

Student Handbook



“Teaching the Truth”

- 3 and 4 year old preschool
- Elementary grades K-5
- State Accredited-Certified Teachers
- Christian Curriculum

4601 South Highway 16

Rapid City, SD 57701

605-348-5175

www.calvarychristianschoolrapidcity.com

***“A Christian education is not expensive,
it is priceless! “***

WELCOME TO CALVARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL!

This guide has been prepared to provide basic, essential information about our school. We trust it will answer your questions about our Christ-centered program. Calvary Christian School is a ministry of Calvary Baptist Church. Our doors are open to anyone desiring a distinctively Christian education.

The primary objective and purpose of Calvary Christian School is to train your student in the knowledge of God and His truth and the Christian way of life; and to give him/her an excellent academic education. The teachers of Calvary Christian School realize their solemn responsibility before God in the teaching of religious instruction and molding the life and character of their students in order to give a good foundation for each child's future. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

We attempt to maintain high standards of conduct and academic performance. You, and your family, are considered part of the Calvary Christian School team. It is our desire that a spirit of cooperation and understanding will be fostered as we work together to train our children in accordance with the principles of God's Word.

This handbook does not contractually bind Calvary Christian School and is subject to change without notice by decision of the school's administration.

Your cooperation and support are appreciated.

*Chris Causey
School Administrator*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Statement of Philosophy	1
Admission Procedures and New Students	3
Re-Enrollment.....	4
Financial Policies	4
Student Health Screening.....	4
Curriculum Information	4
Bible.....	5
School Supplies/School Calendar.....	5
Absences, Illnesses, and Make Up Work.....	6
School Closings	7
Homework Policies.....	7
Lunch Procedures.....	7
Before and After School.....	8
General School Expectations	8
Personal Appearance Code and Dress for P.E.....	9
Playground Rules	10
Report Cards	10
Grading Scales	11
Discipline	11
“What’s a Parent to Do?.....	13
“Why Christian Textbooks?”	14
Articles of Faith	16

CALVARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Calvary Christian School is a ministry of Calvary Baptist Church and operates under a Christian philosophy of education. In order to better understand this distinctive philosophy we offer the following definitions:

1. Philosophy - A system of values and beliefs that guide our every action.
2. Biblical Christianity - This denotes a system of certain basic truths revealed by God. Among these truths, the following are fundamental to education.
 - a. God created man in His own image. (Genesis 1:26-27)
 - b. Man, by a willful act of disobedience, marred this image and consequently inherits an evil nature and stands condemned before God in need of a Savior (Genesis 3; Romans 5:12; 3:34; 6:23)
 - c. God, in his grace, has provided for the restoration of His image in man through the Person and work of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:17; John 3:16)
3. Education - The directing of a person's development toward specific objectives.

The purpose of the Christian education offered at Calvary Christian School is the promotion and perfecting of God's image in the saved student resulting in the student's godliness of character and action. Differently expressed, it is concerned with the student's developing in Christ-likeness.

Both the home (Genesis 18:19; Deuteronomy 6:7; Proverbs 22:6) and the church (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:42; 2 Timothy 2:2) have received scriptural commands to educate. It is clear that the education of the children, therefore, is the responsibility of the parents and the church. Calvary Christian School exists to accomplish that purpose, i.e., reinforcement of the home's and church's education ministries and protection of these ministries from secular influence.

The basic beliefs of Christian education find their application in the specific mission of the Christian School and determines both the content and the means of instruction.

4. Content - Knowing from the Bible that Christian education includes knowledge of God and use of that knowledge in His service, students must learn to know God and imitate Him. The Bible is the center of the Christian school curriculum, not only as the most important subject matter, but also as the source of principles determining the selection and teaching of other subjects. In addition to revealing Himself in His Word, God has also revealed Himself in His works, especially in man who has been created in His image. Calvary Christian, therefore, gives emphasis to man's language, literature, artistic achievement and history. The curriculum also includes science and math and other related subjects because they provide a knowledge of God's nature and His work in this world. At Calvary Christian, the voice of the creation joins with that of the written revelation in praise of the glory and goodness of God.

In teaching the imitation of God's nature and works, Calvary Christian emphasizes the goals of holiness in character and preparation for service.

5. Means - Calvary Christian is concerned that the manner, as well as the matter, of its teaching be consistent with the purpose of Christian education; conforming the student to the image of God in Christ. The vehicles of Christian education - methodology and instruments - must follow biblical examples and norms.

