

Fayette Christian School

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*“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”
2 Peter 3:18*

1. MESSAGE TO PARENTS/STUDENTS

Dear Parents and Students,

We are pleased that you have chosen Fayette Christian School, a ministry of Fayette Bible Church, for the coming school year. We thank the Lord for His provision of a well-trained, caring staff that is able to educate from a Biblical perspective. We consider it a privilege to have a part in the training of young people who come from Washington Court House and the surrounding area.

It is not only our goal to assist parents who desire a good academic education for their children and students who want to learn, but to provide an environment where growth in all areas can be directed in a manner that is honoring to God. “And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon him.” Luke 2:40

The purpose of the Parent/Student Handbook is to help you better understand the working of the school, its philosophy and requirements. If questions arise as you read the handbook, please make a note of them and bring them to our attention for clarification.

We are looking forward to the school year with great anticipation.

Sincerely,

Mr. Larry Fitch
Principal

2. MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

Dear Friends,

We, Fayette Bible Church, established Fayette Christian School to provide quality education within a Christian framework and atmosphere. It exists as an extension of the Christian home.

It is our purpose:

- To provide young people with the opportunity to receive a Bible-centered education that is conducive to spiritual, mental, physical and emotional growth.
- To provide a curriculum and programs of high academic excellence within a Christ-centered learning environment.
- To build character by stressing the importance of a godly life, love for our country, self-control and a desire for excellency in every pursuit.
- To teach respect for God, parents, others, the church and the government.
- To strive to produce mature Christians who will be examples of Christ to the world.

Believing that God's desire is that we might "walk worthy of the Lord, unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" (Colossians 1:10), we encourage our students and their parents to evaluate all areas of life from God's viewpoint. Philippians 4:8 sets the standard for our lives. "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise think on these things."

Sincerely,

Mr. Nick Epifano, Mr. John Peterson, and Mr. Gary Shaffer
2017-2018 Fayette Christian School Board

3. STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe and teach these principles:

- A. The Bible is the verbally inspired, infallible Word of God.
- B. In one eternal God, manifested in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- C. In the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless and substitutionary death – that He is both God and Man.
- D. In the direct creation of the universe and man by God apart from any process of evolution.
- E. That Satan exists as a person. He is not to be considered simply mythical, figurative or symbolic of evil.
- F. That all human beings are born sinful.
- G. That salvation is provided through the atoning work of Christ on the cross and His burial and resurrection—that salvation is all by grace through faith.
- H. In the eternal salvation of all true believers who put their faith in Christ.
- I. In the practice of separation, both personal and church related, resulting from sin and compromise.
- J. In the resurrection of all the dead, the saved to life of eternal glory, and the unsaved to eternal judgment in Hell.
- K. In the regathering (rapture) of the church before the tribulation and the literal return of Christ at the close of the tribulation.
- L. In the local church made up of regenerate and immersed believers, self-governing, based upon the Word of God.

4. PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

In order for FCS to provide quality Christian education, it is necessary that the home and the school complement each other. Parents choose to send their children to Fayette Christian School because the school seeks to strengthen principles taught in the home. Parents must be wise enough to understand that to criticize the school in their child's presence undermines not only the school's authority as an extension of the home, but also their own authority as a parent who decided that FCS was the proper school for their child.

Parents are certainly encouraged to communicate with the school for any situation or policy that they do not understand. If a parent is having difficulty with a teacher, please go to that teacher first. Most likely, your problem will be solved there. If satisfaction cannot be reached, then approach the principal. This agrees with the Matthew 18:15-17 principle of handling conflict. Please do not call other parents about your problem. They cannot solve it. That only results in more bad feelings. May we offer some guidelines to help parents with their children in school:

1. Teach your children respect for authority, beginning with God as supreme.
2. Teach them courtesy and good manners toward others.
3. Have a regular time of prayer and Bible reading in the home.
4. Make going to school a pleasurable and important experience.
5. Be interested in the schoolwork and see that they complete whatever they bring home.
6. Accept their limitations gracefully, but challenge them to do their best.

7. Never discuss the school or staff negatively in their presence.
8. Have confidence in the teacher, the staff and the policies.
9. Make sure that your children get plenty of rest and have good eating habits.
10. Be on time to school. Don't allow your children to miss much school.

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” Proverbs 9:10

5. FACULTY STANDARDS

Fayette Christian School is a ministry of Fayette Bible Church. The faculty of Fayette Christian School is selected for their spiritual and academic qualities. All faculty members are born-again Christians, dedicated to serving the Lord through the ministry of teaching young people.

B. General Information

Fayette Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin 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 policies, scholarship, athletic and other school-administered programs. However, we are not able to provide for special needs students.

Fayette Christian School reserves the privilege of setting and maintaining standards of conduct, dress, cleanliness and scholarship. The school reserves the privilege of refusing admittance to anyone it so chooses without defining reasons, and to suspend, or expel anyone who violates the standards or spirit of the school (including homosexual behavior), or anyone uncooperative with the overall purpose and program of the school. The administration shall determine when and how to discipline offenders of both written rules and the general spirit/and or direction of the institution.

Fayette Christian School is a uniquely religious, educational institution that seeks to provide a quality education in a distinct Christian environment. One of the goals of Fayette Christian School is to work with parents and guardians to train Christian young men and women to be salt and light in their communities. Fayette Christian School believes that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and sets forth absolute truth by which Christians are to live. Fayette Christian School expects and requires that both students and parents will support the school in its distinct mission and in its Biblical beliefs. In relying on the teachings of Scripture, Fayette Christian School believes that the Bible prohibits sexual immorality of any type, including but not limited to pornography, homosexuality, or any other sexual activity outside the marriage of one man and one woman (Gen 2:18-25; I Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4). On those occasions in which a particular home or student is acting counter to or in opposition to the Biblical beliefs and lifestyle that the school teaches, the school reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to refuse admission to an applicant or to discontinue enrollment of a current student. This includes, but is not limited to, living in, condoning, or supporting any form of sexual immorality; practicing or

promoting a homosexual lifestyle or alternative gender identity; or otherwise having the inability to support the moral principles of the school as stated throughout this handbook.

