts of church leaders through the IMA to FEMS will always be counted and recognized as a tremendous expression of love. This level of support is indicative of the level of support a school of Faith's type needs on a regular basis. Our school also provides services to community schools, churches, and organizations. This has been done through opportunities for practicum experiences for college students who later enter the profession of teaching. The school has accepted requests for such arrangements informally with various professors at Delaware State University and less frequently from Wesley College and the University of Delaware over the years. Faith students are often used as program participants and leadership roles in their respective churches in various kinds of services. Faith students perform a minimum of three annual programs for parents and the public, often in local churches or public auditoriums, which are well received and often inspire children and youth leaders to train their children similarly.

In its association with churches, organizations, and persons, the school will not knowingly participate or allow participation with persons, churches, or organizations that are known to be

discriminatory in their policies and operations against minorities or anyone on the basis of race, national origin, skin color, ethnicity, or other discriminatory standard.

Faith Elementary and Middle School, Inc. is proud to be a school of the community; and the school is equally proud to be blessed with the participation, support, prayers, and fellowship of all people within the context of the school's statements of faith, philosophy, mission, objectives, and interest in providing challenging academic and character training to boys and girls. The school has been comparatively poor during its existence. Understandingly, this fact has reduced its appeal to some parents, some individuals seeking employment, and to some other individuals and entities who might otherwise be serious supporters or financial sponsors. That admission having been made, we consider it here, more important to hasten to add, that the faith, prayers, tangible support and participation of those parents, families, churches, and others, along with the school founders and leaders have made the Faith Elementary story possible. Those who have, under and by the grace of God, demonstrated consistent interest and support for the school over the years, notwithstanding, the school's poor financial status, who in appreciation for the fact that the school exists, and is doing a credible job in helping community children and families is the human part of the faith equation that keeps Faith open for service to children and families.

School leaders and staff have consistently been willing to offer services to students registered at great personal sacrifice in their considerable commitment to help as many students as possible. The school plans to systematically solicit funds from foundations, corporations, churches, businesses, and individuals for operational budget, debt reduction, capital improvements, and curriculum changes, all geared to attract more diversified participation on all levels of school life as health and human assistance are provided.

Yes, Faith is different; but the difference is a very good and God-directed difference. The school intends to continue to maintain its independence, but increase its efforts in affiliation with individuals and other organizations to enhance and support its offerings to more community students and families who can benefit from its unique offerings and structure.

HISTORY OF FAITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Faith Elementary and Middle School, Inc., a nonprofit organization, is administered by a Board of Directors elected from school parents and the supporting community. The school is staffed primarily by professional, certified teachers. Its small, highly trained faculty is assisted by an experienced and caring support staff. Some school leaders and staff have worked for years without compensation. Some school parents are among its strongest and most consistent supporters and promoters. In its first nearly three decades the school has been maintained by miracles, student tuition, fundraisers, and voluntary charitable donations, and the fact that its co-founders and family work for periods with little or no pay when there are special needs or obligations to honor first.

Faith Elementary School, Inc. was founded and incorporated in July, 1982 to meet the educational needs of area children in a unique way. The school would be private, yet it would not be anti-public. The school would be Christian, but it would not be a church school. The school's founders were insistent that students and personnel would be welcomed regardless of religious affiliation, race, gender, or economic status, so long as there was agreement on acceptance of operational standards and objectives.

The school has always welcomed the total community; yet it has served largely African-American children and their families. It would develop a considerable reputation for "rescuing" and "building up" students. Initially, many parents enrolled students in FEMS for remediation in conduct or in study areas. Soon many of the students would return to their former public schools. As time progressed many of these students made such a turn around in school citizenship and scholastics that more and more parents became interested in keeping them in FEMS. From reports received from district teachers, administrators, and parents, most of the transferred or graduate students exemplified improved conduct, motivation, self-esteem, and academic performance as they returned to former public schools, or as they went on to other public or private schools.

The school offers a day basic education program to boys and girls in preschool (age 3) - sixth grade. Due to financial challenges, the eighth grade was not continued after June, 1998. For the same reason the seventh grade was not continued after June, 1999. On occasion the school has honored requests to work with seventh and eighth grade students in an effort to offer a second chance to earn the right to be transferred back to a public or private school the next school year. This practice is very selective and prescribed since the 2007-2008 school term.

The school's strengths include its rigorous academic curriculum and strict, but loving character training in a Christian setting. Religious instruction and influence are intended to promote responsible ethics and moral training rather than indoctrination toward a particular denomination. The school is proud to be a Christian school, and as such, intends that teaching and example be toward Christian faith. Being non-denominational, we must leave specific Christian dogmas up to parent responsibility. Most students attend public schools with great success upon graduation or transfer from FEMS. The 2011-2012 student enrollment is projected to be under 50 students.

Faith graduate students who go on to local high schools often capture substantial academic honors and scholarship funding to continue their education in college. It is not unusual for students from a graduating class to remain in school in various locations both private and public.

Parents are discovering even further proof that the sacrifice to fund their child to attend Faith is a wise family investment in the student's future. Many of these students receive four-year scholarships. In 1992, the school became Faith Elementary and Middle School.