1. Christ, the master Teacher, used a variety of methods. Since methods are merely a means to an end, they are chosen for their power and efficiency in accomplishing designated goals.
2. The implementation must be done by skilled and devoted teachers whose character and conduct must be exemplary. Imitating the Master Teacher, they must be the authority in the classroom in order to better serve the students. Authority and service are intertwined and necessary for success in the Christian school.

In summary, Christian education is distinctive and founded on Scripture. Our teachers and staff realize and accept the solemn responsibility before God in molding the lives and character of each student. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

–Adopted August 1989

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Admission of prospective students will be considered only after receipt of a completed registration form, copies of necessary records from previous schools, required health forms and payment of the registration fee. Final acceptance is based on entrance test results and interviews with school personnel. Calvary Christian School must comply with South Dakota State regulations regarding health forms and immunizations. These forms must be complete, up-to-date, and correct in order for a student to continue to attend our school. Parents of students transferring from other schools are responsible for obtaining complete and accurate health information if it is not part of records received from the previous school. South Dakota also requires a certified copy of the student's birth certificate be on file at the school.

NEW STUDENTS

A student's acceptance into our school will be based on the student's entrance test and interviews with school personnel. It is our desire that students entering our school be successful and able to work at their grade level.

It is expected of all students and parents to pledge their support to the standards of the school concerning attitude, personal appearance, respect, language, and overall conduct.

Our school is considered a ministry of our church and desires to meet student's spiritual needs as well as academic needs. We realize, however, that we are not equipped to meet every student's needs and, therefore, all students cannot be accepted.

New students that are accepted are placed on a six week probationary period. This would be for behavior as well as academic reasons.

Teachers are expected to monitor these students and report any concerns to the principal or administrator as soon as they occur.

A meeting of the teacher, administrator, and parents should be scheduled as early as possible if it appears the student is improperly placed or the possibility exists that the student should not continue at Calvary Christian School.

Calvary Christian School admits students of any race, color, national or 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 or ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, admissions policies, and school administrated programs.

RE-ENROLLMENT

During the announced time each spring, re-enrollments for the next fall term are accepted on a first-come first-served basis. Current students are given the opportunity to register prior to accepting new student registrations. A student may be denied re-enrollment if he/she has not shown support for the school's standards and teachers.

FINANCIAL POLICIES

Tuition may be paid annually or in monthly installments. For those paying monthly, the school offers three installment periods - 12 months (June through May); 10 months (August through May); and 9 months (September through May). The school has entered into an agreement with SMART Tuition Management for the collection of all monthly tuition payments. A SMART information brochure and enrollment form should be obtained from the school office when registering. Payments may be made on the 10th or 20th of each month and can be mailed directly to SMART or you may elect to have payments deducted automatically from your checking or savings account by SMART.

We feel it is important to maintain a good testimony in our community. It is the school's policy, therefore, to do all things decently and in order and to pay our bills and salaries on time. We need your cooperation in maintaining a timely payment of all tuition payments due. Our school retains the right to withhold report cards and records at the end of the year or at time of transfer until all accounts are current.

STUDENT HEALTH SCREENING

Our school has a contract with the South Dakota Health Department for student health screening including eye and hearing screening. Dates for screening will be in the fall of each year and parents will receive notification in advance

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Calvary Christian School believes Christian education requires Christian textbooks which present all subjects from a Christian perspective. For this reason, we have chosen curriculum materials from three of the Christian textbook publishers, A Beka Book, Purposeful Design (ACSI), and Bob Jones University Press. Thousands of Christian schools around the world successfully use these materials which are based on sound scholarship, common sense, and the Word of God. These Christian curriculums make available the accumulated wisdom of years of experience by Christian educators in Christian schools. The Christian approach to education and life is woven throughout it. The education program offered at Calvary Christian includes all the basic academic subjects as well as physical education, art, computer, and music.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION CONTINUED

The Christian textbooks used in our school must be purchased from the school. A textbook list should be obtained from the school office. This list indicates the textbooks and materials used in each grade and their cost. Each year in August, prior to the start of school, we will have an open book store for parents to purchase the textbooks needed for their students. Parents may receive a discount by pre-paying for textbooks in May for the following year. All textbooks must be paid for by the start of school each fall.

Many of the textbooks are paperback and we encourage parents to cover them with clear contact paper during the first week of school. Also, each student should have some type of backpack to carry books and materials back and forth to school. In case of lost or damaged textbooks, students will be charged the total price for replacement.