1. ADMISSION

Membership in the student body of Fayette Christian School is a privilege, not a right. If at any time, in the opinion of the administration (Pastor, Principal, School Board) it be determined that a student is not in harmony with the goals, and ideals of the school, he/she may be asked to leave or not be accepted as a student the following year.

2. ADMISSION STANDARDS

A prospective student is admitted to Fayette Christian School on the basis of his age, former records, interview, and placement testing (if determined necessary by the administration). A probationary period of 9 weeks will be observed for all new enrollments in school. Parents will be notified if a child does not appear to be meeting the probation standards.

3. ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

The administration will establish enrollment policy and procedure. Enrollment steps include:

- A. An application must be obtained from the school office.
- B. A completed application must be returned to the office with the required registration fee paid.
- C. Students in grades 7-12 may be required to submit a written testimony of their salvation in Christ.
- D. An entrance test will be required for all new students. A fee of \$40 is required to administer this test. A test date will be established by the school.
- E. **A family interview with parents, prospective students (grades 7 through 12) and the principal is required.** The purpose of this family interview is twofold: 1) It gives the opportunity for explanation of the school's philosophy and policies; 2) it helps the family determine if our educational goals mutually coincide.

Upon completing this procedure:

- 1) Parents will be asked to complete the following forms:
 - Request for Records (from previous school or home school records)
 - Emergency Medical Information and Authorization Sheet
 - Parent/Student Handbook Agreement
- 2) Parents will need to provide the following items before entrance can be authorized:
 - Birth certificate (please bring in the birth certificate so we can make a copy and return it to you)
 - Proof of immunizations (must be on file in the school office within 14 days of the start of school)

-Custody papers or any other legal documents needed to enroll the child in school.

4. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

The Ohio Department of Health has established requirements for health records, which schools must maintain for all students.

Students entering school in Ohio must be totally immunized according to the requirements of the Department of Health before they can begin classes. An immunization record from a physician or the health department is necessary stating that the child has received immunization in accordance with the Department of Health with the month and year of each immunization received.

5. PARTICIPATION

Fayette Christian School is a member of the Buckeye Christian School Organization, which is affiliated with the American Association of Christian Schools (AACCS.) As a member of AACCS, Fayette Christian School participates in various academic and fine arts competitions.

6. INCOMING MESSAGES

If it is necessary to contact a teacher during school hours, please contact the school office to leave a message. The teacher will return your call in a timely manner during a break or after school hours. Please do not text or call teachers during school hours (8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.). Messages and deliveries will be delivered to teachers and students at an appropriate time so as not to disturb a class in session.

Student Emergencies: In the event a parent must contact a student, the parent may call the school office at 740-335-7262. **A student will be called out of class only in an emergency.** In the event of an emergency, students may use the phone in the school office after receiving permission from their classroom teacher and office personnel.

7. ILLNESS

You will be called to pick your child up from school if he/she has a fever of 100 degrees or more, or if he/she vomits during the school day. For the safety of your child and others in his/her class, please keep your child at home if he/she is ill or if they have had a fever of 100 degrees or more, or vomited within the past 24 hours.

8. LUNCH / BREAK TIME

Your child may bring a sack lunch from home or order from a school lunch menu that will be provided through the year. We are able to refrigerate lunches if necessary. Please mark the container to be refrigerated with the child's name and grade. For items that need to be heated, please use containers that are made for a microwave oven. **We are not responsible for damaged containers.** You need to have all containers marked with the child's name and grade. Due to time restrictions, any frozen dinners must be able to be microwaved within 3-4 minutes. We are not able to cook or heat on the stovetop, so please do not send items that need to be cooked on the stove. All students will give their order or turn in lunches, to be heated or refrigerated, in the mornings to the kitchen.

BREAK TIME

At break time all 7th-12th grade students should report to the cafeteria after going to the restroom or purchasing items from the machine. No students should be in the hallway after restroom breaks have been taken and snacks have been purchased, unless a teacher has given them permission. Students should not remain in the hallway to talk to friends.

9. MEDICATION

Any student needing medication must bring the medication to the school office to be dispensed at the appropriate time. A parent must complete and sign the medication form in the office before any medication (over the counter or prescribed) may be given to any student. No medication, of any kind, may be kept by the student or in lockers, purses, book bags etc.

10. WEATHER EMERGENCIES

From time to time inclement weather, poor road conditions, or other emergencies may cause FCS to deviate from its school calendar. In the interest of the safety of all students and staff, we will follow Miami Trace School District's decisions regarding weather-related cancellations and delays. This does not pertain to other early dismissals or non-scheduled days that MTSD might have on its calendar.

We will email all families through GradeLink when there is a cancellation or delay. We will also broadcast our announcements on Channel 10 TV and WCHO FM 105.5.

Additionally, you can receive text alerts. Go to rainedout.com and search for Fayette Christian School, and then click on the school's name in the results. On the FCS page, scroll down to the "Sign Up!" tab. Follow the instructions for the 3 steps to sign up. Once you are signed up, you will receive text alerts whenever the school sends them.

In the event of a delay, do not bring your children early to school. Students should not arrive at school any earlier than 30 minutes before the start of school.

In the event of an early dismissal due to inclement weather or poor road conditions, the school will notify you.

11. SOLICITATIONS

Solicitation, at Fayette Christian School, will be allowed only with the permission of the Principal/Administration. This includes the selling of tickets, candy, the distribution of political materials, the circulation of petitions, handing out event flyers, etc.

12. SPECIAL PROGRAMS

All students are expected to attend school programs and activities in which they are scheduled to participate. Failure to attend the program will result in their music grade being dropped by a letter grade. The principal/administration must approve a student's release from participation. Failure to attend without having approval will result in disciplinary measures. Parents are encouraged to consult the school calendar and note the regularly scheduled school events. Any FCS student attending a special program or activity must be in appropriate attire that meets the school standards.