WHAT IT COSTS TO ATTEND FAITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Justification for Payments

While most school districts, including public and charter schools, may be given five to eight thousand dollars per pupil per year for operation, as an independent Christian school, Faith depends on school fees, contributions, and fund-raising to support its operations. There is no church to depend upon for monthly support. To-date, there has been no endowment, and no continuing scholarship funds to augment meager school income or to offer parents financial assistance. The school has received only two official grants, totaling \$33,017.00 in its twenty-seven years of operation. It is presumed and required that parents who register their child(ren) are able and committed to make regular and prompt payments unless the account is paid out in advance. Delinquent accounts and slow payments will be costly and may very well result in the dismissal of the student.

PRIMARY PAYMENT PLANS

Routine Installment Payment Program - Pre-School – 6th Grade

It is preferred that student tuition is paid in advance. Nevertheless, recognizing that most parents may not be able to complete a total advance payment, partial advance payments are required. It is required that the first and tenth of ten tuition installments be paid in advance of a student’s reporting to school. This payment is due August 1st or whichever month the student is enrolled. **TUITION PAYMENTS ARE DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF EACH MONTH, August 1 - May 1.** There are two payment options available. **Plan “A”** which requires paying the first and tenth tuition installments prior to the beginning of school, means the final regular payment should be paid April 1, providing a follow-up installment is paid September. **Plan “B”** also requires one to pay the first and tenth tuition installment, however the September payment may be skipped to installments be resumed on October 1, continuing monthly through May 1. It is in the school’s interest that all regular school fees be paid in advance or while the student is still attending school due to school need and occasional poor payment habits of a few parents. Discounts are given for multiple students from the same household and address. Staff student tuition discounts are limited to biological children or a student for whom the employee has been awarded legal custody.

<i>1st Child Annual - \$3,800.00</i>	<i>Monthly - \$380.00</i>	Discount	<u>Plan “A” Payment Due Dates:</u> 1 st & 10 th - 8/1; 2 nd - 9/1; 3 rd - 10/1; 4 th - 11/1; 5 th - 12/1; 6 th - 1/1; 7 th - 2/1; 8 th - 3/1; 9 th - 4/1.
<i>2nd Child Annual - \$3,420.00</i>	<i>Monthly - \$342.00</i>	10%	
<i>3rd Child Annual - \$3,230.00</i>	<i>Monthly - \$323.00</i>	15%	<u>Plan “B” Payment Due Dates:</u> 1 st & 10 th - 8/1; 2 nd - 10/1; 3 rd - 11/1; 4 th - 12/1; 5 th - 1/1; 6 th - 2/1; 7 th - 3/1; 8 th - 4/1; 9 th - 5/1.
<i>4th Child Annual - \$3,040.00</i>	<i>Monthly - \$304.00</i>	20%	

The school will accept cash, money order, personal or bank checks (i.e. cashier checks or bank drafts). In the event of a returned check due to insufficient funds, a \$50.00 fee will be charged, including a \$35.00 late payment fee plus at least \$15.00 as a special handling fee or bank returned deposit fee or whatever higher returned deposit fee the bank charges. In other words, the \$35.00 late fee will be charged plus whatever amount the bank charges for the returned deposit. The school reserves the right to require an alternative payment method after a first returned check for insufficient funds.

All parents are expected to participate in most school or PTO sponsored fundraisers. A special fundraising contribution will be accepted from parents who prefer not to participate in fundraising for any reason. Failing this, the PTO may restrict participation of the student in some activities which are funded as an award or token of appreciation to students who actively participated in a given fundraiser.

DONATION OF DELAWARE TRANSPORTATION - DEPARTMENT REIMBURSEMENT

The Transportation Department of Delaware's Department of Education issues a family transportation reimbursement amount for students registered in private schools by September 30th each year. In order for a family to qualify for the reimbursement certain conditions must be met. Preschool and pre-kindergarten students do not qualify for the family reimbursement to be made. A student must be five years old and in kindergarten, and also be enrolled in this school on September 30. Families who enroll students after this date do not qualify for a reimbursement for this term. Finally, the school must complete and file the required paperwork with the State's Transportation Department by their deadline to qualify for the mailing of reimbursement payments to the school to be passed on to parents. The school will do it's best to insure that the paperwork is submitted on time. Being more present physically and health-wise this term, it is my plan to complete and return the Transportation Department forms, enabling our school to participate in the reimbursement program. The amount of reimbursement varies slightly each term, however, the reimbursement amount for the 2011-2012 term is likely to be in the range of \$140.00 - \$180.00 per family, not per student.

This money belongs to the qualifying families. Each year parents who are eligible to receive the reimbursement are duly informed. Payment or Donation options are made to parents. Because the school always has a number of pressing needs, primarily insufficient operational funds, a plea is made for parents to make a tax deductible contribution of all or part of the reimbursement. This year it is crucial for parents to donate their reimbursement as we are doing all we can to keep from increasing tuition cost but also have sufficient funds available to pay our staff on schedule.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CHARGES

Childcare will be billed at a \$5.00 hourly rate. Computerized childcare statements will be provided. Payment is expected at least twice per month, on the first and fifteenth. Childcare is charged for time before and after student's regular school day. Late pick-up cost is \$1.00 per minute. Below are costs:

First Child, \$5.00 (8.33 PER MINUTE)

Second Child, \$4.50 (7.5 PER MINUTE)

Third Child, \$4.25 (7.08 PER MINUTE)

Fourth Child, \$4.00 (6.66 PER MINUTE)

Fifth Child and Above will Not Be Charged

Morning childcare service is offered: 7:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. daily, Mon.-Fri.; afternoon childcare service is offered: and, 3:16 p.m. and 4:31 p.m. 5:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and up to 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. Late charge for p.m. care will be \$1.00 per minute after scheduled closing times.

Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to arrange for alternative child care on early dismissal days, or be prepared to be billed by the school when their child remains at school on an early dismissal day (and this is only provided the school offers such services on a given early dismissal day). See the recommended list of child care providers and also note the days when early dismissals are scheduled.

Efforts will be made to provide weekly (Monday after) childcare statements. Payments of childcare services must be made once or twice per month if the child is expected to continue to receive childcare services.

Parents are requested to sign their children in for morning childcare services and to sign their child out for afternoon childcare services. This will increase the parent's confidence in the eventual bill that will be provided for payment. Sign-in and Sign-out records are kept in the office and may be reviewed for accuracy in comparison with bills for payment at any mutually convenient time. Errors will be corrected upon discovery or notice regardless whether the error results in a decrease of increase of the bill's total payment in question.

PURCHASE OF CARE

A Contract Between Parent and School

(To Be Completed, Signed, and Dated Only After Reading Student Handbook and POC Contract)

Purchase of Care Understanding and Expectations

2011-2012 School Term

Faith Elementary School has a contract with the State of Delaware, Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Social Services, under a Child Care Contract. Under such contract the school agrees to provide care and training for students Authorized through the Purchase of Care Office. All children and youth in the program are referenced as students regardless of whatever type of payment arrangement is set in place.

Faith Elementary School is a day school that teaches students and also offers morning and after-school child care services to enrolled students for a fee. Faith Elementary School is not a child care center. The school agrees to offer full attendance and participation rights to students accepted in one of the State of Delaware Purchase of Care (POC) programs including regular Purchase of Care, the Self-Arranged Purchase of Care Program, and possibly also the Plus program.

The school will not discriminate or show preferential treatment to or against students in the POC program. However, the parent(s) of a POC student honors the fact that all of the attendance and support standards of the school are expected of all school families.

The school will not require the usual double month payment of tuition fees in advance. The parent understands that non POC families pay State assigned parent fee rates that may or may not fluctuate from month to month or over an assigned period of "authorization," but the parent will accept to pay flat rate for tuition with various discounts for more than one student from the same family. The regular tuition per student annual amount is \$3,800. This translates to an average daily tuition amount of \$21.11 per day based on 180 days of school. This rate applies whether the student is present or absent. The average monthly student tuition amount is \$380 per first student per household. This standard does not apply to Purchase of Care (POC) students.

Authorized POC parents are exempted from the regular tuition rate listed above. The per day tuition fee per POC student depends on the State of Delaware standard of pay. The school has agreed to accept the contracted per day payments (that is, the State Co-Pay and the POC assigned Parent Fee). However, voluntary participation in scheduled fundraising efforts and or donations from all parents are appreciated and expected for basic school income for operation.

The POC assigned Parent Fee is due the first of each month following the period of service. The parent understands that he or she (they) should take seriously the obligation to have the student in regular attendance, primarily for the benefit of the child's development, but also because the school loses income when there is protracted absences. If the school's services are only needed intermittently, perhaps the parent should consider another care provider that is more accustomed

to sporadic attendance. When the student is absent important lessons are missed, the make-up of which may cause unnecessary stress on the teacher and the student.

Careful daily attendance is taken for each POC student and is collected by the assigned school personnel and is used for submitting monthly attendance reports to the Purchase of Care office. Payments, parent fee and State co-pay are determined by these reports. You will determine what your child's report will be. The parent accepts that there is a direct correlation between student performance and quality, punctual time spent in school.

The enrollment of your child in Faith Elementary School is welcomed and, of course, voluntary. The parent is expected and agrees to honor and follow school rules including prompt financial accountability.

Appropriate Student Application and other forms required for all students will also be completed by the parent of POC student for necessary enrollment, cumulative records, and contact purposes.

This **Contract** is entered into by the approved Faith Elementary and Middle School official named, _____, Title _____. This _____ day, of _____ 20____, and the parent Named here, (Circle one) Mr, Mrs, or Ms. _____, the parent or guardian of the student named above, will be entered into school the first day attendance on this date: _____. This student was born _____, and will be entered in the _____ grade. The Purchase of Care case worker is : _____. The telephone number of the assigned case worker is : _____. This contract is for the 2011 – 2012 academic school term or whatever portion of it that the student is enrolled.

The provision and completion of the information, terms, or standards above constitute a willing and voluntary contract between the signatories below for services that will be paid for in part by the Parent/Guardian and the State of Delaware Purchase of Care Office. The signatures verify the mutual acceptance of both parties of provider and parent/guardian.

Signature of authorized/legal parent: _____

Date of Signature of authorized parent/guardian: _____ .

Signature of authorized school official: _____ .