BIBLE

The Bible is taught at Calvary Christian School as a separate subject. Bible study augments the study of all other subjects. Without a knowledge of Biblical truth, a student cannot be considered educated. The Bible gives direction for this life, and the only hope for the life to come. No other book can so enrich the minds and hearts of men as “The Book of Books”.

A knowledge of the Bible is one of the greatest educational assets any man can have in addition to the moral and spiritual values resulting from the study. Character development is the most important work of a school. No other course offered in our school affords the great opportunities of laying the foundation for Christian character.

Our school uses the New King James version in our classrooms as a standard text. We realize that there are many good translations of the Bible; however, we have chosen the New King James version as we feel it is accurate, accepted, easily available, and understandable by the students.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

A separate list of school supplies required for each grade will be available in the school office each year. Supplies should be purchased prior to the start of school and brought to school on the first day of classes. We will also make our supply list available to the various stores that carry school supplies each year prior to the start of school. Students may also be asked to bring other supplies or materials to school during the school year.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

A complete school year calendar will be prepared separately in the spring of each year for the following school year. These calendars will be available in the school office.

ABSENCES

In case of absence, parents should call the school office by the beginning of the school day so teachers can be notified. Also advise the office if any school lunches should be cancelled. This also applies to students who will miss part of a day due to doctor or dentist appointments. Please let the school office know if the student will be arriving late or will need to leave early. For students leaving early, please indicate the time you will be picking up your student so the teacher can have them ready.

Voluntary Absences - We encourage families not to plan trips or vacations during the school year as many things that take place in the classroom cannot be made up. If a trip is planned, parents should give the teacher at least one week notice in advance, so work can be assigned prior to the trip. Students will be expected to have their work completed on the day they return to school. Students returning with incomplete work may be asked to stay after school or in at recess time to complete their work.

ABSENTEE MAKE-UP WORK

Absence due to illness - Parents should secure their student's make-up work on a daily basis. Teachers will have the work ready each day by the end of school.

An allowance of one day back at school per day missed will be given before make-up work is due. Students returning should be prepared to stay after school on the day they return for any missed concepts, etc.

Major tests will not be given on the day of return. Students should be prepared to take any weekly quizzes or tests on the day they return. (For example, weekly spelling tests and verse quizzes.

Absence due to personal reasons - Parents are to advise the teacher of any personal absences in advance. Teachers may desire to assign work which will need to be completed before returning to class.

Teacher discretion can be given as to when tests will need to be made up. They may be given on the day of return.

Teachers will not be expected to provide more than two weeks of lesson plans at a time for any student.

ILLNESSES

For the welfare of your child and the others in our school, all children who are ill (this includes students with any contagious condition or a fever) must be kept at home. When the child is well enough to participate in a normal school day, please send coat, hat, etc., as an aid to prevention of future illness.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS DUE TO WEATHER, ETC

If school is closed or will operate under an abbreviated schedule due to weather or any other condition, the local media will be notified as early as possible. Please listen to the local radio and television stations for closing announcements. We will also try to email families and post weather announcements on our website and Facebook page.

HOMEWORK POLICIES

At Calvary Christian School, we believe that homework is an integral part of the school program. Each teacher is at liberty to assign homework to aid students to advance in their studies. Therefore, each student is required to complete his/her homework assignments on time. Homework is given for several reasons:

For Reinforcement - We believe that most students require solid drilling to master material essential to their educational process.

For Practice - Following classroom explanation, illustration, and drill on new work, homework is given so that the material can be mastered.

For Remedial Activity - As instruction progresses, various weak points in student's grasp of a subject becomes evident. Homework following instruction is given to overcome such difficulties.

For Special Activity - Book reports, compositions, special research assignments, and projects are some of the activities that are frequently the subject of homework attention.

We do request our parent's full cooperation in seeing that the assignments are completed. Delinquent homework may result in lowered grades and possible disciplinary measures.

LUNCH PROCEDURES

Students may purchase lunch each day at school. Lunches are provided by various local restaurants and average \$2.50 per day. Meal tickets may be purchased in the school office. Menus are sent home each Monday listing the menu for each day of that week. Students are to indicate the items they wish to order on each particular day. Orders must be received back at school by the next day, Tuesday. Students who do not wish to order a lunch for any particular day should bring a sack lunch for that day. If a lunch needs to be cancelled for any reason, please call the school office by 8:30 a.m., so it will not be ordered.

Milk is available each day for a charge of 40 cents. Milk tickets may also be purchased in the school office.