13. STUDENT DRIVERS

Licensed high school drivers may drive their cars to school and must be registered in the school office. Students are to park in areas designated for their use (they should park toward the field side). They are not to return to, move, or occupy their cars during the school day without approval from the school office or principal. The speed limit is 10 mph. Parents will be notified immediately of any infraction involving their child's vehicle and the consequences thereof.

Any student that will be riding to or from school with another student driver must have a note on file from their parent/guardian giving permission to ride with the student driver.

14. TELEPHONE USEAGE

During school hours students must obtain permission from their teacher to use the telephone in the office. (Consideration will be given to students only where an emergency or unusual, circumstantial need exists.)

Cell phones must be registered with the office. Because they may be used only **before** or **after** the regular school day, cell phones should be left in the student's vehicle or in the school office prior to the beginning of the school day. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Violators will receive demerits.

15. WITHDRAWALS

All students withdrawing from Fayette Christian School must give written notice signed by a parent (custodial) to the school office. All textbooks and library books must be returned and any outstanding fees paid. No grades, diplomas, credits or transfer records will be released until all outstanding tuition and fees are paid in full.

Those withdrawing will owe tuition for the month in which he/she withdraws. If a student withdraws after enrollment period of the next school year, they will be required to pay the balance of the book fee.

Fayette Christian School will send the withdrawing student's records to the new school after a signed Request for Records Form has been received. Parents cannot personally transfer records. After a student has withdrawn for the 2nd time, re-enrollment will not be accepted without a meeting with the principal/administration and approval of the school board.

16. VISITING SCHOOL

Parents are welcome at FCS at any time. Non-custodial parents have the same rights of access to the school unless limited by visitation or custody decree. Those wishing to visit are welcome, but we ask if possible they call in advance and sign-in at the school office so the teacher and FCS staff can be made aware of their presence.

Classroom visits by parents are welcome. A call requesting a visit is appropriate. We do request that any parent-teacher conference be scheduled at a convenient after-school hour. Student visitors should either be a visiting relative of a student, a student from another Christian school or one who is potentially interested in enrollment at FCS. **Alumni are welcome to visit during lunch**, but not while classes are in session. All visitors must come to the office to secure permission. All visits should be scheduled in advance.

17. FIELD TRIPS

All classes periodically take Field Trips. Field trips are an important part of the total curriculum at FCS designed to reinforce classroom instruction. A signed permission slip is

required each time a field trip is taken. On other occasions, parents may be asked to drive and chaperone. If you choose to drive and/or chaperone a field trip, we ask that you please uphold school policy in all areas. Parents are encouraged to participate in field trips so as to provide adequate supervision. Parents should dress appropriately and modestly. If parents choose for their child not to attend field trips, the student is still required to attend school.

C. Financial Policy

1. TUITION

Tuition fees are reviewed annually. It is expected that parents who enroll their children will meet their financial obligations to FCS by paying tuition in a timely manner. Tuition charges may be paid in a lump sum amount or on a 10 month installment plan, which runs from August through May. Payments are due by the 15th of each month. Book fees are due by June 1st for the coming school year. If a student withdraws after enrollment period of the next school year, they will be required to pay the balance of the book fee.

2. TUITION COLLECTION POLICY

- A. Accounts not current by the 20th of each month will be assessed a \$30.00 late fee.
- B. Accounts must be current to receive report cards.
- C. When two (2) payments are due and not paid, the child(ren) will not be allowed to attend classes or any school related activity. Access to Gradelink will be locked until payments come within one month.
- D. A student who withdraws will owe tuition for the month in which he/she withdraws.
- E. No permanent records, transcripts, or diplomas will be issued without all owed fees and tuition being paid.
- F. All tuition and fees must be paid in full for any senior to receive a diploma or to participate in the graduation ceremony.
- G. No child may re-enroll the following year without the previous school year's fees and tuition being paid.
- H. Any check being returned will be charged a penalty of \$30.00 dollars.

3. Policies Pertaining to Home Schooled Children

Home-schooled children, not enrolled, but attending FCS to take specific academic classes will pay the book and enrollment fees, plus 20% of the tuition fee of the grade level of each class taken.

Multiple non-academic classes taken (eg. art, music, P.E. elementary sports and etc.) will have the fee of \$15 per month.

All students involved in the above mentioned classes and activities will be required to attend a chapel class and FCS dress code will apply. Participation in high school sports (7th-12th grades) is permitted only for students fully enrolled in FCS.

D. Academic Requirements

Because God is the source of all knowledge, all academic material is taught with the Bible as the final authority of truth. Every attempt is made to integrate all learning in each subject with the Bible. In addition, the Bible is taught as a regular subject throughout the school. Each student is required to have his/her own Bible, the King James Version, in school daily. One version is required so that all memorization will be uniform. Each school day begins with prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, Pledge to the Christian flag and the Pledge to the Holy Bible. Chapel services are scheduled on a regular basis throughout the week.

1. HOMEWORK/ASSIGNMENTS

Homework is an integral part of Fayette Christian School's academic and character training. The purposes of homework are:

- A. To teach habits of independent study.
- B. To reinforce the instruction given in the classroom.
- C. To provide practice in the application of acquired skills.
- D. To acquaint parents with the child's work.
- E. To promote participation in activities that further challenges the abilities of the pupil.

Teachers will try to keep homework to a minimum on Wednesdays and other nights with special church or school events.

2. TESTING

In addition to regular course tests, Fayette Christian School annually administers the following test: The Iowa and CogAt Assessments.

3. ABSENCE MAKE-UP WORK/INCOMPLETES

Students who miss school are given a period of time in which to make up work. Missed work because of an excused absence must be made up by the time the teacher desires it to be. The rule of thumb is that a student has the same number of days to make up work as they were absent plus one (**excused absences only**). It is the **responsibility of the student** to check with the classroom teacher to schedule make-up work. Long-term assignments will be due on time. All missed work due to unexcused absences will be required to be made up, however the student will receive no higher than a 69 percent (F). When work is not made up and turned in to the teacher within the time allotted, the student will receive a zero for all work not turned in.

