

**I. Inspiration****What is the Mission of GRCS?**

As stewards of God's provision, Great River Christian School is Christ-centered. We provide all students a Bible-based, academically challenging curriculum, emphasizing fundamental life skills, Christian service, and community witness.

**What is the culture of Great River Christian School?**

GRCS is a safe-haven from a weary world of misplaced values and substandard work ethics. We have three core ideals:

**Unity in Christ** – relationships are vitally important. We practice the Golden Rule. Our faith in Christ as Lord and Savior means we are forgiven our offenses. Therefore, we forgive others when they offend us. See Matt. 7:12, John 17:22.

**Passion in Exploration** – school is a time to explore what interests students. We study the wonders of God's creation, the truth of the Christian message, the beauty of the English and Spanish languages, the necessity of government, the structure of art and physical education, and the order of math. We encourage students to find their passion and seek careers of learning and service to God and humanity. See Psalm 19:1, 1 Thes. 4:11

**Strength in Endurance** – with hard work, self-discipline and perseverance, we accomplish goals by working as a team. By serving one another, and bearing

each other's burdens with one accord, we strive to be Christ-like in all we do. We study hard and we play hard. See Romans 15:5 and Galatians 6:2.

**II. Success and Grades****A. How does GRCS measure each student's success?**

We wish for students and graduates of GRCS to be defined by the following characteristics:

- **Christian Character** - Honoring God and family whether at home or at school.
- **Life Involvement** – exploring intellectual curiosities, putting others above self, and serving the community's needs.
- **Academic Excellence** – practicing the academic self-discipline needed for success in a chosen career.
- **Stable Mindset** - behaving in a manner that engenders an employer's trust, and deepens core friendships.

**B. How does the GRCS staff prepare students academically?**

We assist families in preparing older youth for adulthood through spiritual development, mastery of facts, verbal and written expression, and logical reasoning.

We encourage students to take seriously their responsibility to develop their bodies, their minds and their spirits to the glory of God.

We are a college-preparatory school. We practice discipline and rigor during class and during homework. Students should expect homework every school night. Although we are not equipped for special education, we attempt to help students of various abilities to overcome learning disabilities and work to do their best.

**Grading Policy** – grades are earned, not given.

**Grade Percent Description**

A	94-100	Exceptional achievement in mastery of the concepts on a norm-referenced scale.
A-	90-93	
B+	87-89	
B	84-86	Good over-all achievement, with some room for improvement in mastery of concepts.
B-	80-83	
C+	77-79	
C	74-76	Basic understanding in learning concepts required to pass the course.
C-	70-73	
D+	67-69	
D	64-66	Minimal achievement in learning concepts required to pass the course.
D-	60-63	
F	Below 60	Lack of sufficient achievement to pass the course.

**Grades and Assessments** - Evaluations and assessments take measure of the student's *current* level of mastery of the concepts assigned to be learned in accordance with the course curriculum. The grade of F requires immediate attention and student remediation.

**III. Tardies and Attendance**



**Tardy Policy** - Every moment of the school day is important, including the timely arrival of students to school. When students arrive on time this gives them time to prepare for their day. **Punctuality is a basic principle of responsibility and common courtesy.** Students should be prepared and at their desks by 8:10 a.m. **A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings at 8:10 a.m. All students who are not in their respective classrooms by 8:10 a.m. must check in at the office for an admit slip to class and to sign the tardy log.**

There are 7 hours in a school day

**1<sup>st</sup> half of the day:** 8:10-11:40  
**2<sup>nd</sup> half of the day:** 11:40-3:10

- 8:10-8:59 = tardy
- 9:00 – 10:09 =  $\frac{1}{4}$  day absence
- 10:10 – 11:39 =  $\frac{1}{2}$  day absence
- 11:40 – 1:09 =  $\frac{3}{4}$  day absence
- 1:10 or after = 1 day absence

A student must be in school for more than 2 hours in either half of the school day to be considered present for that half of the day.

Tardiness will be determined according to the office clock. All tardies will be logged in the office.

Tardiness shall be considered excessive if the student is tardy 3 times per quarter. On the 3rd tardy, parents and the principal will be notified about the number of late arrivals. **The 4<sup>th</sup> and any additional tardies in one quarter will count as ¼ day absence each.** (See Attendance Policy)

Students arriving late to school or returning from a medical/dental appointment are required to sign in at the office. If the student leaves for any reason (illness, medical appointment, etc.) during the school day, the parent is required to either give permission via the phone or to sign the student out in the office log. Appointments are excused, but will be counted toward tardiness or absence.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

### Philosophy

Regular attendance and prompt arrival at scheduled classes and activities is essential for satisfactory achievement and progress in school. Preparation for future responsibilities is dependent upon the development of habits of good attendance and punctuality. Regular attendance at school is the joint responsibility of parents and students.

### Policy

Students in grades 3-12 will be allotted 16 excused absences per school year. These days are to be used for illness, appointments, family emergencies, family vacations, etc. The first 16 days of absence will be excused without

question. Please note that although the school permits these absences, the school does not encourage them. Few students are able to make up the school experience missed during extended days of absence.

Any absences beyond the first 16 will be considered unexcused without a note from the doctor's office. All school work done on days with an unexcused absence (homework, tests, quizzes, special projects) will be given a grade of zero. No work can be made up for an unexcused absence.

***It is the responsibility of the parent to be aware of the student's attendance record in light of this policy.***

Students are required to be in attendance for a minimum of 148 days of school at GRCS as per Iowa State Law. Students lacking the minimum 148 days of attendance and who choose to remain at GRCS will be required to repeat the grade level. Tuition is non-refundable for students who fail to meet the 148 day attendance requirement.

***Note: The administrator has the authority to determine extension of absences due to illness or other extenuating circumstances.***

### Unplanned Absences & Tardies

Please let the office personnel know the reason for and length of an unplanned absence or tardy by 8:00 a.m. Parents are asked to leave a message on the school answering machine if no one is available to take the call.

**Homework – Unplanned absence**  
Homework will be available at 3:20 p.m. on the day of an unplanned absence. Parents may pick the work up in the office, or it can be acquired the next morning when the student returns to school. Teachers are not to be contacted during the school day to gather homework for an absent student. Students have one school day for each day missed to complete the make-up work and turn in major projects due during the absence (i.e. 2 days absent = 2 days to complete and turn in missed work). Any make-up work that is not turned in within the mentioned time period will be given a grade of zero. Tests are to be made up within a 5-day period of time from the date of the student's return to school.

### **Preplanned Absences**

As much as possible, doctor's appointments should be made after school hours. If an appointment is needed during school hours, please submit a note to the office for the absence record log. Upon return to school, please submit a doctor's note confirming the appointment.

Parents are asked to schedule vacations during the time provided by the school calendar. If additional time is unavoidable, please give at least a **two-week notice** to the school of the planned dates of absence.

### **Homework – Preplanned absence**

In the event that a student must miss school due to a family trip, the request for homework to be issued prior to the trip must be made no less than 2 weeks in advance. If

homework is issued prior to the trip, the student will be responsible to turn in all homework the second day after returning from the trip. Any work that is not completed by that day will receive a grade of zero.