LUNCH PROCEDURES (CONTINUED)

Some tips to consider when packing your student's lunch are:

1. An unbreakable container should be used when sending a drink from home.
2. Please put your student's name on all lunch boxes or bags.
3. All fruit, etc., should be "ready to eat", i.e., sliced, cored, etc. If your student will need a utensil, please send one.
4. Items which require refrigeration or heating should not be sent as students will not be allowed to use the refrigerator or the microwave ovens.
5. Please do not pack soft drinks, candy, or "junk food"

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

A teacher will be on duty beginning at 7:50 a.m. for students who need to arrive early. Students will line up to go to classes at 8:07 a.m. Students not in class by 8:15 a.m. will be tardy and will need to report to the school office for a tardy slip. Five "tardies" will count as one absence in regard to perfect attendance certificates.

Students will be dismissed at 3:05 p.m. and parents should plan to pick their students up immediately after they are dismissed. Teachers will supervise students leaving the building, and any students not picked up by 3:15 p.m. will be brought back into the building to wait for parents in the breeze-way.

GENERAL SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

1. Cheerful obedience and respect should be shown to those in authority; teachers, parents, staff, and volunteers.
2. Students should show the proper respect to the Bible, the flags, our school and its property.
3. Any play items brought from home for recesses will be kept in the student's locker during class time. The school is not responsible for any items lost or broken.
4. No offensive, vulgar, or obscene language will be permitted.
5. Parents are asked to check with the school office before going to any classroom for any reason. We wish to keep class interruptions to a minimum.
6. Teachers arrive at school by 8:00 and normally remain at school until 3:35 each day. If you wish to speak to them in person or by phone, please try to do so after school as before school is used for daily preparation. We request that you respect the teacher's time at home and avoid calling them in the evenings if at all possible.
7. All students will use the restrooms and changing facilities conforming with one's biological sex.
8. Please feel free to consult with the school office regarding any problem or questions that concern you or your child. It is the desire of the administrator and faculty to be of service to both parent and student.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE CODE

Calvary Christian School maintains a moderate dress code to promote an atmosphere of learning. Experience has shown that standards of dress are directly related to a child's learning and standard of conduct. Students shall dress modestly in conformance with one's biological sex and not wear clothing that would be distracting in the classroom. The following rules apply to all students.

1. Boys and girls may wear pants; however, blue jeans are not allowed (except on monthly jeans days). Other colored denim pants may be worn.
2. All pants must fit properly (not tight fitting and not baggy). Pants must be at least ankle length and may not drag the floor. In addition, pants may not be torn, dirty, or deemed distracting by the staff.
3. No shorts or "skorts" may be worn.
4. Plain or patterned shirts are preferred. Shirts with brand logos may be worn if the logo is discreet and not covering the front or back of the shirt. Shirts may not contain messages. Shirts with "generic" pictures, such as flowers, hearts, animals, etc. are acceptable, however, those with sports emblems, action figures, super heroes, tv/movie characters, etc. are not acceptable.
5. No jogging suits, sweat suits, or wind suits may be worn in the classroom. Girls may wear velour or knit pants; however they cannot have writing or stripes down the legs.
6. No pullover hooded sweatshirts may be worn in the classroom.
7. Girls may wear dresses or skirts, however, they must reach the top of the knee when sitting or standing. Leggings or tight fitting stretch pants may only be worn under a skirt, dress, or top which must reach the top of the knee.
8. No tank tops may be worn. For girls, no midriffs, backless, or spaghetti strap tops may be worn. Boys may not wear sleeveless shirts - girls may wear sleeveless tops if the armholes are not so large as to show undergarments.
9. All shirts, tops, etc, must totally cover the stomach whether sitting, standing, or reaching.
10. Students must wear shoes. No beach type "flip flops" are allowed.
11. Hair should be neat and clean. No "designs" or "spikes" may be cut into the hair and hair dying or streaking in un-natural colors is not allowed. Hair must be kept above the eyes and boys' hair must be above the collar in the back.
12. No "gothic" styles will be allowed. No chains, body piercing (except girls' earrings), or tattoos are allowed.
13. Jewelry may be worn in moderation and should not be distracting.

Teachers and staff retain the right to determine if any dress is inappropriate or distracting to the rest of the class. We really count on our parents' full cooperation in the dress of our students. Students who come to school with inappropriate apparel, may be asked to call their parents and have appropriate clothing brought to them.