Date of Signature of authorized school official: _____

STUDENT LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS

(No School Breakfast Program Is Available During The Current Term)

Parents are responsible for providing their child's daily breakfast and lunch. The school is not in the food preparation service due to the significant disparity between collected income and expenditures for the service. It must also be remembered that there will be no one available at school to make a run to McDonalds or other restaurants to buy a lunch because the lunch was forgotten at home or because the parent did not have sufficient time to prepare a lunch. In either case, the parent, next authorized individual, or emergency contact will be called just as soon as it is determined that the student has no lunch. Lunch is scheduled at 11:00 a.m. for Early Childhood Students in the Modular Building, and for Elementary Students in the main or VFW building, at 12:00 noon, followed by recess up to 1:00 p.m.

Bag lunches should be simple, nutritious, and ample, but not wasteful, or time-consuming to prepare for the student. Items that require more than 2-3 minutes microwave time should be left at home! Staff is scheduled to have lunch at the same time as students. Please help us cut down on preparation and set up time for students by your choices. Banquet meals should not be sent to school.

Suggested lunch staples may include: a sandwich, piece of fruit, small bits of raw vegetables or fruit, nuts or chips, cookies, or small snack cake, and a beverage (hopefully, not one with high sugar content).

EARLY CHILDHOOD SNACK ARRANGEMENTS

In the Early Childhood Program (pre-school – kindergarten), the teacher may request that parents supply a modest amount of food items for simple and healthy snacks for all children for a period on a scheduled basis. **(We do not expect any parent to go grocery shopping as for household foods).** Otherwise, the parent will be responsible for his or her child's daily snacks. Students participating in such a cooperative and communal effort should be taught to be grateful and not fussy about what they like and dislike, or request snacks from home more to their taste and liking if this is what it will take and is permissible.

Parents and teachers will remember that the adults are in charge and not the child. This means that now and then (not habitually), a student may respectfully request an alternative for a snack. Such a student wish may be accommodated now and then if provisions are on hand, but must be taught not to fuss, cry, or be sulky and demanding when their request may not be met. Otherwise, such a student's snacks should come from home daily in the interest of keeping a positive and thankful atmosphere in the class and building Christian character in the child. Parent participation in this program is voluntary, but we suggest that a parent considering not participating, evaluate how their individual child may feel not being able to be served the same snacks as the rest of his or her classmates. We are not particularly interested in part-time participation in the program. Simply, the family participates or it does not participate.

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS AND CHILD CARE RESPONSIBILITY

The school has a number of days when the regular day ends at 12:30 p.m. On such days, parents are responsible for making alternative care arrangement in sufficient time to assure the child's welfare and cooperate with the school's after-school plans for the day.

The school will not assume responsibility to provide cost-free childcare service on Early Dismissal Days. Parents are aware that FEMS operates on an academic schedule. The school is not a day care center. Students will be picked up at 12:30 p.m. on each scheduled early dismissal day. Parents of a student not picked up will pay the required \$5.00 per hour up to the regular closing time, and will pay \$1.00 per minute after the normal closing time. There is no free after-school care provision for any student on early dismissal days. Parents will be billed for students remaining at the school on Early Dismissal Days after 12:45 p.m. The fifteen minutes would be minutes of grace.

The school will not be responsible for private arrangements made with any school employee, volunteer, or parent for childcare on early dismissal days, or on days when school is closed.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

In harmony with other school philosophy, objectives, and aims, the early childhood program of Faith is structured to provide the young child the opportunity to receive a strong spiritual, educational and social background on which continued learning experiences may prepare him or her to become a successful student and person in his or her future learning and developmental life. Instruction in the program is performed by a certified teacher and a instructional aide operating between the two sections of the modular classroom.

The Early Childhood Program of Faith Elementary and Middle School is considered an integral part of the overall school program. It is not considered a day care or childcare service apart from the school program. Here the childcare program is the section of the school program for students in grades PS - K, or Preschool through Kindergarten.

This program is for students ages 3 - 5. The program may consist of two classes, depending on the enrollment of students aged 3 - 5. Ideally, in the case of low enrollment, there will be one early childhood class with two sections, a teacher and aide(s). The Pre-School/Pre-Kindergarten Section is comprised of students who range in age 3 (pre-school), and students who are age 4 or more. For this reason the Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten section is considered a multi-grade class consisting of students who are labeled as Preschoolers as well as students who are age 4, but younger than age 5, (whom we regard as Pre-Kindergartners).

Students who reach their fifth birthday by or on August 31, are considered Kindergartners at Faith. Faith offers a full-day kindergarten program. Parents whose child is accepted in preschool or pre-kindergarten, or kindergarten, whose birthday falls later in the calendar year than the prescribed date by the Education Department, State of Delaware, must sign a form provided by the school verifying that the parent is aware of the State's requirement. The school reserves the right to deny placement in a class based on a lower illegal age. However, even if the school agrees to place the student in an upper grade or class beyond what the chronological age should be, this is not to be taken as a guarantee that the student is going to be promoted to the next higher grade. There is no half-day program offered in the early childhood program for students of any age. The A-Beka Curriculum used, utilizes a strong phonetics approach to teaching boys and girls to become strong readers. With appropriate rest and refreshment periods, it is expected that students will be appropriately engaged during a full day of instruction and school socialization.