If the request for homework to take on the trip is made less than two weeks prior to leaving, the teacher may use his/her discretion regarding whether or not to issue homework prior to the trip. If the teacher decides that no homework will be issued prior to the trip, then all work must be completed within one week after the student returns to school. Any work that is not completed in this time frame will receive a grade of zero.

### **LATE WORK - (Green Slips / Orange Slips)**

Students who do not turn in assigned work on time will be given a **GREEN academic recovery slip**. This slip gives the student a chance to make up the late work and turn it in for full credit the next morning by 8:15 a.m. without consequence. If the late work is not sufficiently completed by 8:15 a.m. the following morning, the late work will receive a score of zero.

- ❖ **GREEN slips** will be tracked by the classroom teachers and reported to the office to be recorded in each student's permanent record.

Students will be allotted a set number of **GREEN slips** per quarter. After that number has been exceeded, **all late work will receive a score of zero.**

grades are not rewarded based on feelings or emotional needs.

### **Green Slip** allowances per grade level:

**7-12<sup>th</sup> grade-** 2 green slips per class per quarter

Upon reaching the maximum green slip allotment, students will be issued an **Orange Slip** for parents to read and sign, alerting parents and students that any additional late assignments in that quarter will receive a score of zero.

- ❖ **Orange slips** will be kept on file and reported to the office to be recorded in each student's permanent record.

**Green** and **Orange slips** can cause a student's grades to suffer and could potentially lead to failing grades. The number of Green and Orange slips affect the leniency or lack thereof by the school board toward students facing *Academic probation and/or expulsion*.

### **IV. Expectations of Students, Teachers and Parents**

#### **Students**

1. Students should be busy and conscientious with the tasks of learning so that the assessments will properly reveal the student's *achievement* – not *ability*. Ability – like aptitude – is a forward-looking concept, and outside the scope of our evaluations.
2. Students with learning disabilities need careful attention to assure that evaluations measure agreed-upon objectives, and to assure that



#### **Teachers**

1. The teacher's duty is to find interesting ways to open the students' minds to process and retain information, and use information to solve new and challenging problems.
2. Teachers encourage students to take ownership of the material and to do the best they can to exhibit mastery. Teachers assign the grade earned in the class.
3. Teachers are to show the love of Christ in all they say and do, helping students understand God's grace on a practical level. Teachers consistently enforce boundaries set to create a safe school environment.
4. Teachers communicate with parents on a regular basis. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in their child's education.

#### **Parents**

1. The duty of parents is to provide a home atmosphere conducive to learning, and to encourage children to do their best and to stretch learning a little more.
2. Teachers and parents must work together to help students achieve their full potential.



### **V. BEHAVIOR Policy – (Blue Slips / Pink Slips)**

Discipline and its application at GRCS are based upon the Word of God. (Prov. 12:1, 13:18, 13:24, 22:15, Eph. 6:1-4, Heb. 12, 1 Cor. 13, Rev. 3:19)

Discipline should not only correct behavior, but it should also build up, encourage, and train our students in principles, concepts and behaviors that are honoring to God. The Bible instructs us to reprove and correct in love with a measure of grace and compassion. Discipline is ordained by God for the building of character and the training of behavior.

Our goal of discipline seeks to encourage and develop self-disciplined students, which is a necessity for growth and maturity. We will strive to provide an atmosphere that is both preventive and corrective in nature. Even as the heavenly Father disciplines in love, so the staff will endeavor to discipline with a tender heart and Christian love. The student who learns discipline is developing a lifestyle which encourages obedience to God.

The areas of responsibility are outlined as follows:

### **Parents/Guardians**

The parents/guardians have been given the responsibility by God for the discipline of their children. GRCS parents/guardians have conferred this authority to GRCS staff while their children are at school. We ask parents to support the discipline administered by the GRCS staff. In so doing, an atmosphere of obedience is created.

### **Staff**

The staff of GRCS is responsible to God for the lives placed under their care. (James 3:1) They have the authority from the parents/guardians to administer appropriate discipline within the limits and guidelines of the Discipline Policy for that particular student. The staff is also responsible to work with parents/guardians in the matter of discipline by maintaining effective communication with them.

### **Students**

The students are responsible to God for obeying and showing respect to the staff. They are also responsible to help maintain the learning environment at GRCS.

#### **Conduct NOT Permitted**

1. Activities that seriously threaten the safety of anyone at GRCS
2. Disrespect or mistreatment to staff, guests, or students will NOT be tolerated
3. Destroying or defacing of school property. (Parents will be expected to pay for repairs or replacement.)
4. Fighting
5. Belligerence
6. Swearing, unclean language, or unkind name calling
7. Horseplay in the school building
8. Habitual tardiness or absence from class (see Tardy and Attendance Policy)
9. Lying

- 10.** Meddling in or theft of anyone else's property
- 11.** Cheating
- 12.** Disturbances and/or disruptions that prevent classroom order and instruction
- 13.** Possession and/or use of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, or any weapon

Students in grades 3-12 will be issued a **BLUE Slip** (Behavior Detention) for activities that disrupt classroom order and instruction. They may also receive a **BLUE slip** for any of the "Conduct NOT Permitted" behaviors listed.

A **BLUE slip** requires a student to stay after school from 3:10 to 3:40 p.m. in the assigned teacher's room (unless the teacher has made other arrangements). Behavior detentions MUST be served the same day they are issued unless it is arranged otherwise at the discretion of the teacher.

- ❖ **BLUE slips** will be tracked by the classroom teachers and reported to the office to be recorded in each student's permanent record.

If a student fails to report to detention, he/she will be required to serve an in-school suspension to be determined by the administrator. Any work missed due to an in-school suspension is due the day the student returns to class. Any work not turned in on that day will be subject to the **GREEN slip** policy.

Two **BLUE slip** detentions in one week will result in a **PINK slip**.

**PINK slips** require a student to serve a predetermined amount of community service time at GRCS. The service may be scheduled during the school day or after school, depending on the assignment given. **PINK slip** community service time will be scheduled at the convenience of the teacher and administrator.

- ❖ **PINK slips** will be tracked by the classroom teachers and reported to the office to be recorded in each student's permanent record.

The number of **Blue** and **Pink slips** a student is issued could affect their eligibility to attend GRCS in the future. The numbers will be taken into consideration by the school board in determining whether a student may continue their education at GRCS.

### Actions

Junior or Senior High students sent to the office for discipline purposes, including dress code issues, may require the parent and student to come before the School Board at the next scheduled meeting or at an appointed time for formal questioning. Board/parent meetings will be conducted at the discretion of the teacher and/or administrator. Failure to attend this meeting could result in the student being suspended from instruction for a period of time determined by the discretion of the Board.

## In-School Detention or In-School Suspension

An in-school detention or in-school suspension will be served in the administrator's office or a classroom with no contact or participation with other students. The student will be required to complete assigned work. Parents/guardians may be called in to observe their student within their classroom environment if a problem persists. This will be determined by the Administrator and teacher.