4. ANNUAL COMPETITIONS

Fayette Christian School junior and senior high students actively participate in competitions sponsored by the American Association of Christian Schools and the Buckeye Christian School Organization (BCSO). The areas of competition include academic, fine arts (music and speech) Bible knowledge, general knowledge, home economics, science projects, photography, and various other art categories.

5. OVERNIGHT POLICY AT COMPETITIONS AND TOURNAMENTS

Students staying overnight are required to room with an FCS faculty/staff; unless the students' parents/guardians are staying overnight, then the student is to room with them. **While**

at the hotel, all students must meet in the lobby for fellowship, not in rooms or hallways. Students of the opposite gender, MAY NOT meet in rooms to fellowship. Swim times will be designated for boys and girls. All students must be in their assigned rooms by 11:00 p.m.

6. HONOR ROLLS

A. "Principal's List"

Grades 7 through 12- All grades must be A's with no incomplete marks.

B. "Honor Roll"

Grades 7 through 12 – All A's and B's

To receive the Highest Academic Award, a student must be on the Honor Roll all four quarters or achieve an overall average of 93 or above.

7. GRADING SYSTEM

A. Grade Reporting

Fayette Christian School uses Gradelink, a student information system for all grades and attendance. Parents are given a password that will allow them access to their child's school profile. This system allows the parents to keep updated on their child's progress on a day to day basis.

Report cards will be distributed each nine weeks.

Mid-Term progress reports are given to all students in grades 7-12. The mid-term will list the percent made for each class during the current period. These reports serve to keep the parent informed of the student's progress and allow for quick correction for weak areas before reaching the end of a reporting period. These mid-term reports are given to the student to bring home. The parent is required to sign the report and return it to the child's teacher.

B. Grading Scale

A+	98-100
A	92-97
A-	90-91
B+	88-89
B	82-87
B-	80-81
C+	78-79
C	72-77
C-	70-71
D+	68-69
D	62-67
D-	60-61
F	0-59
I	incomplete

Students must pass each subject with a grade of 70% or higher in order to receive credit for the class.

8. POST SECONDARY

Students may enroll in the College Credit Plus Program approved by the administration. Registration for this program must be completed and on file at the Ohio Department of Education by April 1. Students who are enrolled in the College Credit Plus Program will have their grades sent to FCS and will be weighted on a 5 point scale.

9. ACADEMIC PROBATION

Students are placed on academic probation when in a grading period they have a failing grade or two (2) or more grades of “D”, or have an excessive amount of incomplete homework assignments. Parents are notified of probationary status and are given a full explanation of its impact. Academic probation will continue for a period of 9 weeks. If at the end of the 9-week probation, improvement has not reached a satisfactory level the student will continue on academic probation.

The administration will review students who continue on academic probation. This review may result in a recommendation for academic dismissal. Students who, for whatever reasons, have low grades but whose efforts and attitudes are positive are permitted to remain as long as the school can serve their academic needs. Students on academic probation are urged to seek extra help from teachers and parents are encouraged to help improve their child’s study habits by taking appropriate action at home.

Students who are dismissed due to academic probation will not be able to re-enroll for a period of one semester and will be on academic probation when re-enrolled.

10. GRADE CLASSIFICATION (7 -8)

Junior high (grades 7-8) is on a yearly average. Successful completion of a class requires a final average of 70 or above be attained for the year. A student will be promoted to the next grade if he/she passes all of his/her academic subjects (English, History, Math, Science). If a student fails **one (1) academic subject**, he/she will be promoted on probation unless he/she takes and passes the subject with a passing or higher grade during summer school. If a student fails **two (2) academic subjects**, he/she will not be promoted to the next grade unless he/she takes and passes at least one of the two subjects with a passing or higher grade during summer school. He/she would then be promoted on probation. If the student takes and passes both subjects with a passing or higher grade during summer school, he/she would then be promoted without probation. If a student fails **three (3) academic subjects**, he/she will not be promoted.

All students on probation are admitted conditionally on a nine weeks trial period. If during this time the child fails to make passing grades or does not adjust to the program of the school, the parents will be expected to give additional help at home. The school then reserves the right to place the child in a lower grade if it is deemed necessary. Additional probation may be set for not completing homework or meeting any other set academic requirements of the various subjects.

11. GRADE CLASSIFICATION (9-12)

In grades 9 through 12 a minimum of 5-1/2 credits per year must be passed in order for graduation to occur in a 4-year time frame. Credit is assigned on a semester basis. If a student does not pass a semester of a class, he/she will be required to take summer school to earn credit for that semester. Also, if a student fails both semesters, he/she will have to repeat the class or take another class for that credit during the subsequent years.

12. SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School is required for any student who fails either a semester (9-12) or the whole year (7-8) of a class. In order to pass summer school, junior high students need to get a C- or higher while senior high students will need a B- or higher to receive credit. When a student successfully finishes summer school, a final grade of 70/D- will be entered on the permanent record. In addition to grade requirements during summer school, there are also time criteria. Junior high students will need to attend 20 hours of summer school for each subject failed, while senior high students will attend 10 hours of summer school for each quarter they failed that contributed to the failing grade for the semester (a maximum of 20 hours per class). Since the needs of the different students having to attend summer school will vary, the responsibility for developing a feasible schedule for all involved will lie with the teacher supervising summer school for that year.

13. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

During their senior year students are expected to take a full load of courses offered to the senior class. In addition, all seniors must have successfully completed (70% or higher) a minimum of 4 years of sr. high school English, Math, History, Bible, and choir; 3 years of science; 2 years of foreign language; 1 year of speech, and 2 additional electives. Seniors must have received 1 credit during high school for Health/P.E. All seniors must earn a total of 22 credits in order to graduate.

Each year a senior trip is planned. The trip is a requirement for graduation. The only exception will be a valid medical reason. In the event a student does not attend the senior trip for a valid medical reason, that student will be required to attend school during the trip and will have additional assignments.