The school day is considered 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Before-school care is offered for \$5.00 per hour, 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m., daily. As a courtesy to parents, students in the early childhood program may remain at school in the after-school program up to 4:30 p.m. daily, Monday – Friday, without incurring additional cost. Lunch has to be brought to school. There is no school lunch program.

The August 1, 2011 payment is considered The Registration Installment. The cost of tuition is \$3,800.00 per academic year (which is the last Monday of August – to the first or second week of June, a minimum of 180 instructional days). Tuition may be paid in advance at any time. Just keep in mind that a total payment of \$760.00 is expected by or on August 1, 2011. Any other arrangement must be approved by the school with an exact dated arrangement and payment due date contracted.

Kindergartners are required to wear uniforms purchased by parents as prescribed by the school; Preschoolers and Pre-Kindergartners may dress in casual attire. The school uniform is optional for students under age 5 or Kindergarten class assignment. Parents are not expected to attire their child in non-approved uniform pieces.

All students are taught good manners and obedience to school rules. Parents may be called in to discipline unruly students who disturb the harmony of the school's learning environment. Having teachers who are well prepared to teach, working with many students who are not new to the programs, and using incentives for positive conduct, along with references to God, the Holy Spirit, angels, and the Bible are all important components of the disciplinary program in the early childhood program. Detailed information is available on the schools website www.feschool.org. Faith Elementary and Middle School does not practice discrimination in any of its programs or services.

HOW TO GET A STUDENT ENROLLED

The first pupil day for the current school year will be August 29, 2011. The first of 10 tuition payments is due August 1). To avoid the frequent payment of late payment fees, it is requested, but not required that the parent pay the first and tenth tuition payments, i.e., \$380.00 each for August 1st and May 1st, prior to the start of school on August 29. Meeting the advance payments suggestion will also help to prevent a student from being sat-out of class until necessary funds are deposited or paid to the student's account. However, if approved along with parent promise to add additional dollar amounts later, the school may accept the payment of \$380.00 per first student to enroll a student rather than the usual \$760.00 advance two (2) installments. In any case, payment is due August 1, 2011, if not paid before.

Enrolling a student in Faith Elementary and Middle School is simple and easy once you have made the determination that you are convinced that your child can likely grow scholastically and in character at FEMS. We are interested in serious parents who know they can afford being a Faith Parent, or parents who are aware of what it takes to have and keep a student enrolled at Faith, and are willing to accept the responsibility to meet their obligations on a timely basis by sacrifice.

- **The First Thing to Do is to secure a free information packet, or simply carefully review the information provided on the school's new informational website, www.faithelementaryschool.com, or the most recent school website, which is the official school website, www.feschool.org. or visit the school and request the free information packet;**
- **Be sure you can afford to enroll a student, or that you will be willing to make it happen; Complete the two-page Student Registration Application,**
- **Arrange for a current Student Physical Examination by a qualified physician, including Immunization Record;**
- **Determine that you can accept the school's Rules including Discipline;**
- **Pay the first of ten tuition fees as you deliver your completed Student Registration Application;**
- **Select and obtain approval for the Fees Payment Plan that best suits your resources and interests;**
- **Present the student's Birth Certificate along with the documents listed above; and finally,**
- **Be prepared to submit to the school a second tuition fee payment (the last or ten, at least by August 1;**
- **Sign pertinent acceptance and permission forms, i.e., Travel Permission, Emergency Medical Treatment forms.**
- **Understand that tuition refunds may take 30-60 days.**

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

DEFINITION

For our purposes, Discipline is measures that one may take to correct student misbehavior, or to establish acceptable patterns of conduct. Discipline may be verbal, an assignment, denial of a privilege, or withholding of some benefit to the student, that does not interfere with or prevent the progression of the student's education.

In extreme or repeated incidents of student misbehavior, as a last resort, a student's parent or designee will likely be called to come to the school to pick-up the un-cooperative or non response child home for the day. Repeated calls of this nature will result in administration-parent-teacher conference(s) to determine alternative discipline approaches or permanent removal of the student.

PURPOSE OF DISCIPLINE

1. To arrest the student's attention. To advise, or remind the child that the attitude or action or the omission of some expected action needs to be changed, stopped, or in the case of something omitted, a change is expected.
2. Develop, maintain, or restore order and positive interaction.
3. Promote an environment that is conducive to maximum positive learning.
4. As a last resort or option, to administer Discipline to match offenses to the extent that the student may know how offensive his or her misconduct is, or how harmful his or her actions may have been to someone else.
5. Inform or remind the student that it is beneficial to self and to others when the Golden Rule of the Bible as recorded **in Matthew 7:12, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."**

PHYSICAL DISCIPLINE

Spanking is currently permitted by Delaware law. However, the law allows absolutely no physical indication that the child was spanked. One becomes an easy mark if one spans. It has become a dangerous non-option for disciplining a child. Thus, **spanking is a form of discipline that may not be administered by any member of the staff, volunteer, or anyone acting on behalf of Faith Elementary and Middle School.** Even parents and others caring for their child or children, would be well advised to strongly consider the possible legal consequences of spanking a child in the state of Delaware. To spank makes the spanker a suspect if there is a false charge of abuse, if the investigating officer or official decides they have sufficient “evidence” to prosecute you or any spanker, it may cost you your reputation, a good relationship, disruption of your family, thousands of dollars in legal fees, or worst, jail time, or other indignities, perhaps up to 7 or 8 years in prison, depending on the age of the child. There are considerable opportunities for the use of dishonesty, exaggeration, and negative propaganda during the investigative and litigation processes of alleged inappropriate spanking. Consider the risk.