## Off-Campus Suspension

An off-campus suspension is when a student is asked to leave the GRCS premises and not return for a specified number of days. A student may be suspended for, but not limited to, the above "Conduct NOT Permitted" reasons. Suspension will be immediate if a student seriously threatens the safety of himself/herself or another student(s). Academic reasons may also result in suspension. The following rules and procedures apply to a suspension:

- The administrator has the authority to suspend a student at all times.
- The length of suspension will be determined by the administrator according to the severity of the offense.
- Re-admission goals for specific changes in the student behavior or academic conduct will be set up at a parent/administrator/teacher conference.
- The goals that are set must be met prior to re-admission.
- A parent/administrator/teacher conference will be held to determine if the student has met his/her goals for re-admission.
- A disciplinary probation is invoked when a student is suspended from school.

## Probation

Probation is invoked when a student returns to school from an off-campus suspension and is designed to give the student an opportunity to correct a given situation. Guidelines for probation will be determined by the administrator and the student's teacher. If the student does not improve to a satisfactory level, he/she will be dismissed and asked to withdraw from the school or be expelled.

## Expulsion

Expulsion is our last resort, but will be put into effect if deemed necessary. Expulsion will be strongly recommended for any student who seriously threatens the safety of himself/herself or another student(s), or a student who displays a gross lack of cooperation with GRCS staff in complying with school rules and classroom procedures.

Expulsion may be recommended for unmet re-admission goals of a disciplinary or academic suspension, due to unmet probation guidelines, or activities that characteristically violate Biblical moral codes or conduct. The following rules and procedures apply to an expulsion:

- An expulsion recommendation will be reviewed by the administrator and the student's teacher(s).
- The administrator will then make a recommendation to the GRCS School Board.
- The GRCS School Board has the authority to expel any student, which will be based on the facts and information presented.
- If a student is expelled from GRCS, the parents/guardians are still under

obligation to pay any tuition and fees owed to GRCS.

## VI. Enrollment Requirements for High School Students



**Full-time students** are required to enroll in a minimum of 5 academic/core courses per semester through the final semester of their senior year and will be charged full tuition. All full-time students must be enrolled in a Bible course each semester. Required Bible credits are waived for any student transferring into GRCS. These credits are then added to required elective credits. Academic core courses are: Bible, English, Science, History, and Math.

**Part-time students** must first meet GRCS enrollment requirements. After acceptance, part-time students are permitted to enroll in one to four classes. Academic fees for part-time students are per student, per class, per year basis, and vary according to the class, the textbook(s) and/or lab fees being used in the course(s) selected. These fees are charged to the student's tuition account.

### Grade Level Placement

General grade level determinations are based on the following minimum number of credits:

- Entering 10th grade 12 credits
- Entering 11th grade 24 credits
- Entering 12th grade 36 credits

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

### Junior High / High School Students

To be considered for advancement to the next grade level, students must achieve a passing grade in all core subjects combined by the end of the school year. In addition, students cannot have a failing cumulative grade in more than one core subject at the end of the school year. Failure to meet these requirements will be cause for grade retention.

Upon failure of any core subject, students are responsible to make up the necessary credit via a program approved by GRCS. This must be satisfactorily completed for the student to advance to the next grade level and to stay on track for graduation with their class.

## VII. Graduation Requirements



All GRCS High School students must successfully complete a **minimum** of 49 credits in the following areas but are encouraged to complete more than the minimum to be properly prepared for academic success at institutions of higher learning. To be eligible for a GRCS diploma, 12th grade students must be enrolled full-time and are required to be enrolled in at least five academic courses during both semesters. All other applicable graduation requirements must also be completed including Independent Service Project.

Course Requirements:

**Basic Track**  
(min. req'ments)

**Advanced Track**

Bible 8 credits	Bible 8 credits
English 8 credits	English 8 credits
History 7 credits	History 8 credits
Math 6 credits	Math 8 credits
Science 6 credits	Science 8 credits
Speech 1 credit	Speech 1 credit
P.E. 3 credits	P.E. 3 credits
Electives 9 credits	Electives 12 credits
Independent Service Project 1 credit in either track	

Total 49

Total 57

A class that meets every day for the semester = 1 credit

A class that meets twice a week for the year = 1 credit

### Early Graduation

Believing that the senior year is of the utmost importance in the final preparation for college, GRCS does not permit early graduation. With GRCS's graduation requirements, the social dimensions of students, and the maturation process of life in general, GRCS desires to encourage young people to experience their senior year in high school.

work not completed within that time period.

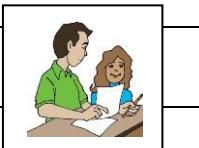
### Report Cards

Progress Reports or Mid-Terms are issued halfway through each quarter and report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. All report cards require parental signature and must be returned to school. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled at the end of 1st and 3rd quarters with an open house format; however, teachers or parents may request conferences anytime during the year as necessary. GPA's for high school students are figured on semester grades.

### Honor Roll

Students who have 90% average or better qualify for the "A" honor roll. Students with 80% average or better qualify for the "B" honor roll. Honor roll will be announced each quarter. Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or better at the end of their senior year will be allowed to wear honor cords at their graduation.

## VIII. Other Academic Policies



### Make-up Work

Students will be allowed time to make up work missed because of an illness. Normally, this is one day for each day missed. Preplanned absences will require work completed upon return to school.

### Incomplete Grades

Students given administrative approval to receive an incomplete due to extended illness have two (2) weeks to make up all work missed. An automatic F will be given for any

### Off-Campus Resources

One of the benefits of living in Burlington is the educational resource that exists with Southeastern Community College, Iowa Wesleyan College and the local public schools (for Dual-Enrolled students). There are, however, parameters which surround this opportunity. Our student's primary educational location is GRCS and it is important to know that these other opportunities are not faith-based.

Anytime students take a class from another institution, they leave behind the faith integration provided at GRCS. Therefore, requests for credit from non-GRCS classes must be submitted for approval to the administration and staff in writing prior to taking the course.

- GRCS will not accept off-campus credit for courses it offers. GRCS's courses and schedule will take precedence.
- After GRCS approval students are required to provide official documentation of enrollment in off-campus sites.
- All GRCS classes must be taken in their entirety; educational opportunities off campus must fit within the parameters of GRCS's class schedule.
- Families are responsible for all transportation and must remember to allow for travel time between campuses when scheduling classes.
- Approved off-campus credits taken during the 11th and 12th grade years will count toward GRCS grade point average and elective requirements for graduation.
- Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better at GRCS and a "C" average in all current courses.
- Students must provide official documentation of successful completion of course for acceptance as GRCS credit (pass/fail courses will not be accepted for credit).
- Participating in an off-campus program means that a student must meet the requirements of two organizations instead of one. This requires more responsibility from the student.

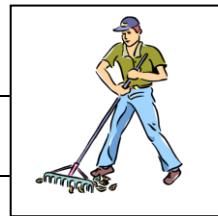
### **Alternative Curriculum Acceptance**

In the event a student fails a course required for GRCS High School graduation the following will apply to educational alternatives that will be acceptable for graduation credit:

- The curriculum will be reviewed by the appropriate GRCS high school instructor.