When possible, a graduating senior will be chosen to be valedictorian. This student delivers the valedictory address at the graduation ceremony. In general, the senior with the highest academic average is chosen as valedictorian. The following criteria, however, must apply:

- A. The student must attend FCS for his/her junior and senior years. The student must have taken the more challenging academic schedule including the following courses: chemistry and another upper-level science such as physics or anatomy/physiology; in addition to an upper level math class (pre-calculus).
- B. The student must have an overall G.P.A. of 3.70 or above.

The runner-up for valedictorian will be chosen as salutatorian. The same criteria will also apply to the salutatorian.

We encourage students to strive for these honors. Many colleges give scholarships to students who attain these positions.

- A. Seniors will **not** be permitted to march in the commencement exercises if they have fewer than 22 credits. FCS cannot be held responsible for the inconvenience caused by a **senior's failing courses during the last semester of school.**
- B. Any student receiving a failing grade can receive credit toward graduation by successfully repeating that subject the following year if the schedule permits. A student can also receive credit by passing the course in summer school.
- C. Seniors may be exempt from final exams if they have an "A" in the class. The grade will be determined by averaging the 3rd quarter with the current 4th quarter grade.
- D. Students may also receive Honor Cords for the graduation ceremony by achieving the following GPA :
 - 1. Summa Cum Laude 3.90 and above- Gold cord
 - 2. Magna Cum Laude 3.70-3.89- Hunter green and white cord
 - 3. Cum Laude 3.50-3.69- Hunter green or white cord

14. HONOR SOCIETY REQUIREMENT

Students in grades 10-12 will be considered for nomination into the American Christian Honor Society if they have attended FCS for two consecutive semesters and if their cumulative average is a 90% or better in the core subjects. Nominees will then be evaluated by the high school faculty in the areas of character, service and leadership. This final phase of the nomination process will take place after first semester. After induction, members of the ACHS will be expected to maintain the same standards in academics, character, service and leadership throughout their high school career.

E. Attendance Requirements

1. ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL TIMES

Students (grades 7-12) are to arrive no sooner than 7:30 a.m. (except faculty and staff children) and no later than 8:00 a.m. Students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m. At 3:15 p.m., those students not participating in school-sponsored or approved activities must be in the school lobby (by the office) or with the teacher responsible for after school care. All students should be picked up by 3:45 p.m. unless arrangements have been made through the office for them to be here until a later time.

Upon returning to school after an absence, the student must give a written note of explanation of their absence to their homeroom teacher. The absence will be considered unexcused until a written note of explanation is provided. After a week, if a note is not received the student will receive a zero for the work assigned on that day.

2. EXCUSED ABSENCES AND EXCUSED TARDINESS

Excused absences and excused tardiness include:

- A. Illness of Student –**A doctor’s excuse will be required after five illness occurrences per semester for grades 7 through 12.**
- B. Death in the family
- C. Medical appointment which cannot be scheduled for non-school hours
- D. Exceptionally urgent reasons*

* These urgent “extraordinary absence” reasons may include special family occasions, such as weddings, college graduations, or a situation of extenuating circumstance approved by the Administration. (See Planned Absences)

A student in 7th-8th may have 20 absences a year (125 hrs.). If more than 20 absences occur in one year, promotion or retention will be at the discretion of the administration. Students in 9th-12th may have up to 10 absences (62 ½ hrs.) per semester. If a student, in 9th-12th, accumulates more than ten absences, he/she will not receive credit for the class unless the administration deems otherwise.

Any student absent from school on the day of an activity is **NOT** permitted to take part in that activity on that day or evening. An exception would be if the student were attending an approved activity. To qualify as an exception, the involvement must be pre-approved by the principal.

It is recommended that the office be notified by 9:00 a.m. about a student’s absence. If requested, an attempt will be made to have make-up work ready for after-school pick up. However, notification after 11:00 a.m., in most cases, will not allow adequate time for the teacher to have the work by the end of the day.

3. PLANNED ABSENCES

Under extraordinary circumstances, the parents may believe it highly advantageous to take their child out of town because of business, church activity, or similar reasons. Special prearranged permission must be granted by the principal to classify the absence as an “extraordinary absence”. Each request for a planned absence must be made at least three (3) days prior to the time the absence occurs. The student must obtain a Planned Absence form, from the office, have their teacher(s) sign the form and write the assignments on the form.

Work assignments, quizzes, tests, should be completed upon returning to school.

Exceptions must be approved by the principal.

4. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AND UNEXCUSED TARDINESS

Absence from school with or without the knowledge of the parent, but without having made arrangements with the school **in advance** of the absence, and for reasons unacceptable to the school will be classified as unexcused. Junior high and high school students will be considered tardy if they are not in their classroom at the appropriate time. 5 unexcused tardies = detention

FCS holds their students to a higher expectation. FCS does not condone any activity that would relate to or involve activities such as pranks and skip days. Consequence for any of the above activities or any activity that does not meet in alignment with Christian character or conduct would be reviewed by the principal and if necessary by the school board and consequences would be determined at that time. (skip days would result in a zero for the day)

5. MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Medical and dental appointments are acceptable reasons for a late arrival or early dismissal. **Non-school days should be used for such appointments when possible.** When it becomes necessary for a parent to take a student out of class for doctor appointments or other reasons during the day, release of the student must be made through the office. A note from the parent or guardian is required. It is to be given to the office upon arrival to school so teachers may be properly notified with an early dismissal slip. Before the student (7-12) leaves the school property he/she must sign-out in the office.

F. Extracurricular Information

(Refer to Athletic Handbook for more detailed information)

The sports program at Fayette Christian School is an excellent opportunity to exercise bodies, experience healthy competition, and learn valuable principles of commitment and teamwork. Most importantly, though, athletics provide the chance to instill and practice godly character. This is the primary focus of the Crusader athletic department. From classroom to competition and from practicing to playing, our student-athletes are expected to take their coaches' instruction and implement it into playing skill, behavior, and character. Therefore, this policy is designed to establish order and discipline to produce an environment conducive to these purposes.

II Timothy 2:5 "And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully."

