

## **Home School Philosophy Statement**

God has given parents the command to bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:4-7). Along with diligent character training and teaching of theology, parents must give careful consideration to the academic environment in which they place their children. We do not believe that home schooling is God's will for every family, but rather that parents have the prerogative and responsibility to choose the educational method they think best suits the needs of their children and their goals for training their children.

The home school movement is here to stay, and has been largely if not fully embraced by the Christian community as a viable, and often preferable, educational choice. Although we caution families not to have unrealistic expectations of what home schooling will do for their child or their relationship with their child, there are specific training and academic advantages in a good home school situation. Many families have found, with the hard work necessary, home schooling to be the ideal situation for them to have a family centered and Biblically based education.

However, it is not uncommon for some parents to find themselves facing the option of home schooling not because of a conviction that home schooling is the best way to educate a child or build their family identity, but because it is the most viable option they have in a particular year for a particular child. Provided that certain factors and conditions exist, home schooling can be and often is the best educational alternative for a child with particular needs. Sometimes parents' long-held plans to send their children to the "ideal" school are halted due to space limitations in that school or due to financial constraints.

At Grace Christian School, one of our primary objectives is to assist parents as they bring their children up in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). We believe it is a noteworthy fact that sooner or later, virtually all parents need assistance in educating their children, and they usually turn to traditional schooling as the answer to that need, whether in college, high school, junior high school, or even earlier. Until that time, we affirm and respect the home school community and seek to support and practically serve home schooling families through our Home School Program.

## **Non-discrimination Policy**

Admission to Grace Christian School home school program is open to any family who meets the entrance requirements. Grace admits families into this program of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to families. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies and other school-administered programs.

## **Academic Information**

Acceptance to Grace Christian School is granted to those students who, with their parents, demonstrate a sincere desire to have a Christ-centered, Biblically directed education which instills the vision and practice of excellence in academics, character, discipleship, and service to others.

1. Parents must be in total agreement that home schooling is the best alternative for the children they are seeking to enroll, and accept full responsibility for the education of their children.
2. The parents must view home school education as a major commitment and have enough time available to carry out the home schooling program. The home schooling parent, if working, must have home-related employment and/or otherwise be able to demonstrate that there is sufficient time to operate a successful program.

The parents must agree to the Statement of Faith on the Grace Christian Educational Association membership application.

## **Home School Report Cards**

These are filled out as parents meet with the home school coordinator for their quarterly evaluations. The home school coordinator will let the parent know at that time when they can expect the report card to be mailed to them. At these times parents will bring in tests and samples of daily work that the children have done to ensure good progress.

# *Grace Christian Home School Information*

## *2011-2012*

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Administrator  
Dr. Jonathan Kohns

Principal  
Mr. Todd S. Zimmerman

Home School Coordinator  
Mrs. Cathy Froggatt

Grace Christian School  
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## **Mission Statement**

“Inspiring students to impact the world for Jesus Christ through an excellent educational experience from a Biblical worldview.”

In our home school program, the parent is responsible for providing the type of education consistent with our mission and quality of instruction. We have developed a home school program for parents who are self-motivated to educate their children at home, with the purpose of enhancing and supplementing their efforts. Our intent is to offer a program, which allows parents to be efficient with their resources and effective in educating, training, and discipling, their children.

## Curriculum

It is our philosophy that all education needs to be Christian in context. In accord with this philosophy we desire to maintain a primarily Christian curriculum.

Curricula of a non-Christian nature would be a rare exception and would need to be discussed with the home school coordinator who would then meet with the administrator for final approval and denial. At GCS, some of our Secondary math classes use secular math textbooks.

## Achievement Testing

Achievement testing is done in the spring of each year. GCS administers the Stanford Achievement Test. It is required that home school students be a part of this on campus in the classroom situation. Parents are welcome to wait in the library if desired while their children are being tested. Parents will be notified of exact dates and times for each student to be in attendance. Due to variety of actual tests given, elementary classes are not all on the exact same schedule. It is important that students get plenty of rest, have a nourishing breakfast and attend school every day that testing is taking place.

## Options for Involvement at Grace Christian School (Included in Home School tuition\*)

Sports (must meet specific academic requirements)

Field Trips

Library

Mission Trip (secondary)

Spiritual Emphasis Week (secondary)

Spirit Week (elementary and secondary)

Work-A-Thon—and other service projects

Science Fair Week (elementary)

Patriot History Week (elementary)

ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International)

Academic Competition:

- Speech Meet
- Math Olympics
- Music competitions

Art contests

Cloverleaf Spelling Bee

Chapel on Wednesday mornings

Buddies-in-Christ

Other competitions or events in which our school becomes involved may be available.

See weekly *Communiqués* for information and dates.

## Classes on Campus

Home school students have the option of taking classes on campus under the instruction of experienced and excellent Grace Christian School staff. We realize that parents may not feel comfortable or have the expertise to teach certain subjects such as English, foreign languages, computers, science or math. If this is an option you are interested in, we have a handbook to explain the requirements for students on campus and other necessary information. The class tuition fee is listed in the brochure. Please feel free to contact the home school coordinator and express your interest to her.

## Field Trips

Field trips are a part of our educational program. Parents are notified of all trips via the weekly GCS *Communiqué*. If interested in a field trip, a Parental Permission form must be obtained and filled out. Home school students participating are required to follow the dress code for the day school students for the particular field trip. Chaperones for field trips must also meet the student dress code. **For parents desiring their child to participate in class field trips for elementary, it is important to note that we use parent drivers; consequently, parents need to be prepared to drive, depending on availability of other drivers.**

## Communication

The home school coordinator will be responsible for most of the communications sent to parents. Parents will be sent the weekly GCS *Communiqué* via email or US mail. The parent will be responsible to contact the home school coordinator or appropriate teacher for specific details of participation for the coming week's school events.

The principal and teachers will also be available to answer specific questions that parents may have. Normally conferences with teachers will need to be after school hours.

## Home School Tuition and Fees

<b>Tuition</b>	\$280.00
<b>Application Fee</b>	\$ 20.00
One time fee for new families	
Non-refundable	
Not included in \$280	
<b>Registration Fee</b>	\$ 25.00
Not included in \$280	
Non-refundable	
Due Apr. 15 for returning families	
<b>Academic Electives</b>	
Academic classes taken on campus	
Per semester, per class	\$378.00
Band & Choir on campus	
Per semester, per class	\$158.00
<b>Sports Participation Fee</b>	
Per student, per sport	\$100.00

## Full payment or signed payment plan is due Aug 16.

\*Home school students must pay an entry fee for activities that require an entry fee.

## High School Graduation Requirements and Academic Policies

Core: The Board has established a list of subjects called a core curriculum. All students who wish to graduate from GCS must pass this core. This requirement applies to home school students as well as on-campus students.

## Graduation Requirements

- 4 Bible
- 3 Social Studies
- 4 English
- 3 Science
- 3 Math
- 1 Computer
- 1 Health
- 1 Fine Arts
- 1 Foreign Language
- 3 Electives
- 24 Total**

Any enrolled student who passes all core courses and takes the assigned courses, plus meets the minimum credit total, will receive a GCS diploma.