- A recommendation to accept or not to accept the curriculum will be made to the Administrator.
- The Administrator will be responsible for a decision.
- If the curriculum is not deemed acceptable the parents/guardian may ask to have the matter brought before the GRCS School Board for review.
- The GRCS School Board will give the final decision regarding the acceptance of the curriculum.
- GRCS is not responsible for proctoring alternative curriculum.

### **IX. Service Learning Requirements**



The mission of GRCS includes preparing students for lifelong Christian service. Service to others, exemplified by the life of the Lord Jesus Christ, is required of believers and should be a central theme of the Christian walk. The goal of GRCS is to instill in each student a heart for service to others that cannot be taught in class, it simply comes from "doing." Hopefully, students will discover a heart for service and will continue a lifetime of serving others.

**Jr./Sr. High Group Service Project on Friday:** In order to instill the virtue of servanthood in our students, all 7-12th graders are required to participate in service projects on the 1st and 3rd Friday mornings of each month. This will amount to approximately 50 hours of service for the year. This Friday service does count toward Silver Cord, but does not count toward Independent Service Hours.

**High School Independent Service Project:** Students will also be

**required to take part in other service-related activities of their choice **within their communities, churches, etc.**, to build a habit of service into their lives. Community service is defined as “acts of service without pay or compensation.” Each student is required to complete the following number of hours per year with documentation submitted to the teaching staff by May 1st of each school year. **The intent is for students to serve outside of GRCS in order to meet new people and observe new environments.****

- Jr. High - 10 hours per year minimum
- Freshman - 10 hours minimum
- Sophomore - 15 hours minimum
- Junior - 20 hours minimum
- Senior - 25 hours minimum

Summer projects may be included in the upcoming school years' hours. (See staff for appropriate forms and suggested project ideas.)

Students will receive 1 credit for their high school career upon completion of 70 hours of total service in the respective years as designated above and appropriate paperwork. Independent service does count toward Silver Cord.

### Silver Cord Award

Students who have completed 400 hours of community service during their four years of high school will be recognized by the wearing of silver cords during their senior graduation. Students may work more or less than 100 hours of service each year, so long as the total service hours equal 400.

Hours of service must be recorded as performed; all students must submit appropriate signed paperwork by May 1<sup>st</sup> of each

school year. (See staff for appropriate forms and suggested project ideas.)

Service must be given to not-for-profit organizations (**including GRCS**) or private families in need, other than students' own families. There shall be no remuneration for services rendered. Friday Group service and Independent service projects count toward Silver Cord hours. It is the student's responsibility to track and hand in paperwork tracking hours.

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### X. Student Activities and Relationships



#### Student Activities:

A variety of school time and extracurricular activities are available for students. These activities are designed to help students develop well-rounded Christian character and leadership skills. School policies apply during any activity, whether on or off campus. Students are expected to follow school policies whether they are spectators or participants. Some activities available for students include:

- Bible Study - Students meet together for prayer and devotions during the lunch period once a week. These meetings are led by students or adults.
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Bicycling Club
- Venture Crew – outdoor activities geared toward adventure, leadership development and fun.

#### Special Events and Field Trips:

Throughout the school year field trips are planned to places of educational interest. Field trips are

supervised by teachers and may include assistance from parents. Parent sponsors may be asked to help provide transportation. There will be a minimal charge for field trips to cover expenses. School dress code is followed by students unless notified otherwise.

### **Special Events**

Special events are social, physical or other activities that stimulate growing maturity levels. These events may include dining out, and Unity or Rock Climbing Retreats designed to bring the students together as the body of Christ serving and working together. It may also include an educational trip during Spring for all high school students. Special events are supervised by teachers and may include assistance from parents. Parent sponsors may be asked to help provide transportation. There will be a minimal charge to cover expenses. These events are subject to change and are not guaranteed to take place each year.

### **Jr./Sr. High Fundraisers:**

Several fundraising activities are conducted by Jr./Sr. High students for the purpose of funding or partially funding special student activities or trips. In each of these fundraisers it is our expectation to provide opportunities for the families and students to take ownership in an event by raising funds to provide all or part of the dollars needed.

### **Chapel Services**

GRCS provides chapel services twice a month for students in grades 7-12<sup>th</sup>, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

Through the chapel services students

have opportunity to praise and worship the Lord Jesus Christ. Students and faculty minister to one another through prayer, music, and Bible messages. Speakers during chapel services include faculty, staff, and outside guests such as pastors, youth pastors, parents, and community leaders. During chapel services students are also recognized for various achievements. Parents are welcome to attend chapel services.

### **Open-Campus Privilege**

GRCS is a closed campus. However, Seniors who are on track with graduation requirements may be permitted to leave if they have study hall the last period of the day. Seniors must have a signed parental permission form on file in the office before this privilege can be granted. This privilege may be withheld or withdrawn if the student has a GPA lower than 2.0, an incomplete in one or more classes, parental request, or inappropriate behavior. Seniors who remain in the building must be under direct supervision of staff.

### **Student Driving Privileges**

Driving to school is a privilege, not a right. The student must hold a valid driver's license and observe safety and caution at all times, along with following school rules:

- All automobiles must be registered with the school office.
- Written permission must be given by the student's parents.
- No loitering is permitted in or around vehicles.
- Cars are NOT to be used during school hours without permission of parents and the Administrator.

- Students cannot give other students transportation without written permission by BOTH families.
- Students will not be able to drive on field trips.
- Failure to operate a vehicle in the appropriate manner will result in disciplinary measures and/or suspension of driving privileges.
- Our school's parking lot is reserved for GRCS staff and visitors. Students will need to use the available street parking.

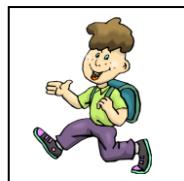
### **Male/Female Student Relationships**

God created us to desire relationships—with Him, with family, with friends, with colleagues and mentors. He also created us with the desire for an intimate relationship with a spouse.

We recognize that attraction between boys and girls is normal. However, students need to learn to avoid building relationships based on physical attraction alone. Instead, relationships must be solidly based on a true concern for the welfare of the other person and built by cultivating the ability to communicate, which is so necessary in marriage and in all relationships.

We strive to provide an environment that fosters relationships that bring glory to God and edify those involved.

- No physical contact is allowed between boys and girls at school, whether they are dating or not.
- Male and female students are expected to maintain a six-inch distance between them. This policy therefore prohibits back-rubs, holding hands, braiding hair, touching shoulders during lunch, etc.
- Male and female students may not be together without being in the sight of faculty or staff.



### **XI. GRCS Jr./Sr. High School Dress Code**

The purpose of the dress code is to establish guidelines in which students may express individual tastes while presenting themselves in a way that honors God. Improper attire can be disruptive to the educational process and detrimental to the Christian testimonies of the student and the school. The code is simple to keep students focused on their duties and responsibilities, and not on comparing each other's apparel. We have balanced dress standards with availability and affordability. A list of vendors for approved apparel is available from the office or from any HS teacher. In as much as each family may have its own opinions as to proper attire, we request that each family aid us in establishing and maintaining GRCS's dress code, and responding to disciplinary actions when a student chooses not to follow the code.