This policy has several areas that will be addressed. Each of these areas will be explained so each student-athlete will know what is expected of him/her. In addition, each student-athlete will be held accountable in conforming to these areas, for the express intent of developing character.

1. **Attendance** (II Timothy 4:7)

Attendance at all practices and games is mandatory. The only exceptions will be for illness or pre-planned, approved absences explained to the coach personally. The coach will determine the consequence for an absence (loss of starting position or playing time etc.). Also, if a student-athlete is not present and in class for a full day of school (except for excused absences), he/she may not participate in any practice or game on that day. Student-athletes are also required to report to school on time the morning after a contest and remain for the entire school day.

2. **Appearance** (I Corinthians 6:19)

Modesty and propriety should be demonstrated at all times in dress and appearance. This includes practices, games, and travel. Practice attire should never be too short, tight or immodest in any way. The coach and the athletic director will monitor this policy. Unless the coach specifies a certain team dress on game days, male student-athletes will wear shirts and ties, and female student-athletes will wear nice dresses or skirts and blouses conforming to school standards. The coach might determine that his/her team needs to travel in warm-ups and uniforms if there are no changing facilities at the away site. Otherwise, the team will change at the site of the game. If a student-athlete is not in compliance with this policy, he/she may not participate in any scheduled activities and may lose future privileges.

3. Academics (II Timothy 2:15)

A student athlete must meet certain academic standards in order to participate in athletics. This academic eligibility requires having no F's and no more than one D in any subject. Eligibility will be determined by the grades on the progress and report cards. If a student fails to meet this standard, he/she will not be permitted to participate in any game (this includes attending away games and/or dressing out) for the next two weeks or three games, whichever is the least amount of time. Grades will then continue to be checked at this interval until they are raised to the satisfactory level. Although it is suggested that the student focus on academics during this time, the decision on attendance at practices is left to the parents and coach.

4. Attitude (I Peter 2:12)

Probably the most important area of a student-athlete's development is attitude. It is imperative that a good attitude and model behavior (including speech and actions) be exhibited at all times. A student-athlete's attitude needs to be exemplary:

- in the classroom-toward teachers and classmates;
- at practices-toward coaches and teammates;
- during games-toward referees, opposing coaches and players, and fans;
- while traveling-toward anyone else in any situation

This means that respect is the utmost importance and is expected of all student-athletes. Failure to follow these guidelines at any time will result in immediate action. Depending on the severity of the offence, the coach/and or athletic director will determine if a verbal warning, parent conference, loss of playing time or expulsion from the team may be warranted.

5. REQUIREMENTS FOR LETTERING

- a. Student-athlete must be in the 9th grade or above.
- b. Student-athlete must participate in at least half of the games, halves, quarters, etc. that are played during the season.
- c. Student-athlete must not be ineligible at any point of the season in which games would be missed. (The only exception will be for ineligibility due to the previous years 4th quarter grades.)

6. OVERNIGHT POLICY

During the season and at tournaments, it may be necessary for a team to stay overnight at an away site. When this occurs, certain guidelines must be followed.

- a. Student-athletes will spend the night in rooms with a school-appointed chaperone or with their own parents.
- b. Male and female student-athletes will not visit each other's rooms.
- c. All students must meet in the hotel lobby for fellowship.
- d. Swim times will be designated for boys and girls.
- e. Student-athletes are to be in their rooms by 11:00 p.m.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Before the beginning of any sport season, each student-athlete must pass a sport physical for that school year.

b. All student-athletes must pay a non-refundable participation fee before the first game of the season.

c. All practices are closed (for athletes and coaches only). We wish to give the coaches the best possible environment to do their job. Please arrange ahead of time for any parental visits to the practice. (This also means that siblings do not attend practices, as this can lead to disruptions.)

d. Parents are not permitted to approach the bench or a coach before, during or immediately after games. If a parent feels the need to speak with a coach, the parent needs to call the school and schedule an appointment.

e. All student-athletes are to travel to and from the game with the team unless given specific permission by the coach to go home with their parents. The coach will determine exceptions for convenience and proximity. Parental permission is required to ride with or transport another student to practice.

f. Crusader teams need to support each other. At away game sites, if one team is not playing while another team is, the idle team needs to be in the stands supporting the playing team.

g. A student-athlete will be placed on athletic disciplinary probation when he/she reaches 75 demerits.

h. All practices, games, and travel to and from are considered school functions; therefore, all school rules and consequences apply.

G. Conduct Information

Christian conduct must be the goal for all FCS students. An orderly and disciplined environment, with opportunity for self-development, is fundamental to learning and enables the student to be happy and content. Teachers will seek to deal with students in a Christ-like manner. The individual teacher will handle the need for correction of any student. While discipline is basically positive training in the right direction, (Proverbs 22:6), there is a need for correction and adherence to rules. Corrective measures will be taken as each need warrants. If these measures do not result in changed behavior, the parents will be asked to deal with the student. Suspension or expulsion may be necessary in extreme situations. (Refer to discipline section) It would be impossible to make rules to cover every type of need. Good behavior must eventually come from within, a change of heart, and not from mere conformity to man-made regulations.

Courtesy to teachers, school employees, other students, and visitors is required. Each student should strive to be considerate of others despite differences.

Fayette Christian School is distinctly a **Christian** school. Its purpose is to assist the home in training up a child in Christ likeness. Toward that end, certain expectations have been established regarding student behavior and deportment. Thus, discipline is positive training that equips children to meet the demands, challenges and responsibilities of life. **It is of paramount importance that the home and school cooperate fully with one another. If questions arise, the parent should first contact the teacher.** Just as a teacher or staff member should never undermine a parent, a parent should never undermine any aspect of the program and should, therefore, never make derogatory remarks about a teacher or the school in the presence of your child, to other students, or to other parents. To do so not only violates Scripture and ethics, but

tears down the credibility and authority of the teacher. Even further, it diminishes the submission of the child to all types of authority and weakens their confidence in Christian education. There are proper channels through which problems or disagreements may be discussed, and it is only through these channels that anything constructive can be done.