Time out or removing a student from the active classroom environment may be used as an acceptable disciplinary or corrective measure for students. No student should be removed from the classroom setting for more time than is required to accomplish the student's change of demeanor and his or her sincere expressed resolve to return to the classroom or class activity with a sense of cooperation, obedience, and intent to be a good class citizen.

Parents or guardians may be called as a last measure to come and remove the student from school for the day. The school realizes that a departure from these guidelines may leave the school open to ridicule as abusive, confusion to the student, poor relations with parents, **or worse.** The school's representatives will not spank, slap, punch, pinch, twist body parts, or shove students. **Exception will made in cases of self-defense, and when some measure of force may be necessary to restore peace, safety, and calm, such for example, as in the case of removing students from situations where they are threatening or in the process of causing physical harm to another person, or damaging school or personal property.**

If a student demonstrates that he or she has been reared in an environment where he or she is evidently not required to comply to parent responses and directives; in the case where the child is willfully and repeatedly and habitually disobedient, defiant, dismissive, threatening, or offensive, the parent may expect Frequent Calls from the school, leading to a formal, written path of dismissal.

Each family is responsible for completing and submitting a copy of the Acceptance of Student Discipline Policy form.

IMPORTANCE OF GOOD MANNERS AND TRAINING EVEN IN THE YOUNG

Good nurturance and training positively influences a child to good and blessings to himself or herself and benefits others. A child who is indulged, neglected, abused, or poorly nurtured and trained is likely to become a victim, an abuser, and a liability. It is helpful to parents and a tremendous boon to a child and to society for parents and others who are interested in or charged with the welfare of children to consider Bible principle as the primary reliable source when considering how to rear children.

Children are precious to most people. Most people love children. Children are considered a gift from God. We hold that children are our future. From time to time one hears about the innocence of a child. Children are all of these wonderful things and much, much more. A child can be a spring of joy. A child can also be a source of heartbreak and ruination. What makes the difference? What causes one child to grow up and be a blessing to his or her parents and family? What causes another child to grow up to become a cloud of unhappiness and caprice? One becomes a builder and the other becomes a derelict. What makes the difference?

The Bible warns us that “There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother.” Proverbs 30:11. Even the lyrics of popular songs tell us that the training of children is of utmost importance. Yes, we are told “children must be carefully taught.” We sing “Children are our future...teach them well and let them lead the way.”

The Word of God tells us that discipline is of importance to a child’s upbringing. It is a vital part of the responsible rearing of children. Discipline in a child’s life is a good and reliable instructor. When discipline is applied lovingly and consistently the child is well instructed in the knowledge of good and bad. He learns that it is beneficial to choose the good and avoid the bad. In Proverbs 29:15, we are told that “The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.”

A child is to be deliberately and purposefully taught good manners. A child will be a source of great pleasure, enjoyment, pride, comfort, and joy, if carefully and consistently taught by parents who model or at least adhere to the counsel of the Bible and many of the older generation who for sure, may not have had a degree in child rearing, but who were graduates of the school of good mother’s wit. They knew how to rear children. They were parents first and friends next, not last. They looked to outcomes.

They knew how to teach a child to be loving, obedient, and thankful, rather than to neglect their sacred responsibility and indulge a child to become disobedient, self-willed, ungrateful, selfish, and demanding. It is possible to make a difference in the character and disposition of a child that will result in good manners and good citizenship rather than in dependence, indulgence, violence, and crime. Those who train and influence children, should consider the impact that their style of training will make on the child or children in their charge.

ACCEPTANCE OF PARENTS OPINION ON THE DISCIPLINE OF THEIR CHILD

The position of our school in regard to differing views of parents on acceptable discipline of their child, is to respect the parent and not attempt to lecture them on the merits or pitfalls of their stance. In the same vane, the school will be respectfully insistent in its position maintaining a high standard of student conduct and demeanor. Realizing that parents who have strong differing views on student discipline will seek out other educational institutions, the objective of the school will be to encourage parents to seek out a school whose policies most closely approximate their own.

Each parent is urged to understand that the school may not have time or interest in repeatedly having to urge, cajole, or solicit student obedience and cooperation as some parents may have the time and inclination of doing in dealing with a child's pouting and uncooperative attitudes within their home setting. It is important that the parent be interested in and supportive of the school's interests and actions to accomplish the socialization of the student as soon as possible, to the end that the student may be an important contributing member of the classroom and school society. The school is not interested in having students whose parents refuse to accept the discipline policies of the school as set forth in the above statements and explanations. Our teachers and assistants in classroom and other school groupings where students are present are instructed to honor the standards that are listed below.