#### **Shirts**

- Long or short-sleeve plain collared polo shirts only. (no logos, no button-downs, no turtlenecks).
- Solid single colors, no black
- Exception: Polo shirts may have a GRCS logo when the proposed logo is approved by the Staff & Student Relations Committee.
- Polo shirts and outerwear may not be accessorized with wraps, scarves or boas.
- Fit neatly (not oversized or undersized)
- The polo shirt for males and females may be outside the pants, but must not be so long as to draw attention to itself. Large, flowing shirts covering the behind are not acceptable.

## Outerwear

- Sweaters or sweatshirts or fleeces worn during the school day must be solid colors, except no black, and have no logos.
- Exceptions: Fleeces may have colored zippers, colored piping, and a small company tag, but no logos of any color.
- Exceptions: Sweaters, sweatshirts and fleeces may have GRCS logos when the proposed design is approved by the Staff & Student Relations Committee.
- Students may wear any outerwear to and from school.

## Undershirts

- Undershirts: Males may wear a white undershirt which must be tucked into the pants. Females may wear a camisole-style undershirt which must be tucked into the pants.
- Long sleeve undershirts are acceptable so long as they are identical in color to the polo shirt.
- Team uniforms are not allowed during instructional hours except as authorized by the coach and administrator.

## Bottoms

- Must fit at the waist
- Solid colors (black, brown, khaki, navy, gray)
- Dockers, dress, or cargo styles
- Must be made of cotton or twill (NO DENIM, no knit pants or jogging pants)
- Boys – pants or shorts are acceptable year round
- Girls – pants, shorts, capris, skorts, skirts (shorts, skirts, skorts must be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee when kneeling on the floor)

No hats are to be worn inside the building during school hours.

**“Casual Days”** Occasionally, the administrator may announce special days on which students in regular compliance with the dress code will be allowed to exercise good decision-making skills and wear

appropriate casual clothes.

Appropriate tasteful clothes on casual days include:

- T-shirts with appropriate pictures or words. T-shirts are defined as crew or v-neck, non-holey shirts with sleeves.
- Blue jeans must be plain and not be distressed, holey, frayed or stringy. Bottom of jeans must not touch the floor, or have tears or ragged edges. There will be no embellishments on the legs. Blue jeans will not be skin tight.
- Basically, the difference on casual days is that boys and girls may wear tasteful blue jeans and appropriate T-shirts.

## All GRCS School Dress Code

The Jr. /Sr. High School Dress code is part of the All-GRCS Dress Code. The standards are as follows:

- Clothing should be clean, neat, and in good repair.
- Shoes are required at all times; flip-flops or backless sandals can ONLY be worn by 7th-12<sup>th</sup> grades.
- Any clothing too tight or too revealing is inappropriate. Clothing should fit so that no undergarments of any kind are revealed.
- Clothing should not display symbols, pictures, or words that are in poor taste for a Christian school.
- Shorts may be worn by students except when pants and nice shirts are requested for a more formal function.
- Shorts MUST reach the end of the student's fingertips when arms are extended and relaxed at sides (Jr./Sr. High students see Jr./Sr. High guidelines).
- Torn or slashed clothing is not acceptable. No holey or distressed jeans/pants.
- Tops MUST have a 2-inch wide shoulder strap. Tops MUST not reveal the student's stomach or back side. Crop tops or tube tops are not allowed.
- Dress or skirt hems need to measure not more than 4 inches above the knee. Open shoulder sundresses are not appropriate.
- No skin-tight pants are allowed, either for dress code or for casual days.

## **Personal Hygiene**

All students are expected to be well-groomed and display proper hygiene habits.

- Fishnet materials are not allowed to be worn without anything underneath them.
- No pierced jewelry is allowed to be worn to school (except for modest earrings for girls).
- No chains or spiked jewelry, belts, or accessories.
- No dyeing of hair in an unnatural color.
- No hair covering the eyes.
- No makeup for boys (i.e. eyeliner, nail polish) or heavy black makeup for girls.
- No black nail polish.
- For the Jr./Sr. High School: No gum chewing during the school day.

## **Violations of the Dress Code**

It is important that families accept the importance of this matter and accept discipline for willful non-compliance as part of the child's spiritual development to submit to authority.

When a student is observed by the staff or the administrator to be in violation of the dress code, there is a five step process to bring the matter to the attention of students and parents for swift resolution, ranging from calling home to get appropriate clothes to suspension or expulsion. Please refer to the handout "Disciplinary Consequences for Violations to the GRCS Dress Code."

Furthermore, it is students and parents/guardians who are responsible for proper dress consistent with the spirit and the word of the dress code.

Any areas that are not clearly defined are left to the discretion of

the staff and administration. We are asking parents to support the judgment of staff and administration on dress code violations. As a Christian school we are called to a higher standard of dress and grooming, and we appreciate your help in maintaining this high standard.



## **Physical Education (P.E.) Dress Code**

All Jr./Sr. High students are required to dress

out for P.E. Furthermore, P.E. attire may only be worn for P.E. class. Students will be allowed sufficient time to change into P.E. clothes at the beginning of the class period. The following guidelines apply:

- Athletic shorts will be no more than 4 inches above the knee (measured from the knee to the material when kneeling on the floor). Shorts/pants may not be rolled at the waist.
- Plain colored t-shirts or sweatshirts will be worn (no black) with no logos, except "GRCS". See definition of T-Shirt, above.
- Athletic shoes will be worn.
- All-school dress code guidelines apply as far as proper fit, condition of clothing and hygiene.

## **Extra-Curricular Activities**

### **Dress Code**

The school dress code is not in force during evening events as long as students are under the supervision of their parents. This includes sporting events. However, families are requested to keep their children aware of the spirit of good hygiene and appropriate dress and behavior that honors God, parents and GRCS.

## XII. Various other policies



### **Adult supervision at all times.**

Under no circumstance are students allowed to be alone and unsupervised by the staff. Before and after the school day, all students will be in assigned locations or directly under the supervision of a staff member.

**Notify Adults/Students.** Report all dangerous, immoral, and questionable activities to the administrator, immediately upon discovery. Students need to practice talking gently to other students when routine policy infractions are noticed. If they cannot resolve the matter, they need to contact a staff member. At no time should this policy be twisted to create an adversarial or vindictive relationship between students. We should remember our culture of forgiveness and helpfulness.

### **Lockers**

Lockers are assigned to each student. Anything posted in the locker must support the school's purpose and mission. Magnetic mirrors and magnets may be used inside lockers but nothing is allowed on the outside. No stickers, tape, or writing on lockers is permitted. Students may wish to use portable shelves for better organization and to maximize locker space. No open containers of liquid are allowed. Locker checks may be conducted periodically. Lockers must be

vacated in the same condition as when assigned. Lockers can be locked, but the combination must be given to the school office at the beginning of the school year.