DRESS OF P.E. CLASSES - Students are required to wear a uniform consisting of a blue Calvary Christian T-shirt and gray or black shorts. Gray sweat pants may be worn in place of the shorts. Uniforms may be purchased from the school office.

PLAYGROUND RULES

Each classroom has a supply of playground equipment for use at recesses. Students are allowed to bring items from home for use at recess, but these must be kept in their lockers during class time. The school is not responsible for lost items.

1. Students must stay within the playground supervisor's sight at all times. No student may go past the fences at any time. The service road on the south side of the playground may not be crossed.
2. Throwing rocks or any other hard objects is not allowed. This includes snowballs.
3. Wrestling, fighting, tackle football, or other "contact" games are not allowed. This includes "piggy back" rides, etc. that could cause injury to another student.
4. Students must use the playground equipment as designed. Tag games may not be played on playground equipment.
5. Only one person may be in a swing or on the slides at a time. No "underdogs" or standing in swings is allowed.
6. The proper attire will be necessary when the playground is muddy or snow covered. Those not having the proper attire, i.e., boots, etc., must stay on the sidewalk areas.
7. Students breaking playground rules will be asked to sit on the sidewalk for the remainder of recess time. Other disciplinary action may be taken by the teacher as is necessary.

Occasionally, recess will be indoors due to weather. "Inside" voices and games will be the rule. Each classroom also maintains a set of games and activities students may use for indoor recess. There can be no running or rough play indoors. Shoes must be worn at all times due to fire codes.

REPORT CARDS AND REPORT SLIPS

Students in grades kindergarten and up will receive report cards at the end of each nine weeks. Weekly report slips (referred to as "green slips") will be sent home every week on Tuesdays for grades one through six. These slips will give the prior week's test scores, list any conduct concerns, and provide a place for comments. "Green slips" are required to be signed by the parent and returned to school the next day. Parents may also list comments, etc. We believe communication between teachers and parents is very important to the success of the students. These forms serve as a way to keep the parents informed of their student's progress. The school will also schedule "Parent - Teacher" Conferences after the first nine weeks and, again, during the third nine weeks. Additional conferences will be scheduled as necessary.

GRADING SCALES

Following are the grading scales used at Calvary Christian.

<u>Kindergarten</u>	<u>First Grade</u>	<u>Second - Sixth Grades</u>
E = Excellent	E = 94 to 100	A = 94 to 100
S = Satisfactory	S+ = 86 to 93	B = 86 to 93
N = Needs Improvement	S = 78 to 85	C = 78 to 85
I = Improvement shown	S- = 70 to 77	D = 70 to 77
U = Unsatisfactory	N = below 70	F = below 70

DISCIPLINE

Christian education requires the teaching of discipline. The purpose of Christian discipline is to bring about conformity to the image of Christ. God's purpose for discipline is to teach us Godly character and to encourage a holy lifestyle. Our teachers and staff have this goal in mind for our students as we uphold a standard of discipline.

There are three balanced elements needed to have an effective discipline system.

1. Communication - The discipline system must be explained to the students. It is important to communicate the "Acceptable Practices" - that which is expected; the "Underlying Purposes" - the reasons for the rules; the "Biblical Process" involved to help us change unacceptable behavior; and any "Resulting Penalties" - the consequences for misbehavior.
2. Control - It is important to provide a consistent environment and provide consistent enforcement.
3. Correction - Consequences are given for the purpose of improving behavior. Consequences are administered fairly and adequately.

It must be clearly understood that character is not built into a student's life unless he/she is made accountable for his/her actions. Furthermore, accountability is never imposed without some form of authority. It follows, then, that no one will develop Christian character who has not learned to function properly under authority. Learning to do so will help the student develop outward conformity as he seeks to establish right actions in his life. It will also help him develop inward control as he learns to suppress wrong reactions when the authority he is under does not please him. Both of these elements are important; but without the development of an upward concentration where the student learns to submit to God, he will become very frustrated as he conforms merely to stay out of trouble. If through all of this he learns to focus his attention upon the sovereign God of Heaven (Who desires to mold him into the image of Christ), the Christian school will have achieved its purpose in the establishment and administration of an effective discipline system.

DISCIPLINE IN THE CLASSROOM

With our discipline philosophy defined, our school requires each teacher to prepare a discipline plan for their classroom. These will be consistent throughout our entire school and patterned after the “Assertive Discipline” approach.