H. General Behavior

Students at FCS are expected to refrain from cheating, swearing, homosexual activity, smoking or other tobacco use, gambling, drinking alcoholic beverages, and using or talking about drugs in any form. FCS reserves the right to check lockers and cars (on school premises) if any suspicion arises of possession of material that is not within FCS standards and guidelines.

They are to act in an orderly and respectful manner, maintaining Christian standards in courtesy, kindness, language, morality (including homosexual behavior) and honesty. Students must agree to strive toward unquestionable character in dress, conduct and attitude.

Students are expected to respect the property of the school and of others. Damaged property is to be replaced at the offending student's expense.

Students should not bring certain items to school. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, but should provide adequate guidelines. Occasionally, the administration may permit students to bring a prohibited item if the administration deems it appropriate for either an educational or recreational purpose. Students should not bring the following items: weapons or items typically considered to be weapons such as guns and knives (whether real or play); matches; lighters; reading material that is inappropriate (either in content or purpose); electronic devices used solely for recording or playing music or for entertainment (games); videos, CDs and DVD's. Because a believer's speech should glorify God and edify fellow Christians, students are to refrain from discussing any music, movies, videos, or TV shows that are inappropriate.

1. Boy-Girl Relationships

FCS is co-educational, operating on the premise that it is wholesome for boys and girls to develop friendships during their school years. There should not be any displays of affection between students during school hours or at any school activity, function or program. This includes handholding, hugging, kissing or other displays of affection. This procedure is intended to protect students and their reputations and to avoid even the "appearance of evil."

I. Disciplinary Procedures

1. Detention Guidelines

The demerit system developed for grades 7-12 helps students clearly identify areas that need to be more consistent. The system presents specific behavioral expectations and determines consistent consequences for offences. FCS desires to see godly character developed in the life of each student; although these guidelines may appear strict to some, a desire to understand the purpose for each will encourage a student to have a good attitude toward them. Any student or parent should feel free to ask about the purpose or reason behind any guideline established by the

school. The demerit system is designed to be fair and to give students the opportunity to develop the highest of personal standards in life.

When a student violates one of the guidelines for appropriate behavior, the faculty or staff member will submit a demerit report to the principal. A copy of this report will be sent home with the student and must be returned the next school day with the parent/guardian signature. If a major infraction occurs, the principal will contact the parents immediately.

A 30-minute detention will be served for each multiple of five demerits that accumulate throughout the school year. Detentions will be held after school from 3:15 until 3:45 p.m. weekly on Mondays and Thursdays. A notice will be sent home when detentions have been scheduled for a student and must also be returned the next school day with parent/guardian signature.

Absences from detention must be excused in written form with parent/guardian signature **in advance** by the principal – no exceptions will be made. With permission from the principal, students who have a direct conflict with a school-sponsored activity may serve the next available detention. Practices for school activities **do not** excuse students from detention. **Unexcused absences will result in an additional 30-minute detention. Students who arrive late to detention will also receive an additional 30-minute detention.**

Demerits for behavior offences **may double** whenever a substitute is teaching or supervising, during the last week of each semester, the week before Christmas and spring break and on school field trips.

For major offences of 25 or 50 demerits, one and two day suspensions will be given respectively. Students who reach the 75-demerit mark at any time during the school year will be placed on probation. They will be ineligible for participation in all extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year. For offences worthy of 100 demerits or at such a time that the student's total demerits reach or exceed 100, immediate expulsion will occur. An expelled student may not return to the school property or attend any school-related activities (home or away) for the remainder of the school year. Once a student has been expelled he/she may not be reinstated for two full semesters. All expelled students wishing to re-enroll must have an interview with the school board before they will be reinstated.

Demerits are cumulative throughout the entire year.

Any questionable activity will be reviewed by the administration and proper disciplinary procedures will be discussed and dealt with at that time.

7th - 12th grade
DEMERIT SYSTEM

Every 5 unexcused tardies is a detention	<p>* 5 tardies = 30 min. detention will be issued * 10 tardies = (2) 30 min. detentions will be issued * 15 tardies = (3) 30 min. detentions will be issued (And will continue to follow consecutively in order)</p> <p>** After 10 tardies in a 9 week period = 5 demerits</p>
Every 5 demerits	30 minute detention
Every 10 demerits	(2) 30 minute detentions
25 demerits (cumm.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 day suspension 2. All class work and homework for that day will receive zeros. (Work must be completed)
50 demerits (cumm.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 days suspension 2. All class work and homework for the two days will receive zeros. (Work must be completed)
75 demerits (cumm.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Placed on probation 2. 3 days suspension 3. Same academic consequences as stated above. 4. Ineligible for participation in all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the year.
100 demerits (cumm.)	<p>Expulsion</p> <p>Once a student has been expelled he/she may not be reinstated for two full semesters. All expelled students wishing to re-enroll must have an interview with the school board before they will be considered for reinstatement.</p>

Any student reaching expulsion level will be reviewed by the board.

J. Dress Code

Fayette Christian School believes that conservative, modest dress is not only pleasing to the Lord, but also conducive to better learning habits and conduct. The Bible states “That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ.” Philippians 1:10

Even though Christians differ in what is considered “modest”, FCS has carefully chosen garments that we feel would best suit the needs of the school.

No offensive logos or wording will be permitted on the garments. The administration has the final word on what is deemed offensive.

A student may be asked to change or remove anything the administration and faculty feel is distracting to the classroom environment.

1. General Dress Code Requirements

Junior and Senior High Students

In the event you have navy or khaki pants, the school plaid skirts or jumpers from previous years you may continue to wear them as long as they fit properly. Otherwise, all pants, skirts, jumpers must be purchased from **Educational Apparel** uniform store.

Dress for any school program or function should meet FCS standards. If the attire is not in accordance with the school standards demerits will be given.

If you are in doubt as to what is acceptable as uniform dress, please contact the school office **before** wearing it to school. Any student out of uniform will be required to change before he/she is allowed in class. Any class time missed due to changing uniforms will be **unexcused**.