### **Personal Property**

Regarding personal property, the following rules should be followed:

- Students are responsible for their valuables.
- It is recommended that each student have his/her personal property clearly marked for easy identification.
- Articles lost should be reported to the teacher, office, or check lost and found.
- No student is to bring his/her own playground equipment to school unless authorized to do so by the teacher.
- No skateboards or scooters are allowed at school.
- Cell phones must be completely turned off during school hours and kept in lockers. Lockers may be locked.
- No cameras, cassette tape recorders, CD players, video games, iPods/MP3 players, or electronic laser pointers are to be brought to school unless the teacher or administrator has given prior permission. Confiscated items may be kept by the Administrator until the last day of school.
- Music, written materials, magazines, etc. must be honoring to our Lord. The Administrator can request that any material of questionable nature be taken home and not returned to school.
- Disciplinary consequences may be given to students who bring inappropriate material to school.
- No weapons of any kind (toy or real) are permitted.
- If a student wishes to bring a pet to school, PRIOR permission must be granted by the teacher and administrator

### **GRCS Cell Phone / Digital Media Device Policy**

Students are discouraged from bringing cell phones, cameras, MP-

3 players, iPods and any other audio/visual devices to school. Every teacher has a phone or cell phone in his or her classroom and the school provides for phone use during school hours. Please assist your student by refraining from calling or texting them during school hours. Support our teachers in their efforts to maximize instruction by minimizing disruptions. Emergency situations and calls should all be directed to the Main Office at 319-753-2255.

If a student chooses to bring a cell phone or any audio/visual device to school it must be turned off and stored in his/her locker.

If a student is found using a cell phone or texting during the school day, the device will be confiscated. It may be picked up by the student in the office after school that day, and after the student signs his/her name on a "Student Responsibility Agreement Form." A second offense will require a parent to pick up the cell phone or device. It is the student's responsibility to tell his or her parents when a device has been confiscated. Continued offenses will be dealt with by the administrator. The school will not be responsible for recovering lost or stolen cell phones or any other audio/visual device.

### **Sexting, violent and threatening messages.**

In keeping with the school's responsibility to provide a safe learning environment for all students, the board has established

the following policy regarding the issue of "sexting." *Sexting* is the act of sending, receiving, or forwarding sexually explicit or suggestive messages, photos, or images via cell phone, computer, or other digital devices. Students engaged in such activities are subject to state laws and school discipline. The school considers sending, sharing, possessing, or even viewing pictures, text messages, or e-mails that contain a sexual message or image a violation of this policy.

Likewise, the use of media for sending violent or threatening messages is prohibited.

A violation of these policies will result in school discipline, up to and including expulsion, and the notification of local law enforcement. Students are required to immediately report any such activities to a teacher or the school administrator.

### **Social Networks**

Social networks contain opportunity for fellowship, encouragement and information sharing. However, students must be warned that written gossip, threats, antagonism, sabotage, and photographs not in keeping with our school values will be the basis for a thorough review of the student's desire to attend a Christian school. Very simply, students must model Christian behavior, modesty, and speech at all times and not merely put on a show during school hours.

In addition, GRCS holds students responsible for their behavior at all times. When the Administration has a suspicion there may be questionable material, we reserve the right to investigate up to and including locker searches, viewing text messages, cell phones, computers and/or other digital devices. If questionable material is found, the proper authorities will be notified.

## **Computer & Internet Use**

Use of the electronic information resources in the school shall be to improve and support the educational process by providing access to global information. The use of the Internet and computer equipment within GRCS is a privilege. Violation of this policy can result in the loss of computer access privileges. All Internet or computer equipment use shall be consistent with the purposes and goals of GRCS.

It is imperative that users of the Internet or computer equipment conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, moral, and polite manner. All users must abide by all local, state, and federal laws. The Internet user accepts the responsibility of adhering to high standards of conduct. Any user violating this policy or applicable state and federal laws will be restricted from Internet use or use of any or all computers (in addition to other disciplinary options). Such additional options may include detention, suspension, expulsion and/or referral to legal authorities.



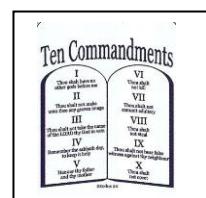
Peanut Policy

Many people these days are allergic to peanuts and tree nuts.

Thousands of kids across the country now have emergency doses of epinephrine in spring-located of injectors called EpiPens, to be administered if they go into anaphylactic shock. Anaphylactic shock is a life-threatening allergic reaction characterized by a swelling of body tissues including the throat, difficulty in breathing, and a sudden fall in blood pressure.

At GRCS we have several students for whom we hold EpiPens. These allergies can be life threatening. The reactions can be caused by a single exposure to peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oil or peanut flour and many other nuts and nut-based products. We ask you for your support in approaching this concern with a sense of collaboration and caring for the children for whom this allergy poses a serious risk.

Please do not send any items containing peanuts to school. It is not just a simple matter of who sits with an allergic child at lunchtime. Any peanut residue left on tables, hands, drinking fountains, etc. could be a potential danger. Thank you for your cooperation and compliance with our "no peanut" policy.



### XIII. Academic Honesty

GRCS's goal of preparing students for responsible citizenship in God's kingdom naturally requires high standards in ethical behavior and academic work. God calls us to honesty and any form of cheating is displeasing to God. In addition, plagiarism and cheating diminish the quality of the educational experience for all and reduce the value of honestly-earned grades.

Consequently, such actions are prohibited. Cases of plagiarism will be taken seriously and could result in a failing grade for the assignment/course, detention, or other disciplinary action.

#### **“Plagiarism” - Latin for “Kidnapping.”**

Plagiarism is the act of using another person's ideas or expressions without acknowledging the source or giving the impression that you have written or thought something that you have in fact borrowed from someone else. Additionally, it includes the borrowing of ideas which are not commonly accepted and which can be credited to a particular source. Electronic, high tech, or Web-based plagiarism also can be a significant problem in the Internet era. Downloading or “cutting and pasting” information directly into a paper from the Internet or other electronic sources without quotations or citation of that source is yet another form of plagiarism.

Plagiarism or cheating includes copying of another's answers on a test, the use of crib notes during an exam, the copying of someone's homework assignment, or the sharing of information to obtain or give an unfair advantage on an exam.

#### XIV. Academic Course Guides

##### Jr. High Course Guide

Junior High School is a transition between elementary and high school. It is a time when students develop a greater awareness of their abilities, aptitudes, interests, and attitudes. The faculty and staff of Great River Christian School strive to assist students in this transition in their social, emotional, intellectual, and physical development.

Under the present staffing, core courses in High School (Humanities and Sciences) are taught every other year. Thus the Rotation of Year "A" (2012-2013) and Year "B" (2013-2014), and Year "A" again (2014-2015), and so forth. Math courses are taught every year unless not needed.



#### 7th/8th Course Rotation

##### Rotation "A"

Portraits: Old Testament  
World Studies  
Life Science  
Writing & Grammar 8 / Vocabulary B  
Basic Math /Pre-Algebra (both years)

##### **Exploratory Classes: 1 quarter ea. (both)**

Study Skills	Creative Writing
Fundamentals of Literature	Research Skills
Basic Foods I	Basic Foods II
Keyboarding I / Basic Computer	Keyboarding II / Basic Computers
Music Appreciation	Music Appreciation
P.E.	P.E.