1. Be professional and courteous.
2. Be kind and respectful.
3. Be sure to use the appropriate volume to meet the situation in an acceptable manner.
4. Be truthful and definite. Do not threaten students that you are going to do something you know you cannot or should not or will not do.
5. Be healing and positive.
6. Do not make negative remarks or inferences about parents or other students.
7. Do not argue with students. You are an adult to be respected by students.
8. Do not allow students to argue with you or with others.
9. Avoid being too familiar with students.
10. Do not allow students to be unduly familiar with you.
11. Consider that we have to behave differently and better in a Christian school than we would somewhere else.
12. Remember the Holy Spirit is present in our gatherings on a daily and hourly basis. We do not want to grieve or offend Him by our choice of words or tone of voice.
13. Our goal is to teach our students refinement. We do not want to present an incorrect model or example to them by engaging in inappropriate speech usage ourselves.
14. Remember that children mimic you and talk about what they have seen and heard when they get home.
15. Be sure to handle each child just the same as you would if his or her parents were right with you.
16. Remember that parents often take any perceived attack or perceived abuse of their child(ren) as a personal effrontery or personal attack.
17. Make your speech usage including voice volume and tone, an instrument of salvation to the children and others who hear you.
18. Follow the Golden Rule in speech, deportment, and attitude.

19. An employee or volunteer does not impress administration, other co-workers, students, parents, or visitors by yelling, talking to students in an agitated, demeaning, or threatening manner. This type of speech is not professional and is strictly forbidden by staff.
20. Mean what you say to students. Do not repeat yourself over and over. They will come to expect this, and will not cooperate with you until you have begged them and humiliated yourself, while lowering school standards.

GUIDING SCRIPTURAL TEXTS

On Student Conduct and Discipline

"A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver." –

Proverbs 25:11 NIV

**"The rod of correction imparts wisdom,
but a child left to himself disgraces his mother." –**

Proverbs 29:15 NIV

**"Train up a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not depart from it." –**

Proverbs 22:6

NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The Faith Elementary and Middle School, Inc., admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origins to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded 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, other policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other school administered programs.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

These guidelines should be consulted and followed at school known at home as the recommended standard and policy for teachers, aides, parents, and students in establishing frequencies and amounts of homework to be accomplished nightly. These guidelines are to be kept in mind for homework.

I. Reasons for which homework may not be assigned:

1. Busy work.
2. Punishment or disciplinary measure.

II. Purposes for which homework may be assigned:

1. Enrichment.
2. Remediation.
3. Reinforcement.
4. Extension of regular class work.
5. Occasional introduction to new work.
6. Research project(s).
7. Limited amount of extra credit.

III. Frequency of Homework:

1. Homework should be expected daily by students, though this does not mean that teachers need presume the necessity of assigning homework daily in each subject.
2. New homework assignments may not be assigned for the week-end. Only graded papers corrections should be assigned for week-ends, or research projects that are on-going, but not new.
3. Directed or voluntary review Assignments are appropriate for week-ends, holidays, school closing days, and any time students have no definite or specific homework assignments.

IV. Recommended total amounts of homework per day for students by grade level

1. Preschool 5 - 10 minute drills, practice, or coloring, 2 or 3 times per week.
2. Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten 10-12 minute drills, practice, coloring, 3- 4 times per week.
3. First Grade 45 minutes 4 times/days per week.
4. Second Grade 50 minutes 4 times/days per week.
5. Third Grade one hour 4-5 times per week.
6. Fourth Grade 50-55 minutes 4-5 times per week.
7. Fifth Grade 55 minutes-1 hour 5 times per week.
8. Sixth Grade 1 hour 1 hour 5 minutes, 5 times per week.
9. Seventh Grade 1 hour and 5 minutes - 1 hour and 30 minutes per week.
10. Eighth Grade 1 hour and 15 minutes - 1 hour and 30 minutes 5 times per week.

V. Common Sense Understanding:

1. Students work at different speeds.
2. Specific times, locations, and environments, impact on student success.
3. Consideration for the total amount of time the cumulative assignments will require of the student.
4. Consideration for Individual student differences; not to be confused with coddling.

Student homework assignments and projects provide excellent and challenging opportunities for teachers to introduce, clarify, stir up student interest, inventory student interests, reinforce, and review content, skills, knowledge, methods, that will soon be presented to the class, or to reference what has already been presented to the class. If students are confused, need more information or practice, here is a wonderful way for parents to assist their child and his or her teacher.

Often parents are regretful that they do not have enough time to spend with their child because of work and other commitments. Spending pleasant and encouraging short periods with your child as a guide, helper, assistant, or co-learner, is a positive way to teach your child that study time is good time. And it can be made better by parent sharing with child.

Sometimes, all that may be necessary is to insure that time is provided for homework; and that homework actually happens. Insuring that there are not unnecessary guests and activities present in your home during regular homework time may be very helpful, and less distractive and stressful for your child.

Taking the time to review and guide the student in what is expected by the teacher, clarifying any areas of confusion, and checking the results can be most useful.

**Inviting God into our Home and School Partnering in Education Makes For
an Unbeatable Child Development Team!**

TAKING SOME OF THE STING OUT OF HOMEWORK

1. Provide a well-lighted place to study and work without distractions, i.e., away from entrances, television, radio, toys, ringing telephones, if possible.
2. Use a timer. Set it for x number of minutes for a specific assignment (not for all assignments given). Reward the student if he or she completes assignments on time. Give a sticker, or some small, inexpensive token of success and satisfaction.
3. Encourage the student to work independently for a few minutes and to complete the assigned or selected task before getting up.
4. Plan certain time periods to drill with him or her over spelling, reading, and phonics skills.
5. Provide a 10 – 15 minutes free time period for him or her after arriving at home before beginning homework sessions.
6. Reward the student with additional free time or longer free time periods prior to starting homework after student shows progress in attacking homework sessions with more interest and enthusiasm, and successful completion.
7. Depending on the student age and experience, encourage the student to use the internet to assist in homework rather than merely using it for gaming, entertainment, or shopping.
8. Assist your child in discovering and expanding child or student, age appropriate internet sites that may be helpful for homework and student research.