NOTE: A dress code check will be performed daily and demerits given as needed.

Gentlemen:

- a. Navy or Khaki slacks purchased from **Educational Apparel Uniform Store**
- b. Polo uniform shirt (long or short sleeve) with approved colors (navy, hunter green, light blue, or white)
- c. Blue or white oxford shirt (long or short sleeve)
- d. Dress Shoes (**required for Programs**)
Casual or Tennis shoes or sandals for other school days. As a safety precautions, students may not wear flip flops or athletic style slides.
- e. P.E. Uniform (The shirt must be purchased from **Craig’s or Educational Apparel**. The wind pants and shorts may be purchased elsewhere but must be hunter green or black in color. The shorts must come to the top of the knee.) Any FCS t-shirt may be worn for P.E.
- f. Belt
- g. Shirts must be tucked in.

The following items are **optional** for all male students:

- 1) School sweatshirt, warm-up jacket or sweaters purchased from Craig's or Educational Apparel.
- 2) Sweaters, warm-up jackets, or sweatshirts **may only be a solid navy color**. No other colors are acceptable. No logos, patterns, or wording are permitted on the garment. A uniform shirt must be worn underneath uniform sweaters, school sweatshirts, or warm-up jackets.

Male students are not permitted to have facial hair. Sideburns may be no longer than the bottom of the ear opening. Male students must wear their hair off the ears, collar, and eyebrows. Mohawks or crazy coloring of the hair is not permitted, unless approved for school spirit days. They may wear hand or wrist jewelry of good taste. No visible body piercing or tattoos; either permanent or temporary are permitted on male students.

Ladies:

- a. Navy, Khaki or school plaid uniform skirt purchased from **Educational Apparel Uniform Store**
- b. Polo uniform shirt with approved colors (long or short sleeved) - navy, hunter green, light blue, or white.
- c. Blue or white oxford shirt (long or short sleeve)
- d. Dress shoes (**required for programs**)
- e. P.E. uniform; the shirt must be purchased from Craig's or Educational Apparel. The wind pants and shorts may be purchased elsewhere but must be hunter green or black in color. The shorts must come to the top of the knee.
- f. Belt (must be worn with uniform slacks)
- g. Shoes-tennis shoes, loafers and dress shoes are acceptable during the school day. Tennis shoes are not permitted for school programs. Sandals are acceptable. As a safety precautions, students may not wear flip flops or athletic style slides.
- h. Heels no higher than an 1" are acceptable.
- i. Extreme hair styles (such as Mohawks) or crazy coloring of the hair is not permitted, unless approved for school spirit days.

The following items will be **optional** for all female students:

- 1) Navy or khaki uniform slacks purchased from Educational Apparel.
 - 2) School sweatshirt, warm-up jacket or sweatshirt purchased from Craig's or Educational Apparel
- Sweaters, warm-up jackets or sweatshirts may only be a solid navy color. No other colors are acceptable. No logos, patterns, or wording are permitted on the garment. A uniform shirt must be worn underneath sweaters, school sweatshirts, or warm-up jackets.
 - Cami's must be the color of the shirt or white.
 - The skirts must be 2" from the floor when kneeling front and back.

- Female students may wear jewelry that is neither excessive nor distracting. Girls may have their ear lobes pierced; however, no other visible body piercings or tattoos, either permanent or temporary are permitted.
- Girls may wear tights or leggings under their skirts and jumpers. Leggings and tights must be either white, navy, black, gray, or hunter green. Leggings and tights may not be worn alone in place of pants.

2. SPECIAL DRESS

The following guidelines pertain to events where students are allowed to wear something other than their school uniforms. This includes, but is not limited to, events such as school programs, game days (student athletics), banquets, and field trips. These guidelines do not attempt to address every possible situation regarding dress. The school administration and/or its representatives shall be the final authority on the acceptability of any outfit.

Formal/Semi-formal Events

BOYS: Boys may wear casual or dress pants (not jeans), dress shirt, and tie. Certain occasions may also dictate that boys wear a sports jacket or a suit. Dress shoes are required for performance events.

GIRLS: Girls may wear either a dress or a skirt and top. Skirt and dress lengths must be the same as is permitted for uniforms. Necklines are to be modest. Banquet dresses must be checked and approved prior to the event. Shoulder straps must be at least 2” wide (must have two straps). The back of the dress may be no lower than the middle of the back. Dress shoes are required for performance events.

Field Trips

Depending on the nature of the field trip, students may be permitted to wear casual wear instead of their uniforms. In general, boys and girls may wear knee-length or regular length jeans. Jeans should not be shredded, ripped, or holey either through wear or be design. Students may wear T-shirts. A teacher may give more specific guidelines.

Spirit Days

Throughout the year, we will have FCS spirit days. On these days, students may wear jeans and the current year’s FCS spirit shirt. Students who choose not to participate are expected to wear their school uniform.

3. MISCELLANEOUS: All Students

- a. P.E. uniforms are to be brought to school on P.E. days. You will be given time to change into them prior to P.E. class.
- b. The administration will have the final authority as to the length and proper fit of all uniforms.
- c. No colored t-shirts or t-shirts with printing that is visible through the collared shirt are permitted for ladies or men.
- d. Unapproved coats, jackets, hats, scarves, gloves etc. are not to be worn in class or taken with students throughout the school day.

FAYETTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Parent/Student Handbook Agreement

We, the undersigned, signify that we have read the “Parent/Student Handbook” and agree to support the school by requiring our child/ren to obey all school policies and requirements. We also acknowledge that failure to maintain the agreed upon payment schedule places the privilege of attendance in jeopardy, and that all academic records will be retained at Fayette Christian School until all financial obligations are met.

The student understands that his/her attendance at Fayette Christian School signifies that he/she pledges to agreeably abide by all policies and rules set forth by the school and summarized in the handbook.

Date: _____ Signature of Student _____

Date: _____ Signature of Parent(s) _____

Each student in grades 7 – 12 must return this form to the school office by the second Friday of school signed by both the student and the parent(s).

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