##### Rotation "B" (2013-14)

Life of Christ  
American Republic  
Space & Earth Science  
Writ. & Grammar 7 / Vocabulary A

#### Rotation of High School Courses:

##### 9/10th Rotation "A"    9/10th Rotation "B"

Lessons from Early Church	Themes from the Old Testament
Writing & Grammar 9	Writing & Grammar 10
Vocabulary C	Vocabulary D
Math	Math
Biology	Physical Science
World History	United States History

##### **Electives:**

Psychology/Sociology	Advanced Foods / Speech
Creative Writing/	Foundations in Ethics /
Fundamentals of Literature	Studies in Ethics
Art / Choir / Auto	Spanish ( full year )
P.E.	Art / Choir / Auto
P.E.	
Independent Service Project (every year)	

##### 11/12th Rotation "A"    11/12th Rotation "B"

Understanding the Times A	Understanding the Times B
Writing & Grammar 11	Writing & Grammar 12
Vocabulary E	Vocabulary F
Math	Math
Anatomy	Chemistry
Cultural Geography	American Government
<b>Electives:</b>	<b>Electives:</b>
Psychology/Sociology	Advanced Foods / Speech
Creative Writing/	Foundations in Ethics /
Fundamentals of Literature	Studies in Ethics
Art / Choir / Auto	Spanish ( full year )
Art / Choir / Auto	

P.E.                    P.E.  
Independent Service Project (every year)

## GRCS HIGH SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

### BIBLE

#### Themes from the Old Testament

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th grade

Description: Themes from the Old Testament highlights key themes in the Old Testament books and Bible truths about the person and work of Christ to encourage obedient Christian living. This course describes important historical, geographical, and biographical information that brings the Bible to life.

#### The Life of Christ

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th grade

Description: This course is from the Gospel of John and is designed to make Jesus Christ real to you. The objective is to further John's stated purpose in John 20:30-31 to encourage a response to Christ. Much is said in this study about customs, geography, and dates. This study takes place in Israel with Jesus during the years A.D. 26-30. The study points out the seasons of the year, the time of day, and even the weather to help you relive those exciting days when Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, walked the earth and ministered to the people in Israel.

#### Understanding the Times Part A Year A

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 11/12th grade

Description: This is a DVD-based curriculum that brings a host of Christian worldview and apologetic experts into the classroom. This class will help students clearly understand the tenets of the Christian worldview and how it compares with the tenets of other leading worldviews of our day: Islam, Secular Humanism, Marxism, New Age, and Postmodernism. Some of the issues

covered include: apologetics, God's plan for history, social order, *Unio Mystica*, *labor*, community service, and the purpose of government. Other topics include an accurate definition of tolerance, critical thinking skills, apologetics, the problem of evil, Islam, religious pluralism, and scriptural reliability.

#### Understanding the Times Part B Year B

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 11/12th grade

Description: Continuation of Part I Year A



### ENGLISH

#### Writing & Grammar 9

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th

Description: Writing & Grammar 9 covers all eight parts of speech with special emphasis on adjectives and adverbs, including adverb clauses. It also presents a review of the five basic sentence patterns, usage concepts such as agreement and pronoun reference, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Instruction and practice in library skills and study skills are included as well. All the steps of the Writing Process are reviewed as students complete writing projects such as devotional, research essay, an in-class essay, comparison/contrast paragraph, poetry, and a public service announcement.

#### Vocabulary: Level C

Conclude the special emphasis on Latin word parts and discuss the difference between denotative and connotative meaning. This course expands the discovery of word meaning through context.

#### Writing & Grammar 10

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th

Description: This course teaches the eight parts of speech, verbal phrases, clauses (including noun clauses), usage and mechanics. Review the five basic sentence patterns and introduce two new sentence patterns. Reference chapters include library skills and study skills. Lead students through the Writing Process and teach writing strategies such as sentence expansion and reduction, coordination and subordination, and correct use of parallelism. Writing projects include persuasive speech, editorial, eyewitness report, research essay, cause-and-effect, short story, poetry and metaphor, and webpage design.

#### **Vocabulary: Level D**

Teaches Greek word parts and discusses the contribution of Greek to modern English. Emphasizes the importance of proper word selection for vivid writing.

#### **Writing & Grammar 11**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 11/12th

Description: This course teaches eight parts of speech, verbal phrases, clauses, usage, and mechanics. Review the seven sentence patterns and introduce advanced concepts such as tense sequence, perfect verbals, and adverbial nouns. Reference chapters include library skills and study skills. Students are led through the Writing Process and teach writing strategies such as variety, emphasis, and sentence logic. Writing projects include research paper, literary analysis, folktale, narrative poem, hymn, analytical essay, interview, memoir, analogy, in-class essay, and a letter to the editor.

#### **Vocabulary: Level E**

Introduces some of the ways English acquires words – such as allusions, coining, back-formation, folk etymology, and borrowing from other languages, especially French.

#### **Writing & Grammar 12**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 11/12th

Description: This course addresses the particular needs of advanced-level students, including writing strategies for sentence logic and energy, paragraph development, and organization. Review parts of speech, sentence patterns, usage, and more. Test-taking strategies and college application essays will also be covered.

#### **Vocabulary: Level F**

Teaches recognition of native English words and words borrowed from other languages. Presents changes in word meanings and discusses euphemisms and metaphorical words.

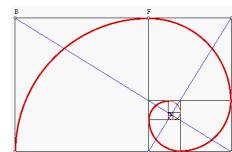
#### **Speech**

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Required: 9-12th

Description: This course will survey the various types/aspects of communication with an emphasis on developing public speaking skills. Students will learn the basic elements of the communication process, and the role each element plays in communication effectiveness. Students will also develop their skills in speech preparation and performance competency as they prepare a variety of speeches and present them before a live audience.



## **MATHEMATICS**

#### **Basic Math**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Description: Focuses on rational numbers, their operations, and algebraic representations. Topics such as measurement conversions, area, averages, and data displays are introduced early in the course and then integrated and expanded upon throughout.

**Pre Algebra**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Prerequisite: Basic Math

Description: This is a strong review of all math skills, with gradual transition to problem solving skills, algebra, and geometry. Topics covered include metric-English conversions, radicals, multi-step equations, inequalities, linear functions, right triangles, ratios, and probability.

**Algebra I**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Prerequisite: Pre Algebra

Description: Algebra I covers all topics in a first-year algebra course from statistics and probabilities to geometric concepts such as area, volume, perimeter as well as algebra-based real-world problems. Students will develop more complex skills and understanding required for advanced mathematics.

**Algebra II**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Prerequisite: Algebra I/Geometry

Description: Algebra 2 increases Algebra I concepts in all areas, including a considerable amount of geometry. Real-world problems are included along with applications to teach subjects such as physics and chemistry.

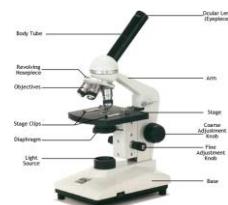
**Advanced Math**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 Credits

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Description: Prepares students to succeed in math-based courses such as calculus, chemistry and physics. Contains in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts.