Faith Elementary and Middle School

90 Saulsbury Road
Dover, Delaware 19904
Telephone: 302-736-1555

Class List of Student Supplies

STUDENT SUPPLIES PS - KINDERGARTEN

Please Label All Students Garments With Permanent Magic Marker When Possible

1. 1 Pair Safety Scissors (Blunt Edge Friska Brand - All Students)
2. 1 Glue Stick (All Students)
3. 1 Box Jumbo Crayons – Pre-school-(True Colors)
4. 1 Box 24 count Crayons Kindergarten-(True Colors)
5. 1 Medium Size Book Bag (All Students)
6. 2 Pack Husky (Large) Pencils (All Students)
7. 1 Box Tissue (All Students)
8. 1 Crayon Storage Box (All Students)
9. 2 Primary Writing Tablets (All Students)
10. 1 Composition Book (Kindergarten)
11. Homework Folder (Kindergarten)
12. Pencil Sharpener (Kindergarten)
13. 1 Large Eraser (Kindergarten)
14. 1 Sleeping Bag or Mat (Pre-School and Pre-Kindergarten)

Teacher: Mrs. Maria Higdon, Early Childhood (PS, PK, Kindergarten); 302-730-1006

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Class List of Student Supplies

STUDENT SUPPLIES GRADES 1-3

Please Label All Students Garments With Permanent Magic Marker When Possible

1. One Pair Safety Scissors (Blunt Edge)
2. One Glue Stick or Bottle
3. One Box Crayons (Pack of 24 or larger count)
4. One Book Bag
5. One #2 Sharpened Pencil each day
6. One Box Tissue
7. One Crayon Storage Plastic Pouch
8. At least one Three-Ring Note Book with Dividers
9. One Composition Book
10. Homework Folder
11. One 12" Ruler with centimeters
12. One Dictionary & Thesaurus (Webster)
13. Two Primary Writing Tablets (First Grade)
14. One King James Bible
15. One Wide Rule Loose Leaf Paper (Second and Third Grade)

Teacher: Mrs. Pandora Smith 302-678-4707

Faith Elementary and Middle School

90 Saulsbury Road
Dover, Delaware 19904
Telephone: 302-736-1555

Class List of Student Supplies

STUDENT SUPPLIES GRADES 4-6

Please Label All Students Garments With Permanent Magic Marker When Possible

1. Pair of Scissors
2. (2) Erasable Blue and Black Pens only
3. Red Pen
4. Large Box of Facial Tissue
5. Glue Stick or Bottle
6. Book Bag
7. Pair of Scissors
8. Box of Facial Tissue
9. Ruler, Protractor, and Compass
10. Three Ring folder With Dividers
11. Black and White Composition Book
12. Homework Folder
13. Spiral Notebooks (4, with no perforated pages)
14. High Lighter Pens (various colors)
15. Wide Ruled Loose Leaf Paper
16. Dictionary
17. Thesaurus
18. Colored Pencils
19. King James Bible
20. Graph Paper

Teacher: Mrs. Oclivery Jones 302-734-9004

WHERE TO PURCHASE UNIFORMS

www.frenchtoast.com

Use School Source Code# **QS4SBU** When You Order or Visit
Girl's Uniform dresses and skirts are not available from this source.

Call: 1-800-373-6248

Fax 1-888-296-4966

www.cookieskids.com

Use School Code# **FEMS90** When Visiting or Ordering

Hours of Operation:

Has school's full uniform available.

Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST)

Phone Number: 1-877-942-6654

www.cramersuniforms.com

Several Locations in PA, NJ

2870 DeKalb Pike

Norristown, PA 19401

1-610-239-9160

Trip Distance: 86.67 Miles - Time: 1 Hour 35 Mins.

Hours:

Mon., Wed., Fri, Sat., 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tue., Thur., Sun. Closed

Extended Hours During August - September

Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

www.rushuniform.com

Rush Uniform Co., Inc.

101 Harrison Avenue

New Castle Avenue

Wilmington Manor

New Castle, DE 19720

Telephone: 302-328-5444

Fax: 302-328-2911

Business Hours:

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Sat.

Note to Parents: Be sure you know or can identify approved uniform items prior to visiting a uniform store unless the school is registered with the store. Speak to someone at school first. We are pleased to provide you with a few uniform stores as options. Some of our parents have experience in dealing with each of these stores.

ADDENDUM TO STUDENT HANDBOOK

This Will Verify that Notices Publicized or Distributed and Made Available to Parents, or Perspective Parents, by Official Hardcopy Handout, and All Statement Positions Published to This Website, or Contained in Published Forms and Documents by the Same, Have the Same Validity, Intent, Promise, and Standard as the Contents within the covers of the **Student Handbook**.