**SCIENCE****Physical Science**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th

Description: Physics studies the natural world of God's order. Starting with a general philosophy of science through Christian eyes, students grapple with matter, energy, motion, machines, fluids, electro-magnetism, waves, and chemistry. This course includes ample demonstrations, hands-on experimentation and a science project.

**Biology**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th

Description: Students define Life with both scientific and biblical principles, recognizing God as the creator and giver of life. Topics include cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany, zoology, and human anatomy and reproduction from a Christian perspective. The biology materials celebrate the sanctity of created life by discussing biblical perspectives about eugenics, drugs, abortion, diseases, miracles, evolution, euthanasia, ecology, and genetic engineering. Labs will give practice in dissecting specimens.

**Anatomy**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 11/12th

Description: An integrated approach for helping students understand the complexities of the structure and function of the human body and how they complement each other. The text covers the major

areas of human anatomy from cellular structure to complex system such as respiratory and digestive systems.

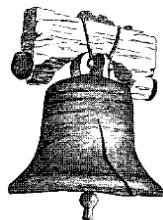
### **Chemistry**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 11/12th

Description: A survey course studying matter, energy, atomic structure, and uses and theories of chemistry in modern science. Students will get their hands on many safe experiments.



## **HISTORY**

### **United States History**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th

Description: Uncover the history of our nation through this comprehensive survey. The book focuses on the causes of events, the strains on the Union, and the underlying issues that have shaped United States history. Historical facts are presented from a Christian perspective.

### **World History**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Required: 9/10th

Description: See historical events from Creation to modern times in the light of God's Word. The ministry of the church is emphasized in discussions of politics, economics, science, and the fine arts.

### **Cultural Geography**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Offered: 11/12th

Description: A survey of both geographic principles and every country of the world through a regional approach. Following the

theme of a Grand Tour, students travel from continent to continent around the world studying the cultures, land forms, climates, responses, economy, religions, and government of each country.

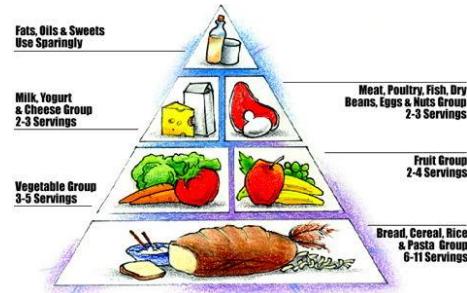
### **American Government**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Offered: 11/12th

Description: The course studies the foundation, structure, and practice of American government. Emphasis is upon citizenship, including voter registration and procedures, and a Christian's role in relation to government. Participation and projects are designed to teach students about government through actual involvement.



## **ELECTIVES**

### **Psychology**

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Offered: 9-12th

Description: This course will introduce students to the history of psychology and the theoretical knowledge needed to understand psychology. Various theories, both secular and Christian, will be analyzed by their relationship to Scripture. A common theme in the course is humanity striving to understand themselves and their relationship to others in God's Kingdom.

### **Sociology**

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Offered: 9-12th

Description: Sociology focuses on the study of human relationships and how we interact within our own society, in terms of group

relationships, and the different roles we as individuals play within these groups. Students will examine society using Biblical principles. The course will also prepare students to accept cultures different than our own and understand the cultural relevance of each society.

### **Creative Writing**

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Offered: 9-12th

Description: This course gives students the chance to create other forms of written work, which are creative and not expository in nature. Areas of study include the short story, playwriting and dramatic production, poetry, and the novelette.

### **Fundamentals of Literature**

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Offered: 9-12th

Description: Students learn the process of literary analysis and discuss six literary elements: conflict, character, theme, structure, point of view, and moral tone.

### **Spanish I**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 2 credits

Offered: 9-12th

Description: Students will be introduced to the basics of the Spanish language and culture. They will develop novice level skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. They will learn basic vocabulary such as telling time, basic nouns, greetings, numbers, colors, everyday verbs and objects. They will develop some awareness of and appreciation for the Hispanic culture around the world. Vocabulary will be introduced covering such topics as daily routines, sports, family activities, hobbies, entertainment, household chores, health, and eating in restaurants.

### **Advanced Foods**

Length: 1 semester

Credit: 1 credit

Offered: 9-12th

Description: This course provides an overview of the components needed for good nutrition and food preparation. Students engage in activities designed to

enhance their skills reading labels, reading and implementing recipes, and planning meals. Students will learn to work cooperatively and individually to prepare meals using basic cooking techniques and how to make wise food choices to maintain a healthy body. Every class will feature discussion, demonstrations, and hands-on-learning.

### **Art I, II, III, and IV**

Length: 1 year each

Credit: 1 credit each

Offered: 9-12th

Description: Learning and enjoying the elements and principles of design.

### **Music Appreciation I, II, III, and IV**

Length: 1 year each

Credit: 1 credit each

Offered: 9-12th

Description: Students learn theories of music and well as listen to various types of music. Course stresses the importance of singing in worship.

### **Physical Education**

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1 credit

Offered: 9-12th (only Seniors may opt out of P.E. if they have the required credits)

Required: 3 credits

Description – Students will enjoy learning and doing fitness that honors our Creator. with spiritual fitness, mental fitness, and physical fitness.

### **Foundations in Ethics**

Length: 1 semester.

Credit: 1 credit.

Offered: 9-12<sup>th</sup>

Description: Ethics occupies an important place in education. It asks the question: "How shall we live and conduct ourselves as biblical Christians." Ethics has a foundation in ancient Hebrew and Greek theology and philosophy, and proceeds to later Western Civilization values in Europe. We will study Christian morality and value systems from a Biblical worldview and then notice universal standards in other classical systems such as utility, duty, and virtue.

### **Studies in Ethics**

Length: 1 semester.

Credit: 1 credit.

Offered: 9-12<sup>th</sup>

Description: Ethics occupies an important place in education. It asks the question: "How shall we live and conduct ourselves as biblical Christians." We will review classical systems, and then study business ethics, medical ethics, Just War Theory, and personal development to help students prepare for future decisions in ethical areas. Finally, we will study informal fallacies in reasoning, and the differences between refutation, rebuttal, and negation in debates and discussions. This course does not require completion of the Foundations of Ethics course.

Service must be given to not-for-profit organizations or private families in need, other than the student's own family. There shall be no remuneration for services rendered. The intent is for students to serve outside of GRCS in order to meet new people and observe new environments.

Students may count these hours of service towards the Silver Cord Award.

Credit: 1 credit for high school career as allocated above (70 hours).



### **Independent Service Project**

Students will be required to take part in service-related activities of their choice within their school, churches and communities to build a habit of service into their lives. Each student is required to complete the following number of hours per year with documentation submitted to the teaching staff by May 1st of each school year.

- Freshman 10 hours minimum
- Sophomore 15 hours minimum
- Junior 20 hours minimum
- Senior 25 hours minimum

Summer projects (June – August) may be included in the upcoming school year's hours. (See staff for appropriate forms and suggested project ideas.)