1. Each classroom will have four to five main classroom rules for the class posted in the room. These rules are stated in a positive manner. Example: “Permission must be obtained before getting out of my seat”
2. The discipline procedures will praise and promote positive behavior.
3. Consequences for misbehavior should be stated and followed consistently. The consequences are also posted in the classroom so students understand them. Consequences are consistent from class to class and are as follows.
 - A. Initial warning - This may involve the students name on the chalkboard or losing a “token”.
 - B. Second offense - Students may be isolated from the class for a short period of time. The student is asked to confess what they have done wrong. Confession is an important part of the discipline process as the Bible teaches that we must confess our sins so our Heavenly Father can forgive us and “cleanse us of unrighteousness”. 1 John 1:9
 - C. Third discipline step - This will involve advising parents of the situation. This may be through a note sent home or a conversation between the teacher and parent.
 - D. Fourth step - Parents will be called and asked to come to school for a conference. Parents must assure the teacher that the problem will be corrected.
4. Detentions may be used for discipline purposes for a continued failure to have homework or class work completed on a time. Detentions may be after school for 30 minutes on the same day as the detention is assigned. Students may also miss recess times to complete unfinished work. Parents will be notified when a student has been assigned after school detention. Repeated problems will be brought to the attention of the principal or administrator so a conference can be held with the parents. Our motives for discipline are always for the purpose of helping the student succeed in his/her goal of Christian maturity.
5. Suspensions - For re-occurring discipline problems or flagrant offenses, students may be suspended. Suspensions are treated as un-excused absences as missed work will not be allowed to be made up. Continued misbehavior can be cause for expulsion.

“WHAT’S A PARENT TO DO?”

1. Show interest in the work your child brings home. Never belittle it. Let your child tell you about it.
2. Make the pleasure of being a parent obvious.
3. Listen with interest, but do not coax your child to tell you what he does not want to share with you, except for disciplinary reasons.
4. Your child is an individual. Let him join in conversation at the table.
5. Make suggestions more often than commands.
6. Children respond when given a choice. This makes home life smoother and develops power in thinking for himself.
7. Sometimes a child needs reasons for your requiring certain things.
8. Let him know what you require of him. Children like to know what is expected of them and they will usually try to meet the expectations.
9. Search constantly for opportunities to praise. Criticism discourages.
10. Follow through if you have asked for a response, but never hesitate to admit you were wrong or hasty.
11. Know your child’s teacher and let your confidence in her be strongly felt.
12. Do not compare other children or put down other children in front of your child.
13. Do not threaten your child with school or the teacher. School should be anticipated as a pleasurable experience.
14. Never discuss the church, the school, or the teacher unfavorably in the presence of your children. Contact the church or school about any concerns.
15. Please refer to your child’s teacher by name.
16. Remember children are a gift and blessing from Almighty God. We should enjoy them!

“WHY CHRISTIAN TEXTBOOKS”

We at Calvary Christian School have become increasingly convinced that Christian textbooks (those which present every subject from a Christian perspective or “Biblical Worldview”) are an essential part of a distinctly Christian education.

In 1986, Dr. Paul Vitz, Professor at New York University wrote a book entitled, “Censorship: Evidence of Bias in our Children’s Textbooks.” In this book, Dr. Vitz reports the results of a government-funded survey of the way religion and traditional values are represented in United States schools. He summarized his findings as follows: “Religion, traditional family values, and conservative political and economic positions have been reliably excluded from children’s textbooks.”

Not only is Dr. Vitz’s book alarming, but we continue to hear reports of how public school textbooks are being “rewritten”. Evolution is no longer taught as theory, but as a fact. This is done even as modern day science continues to reveal more and more evidence for “intelligent design” Some reading curriculums now show homosexuality as an acceptable alternative lifestyle and others offer stories dealing with magic and the occult.

We have seen this trend continue, with the recent SB 777 in California, which will require textbooks used in California public schools (which will, in turn, greatly influence public schools across our country) to discriminate against God’s plan for the family of one husband and one wife.

Therefore, we at Calvary Christian School feel that it is imperative that all subjects be taught from a Christian perspective and this requires using textbooks from Christian publishers. The following quotes and summaries are from A Beka Book Christian textbook publishers.

BIBLE -“ Since the Bible is the most important subject in the Christian School, it should be taught specifically and systematically. A faithful teaching of the Word of God, unmixed with the systems of man, will provide the receptive hearer with a firm foundation for life and a shield against error.”

LANGUAGE ARTS - “(Language) is important to Christian schools because God has chosen to reveal Himself to mankind in a written form, the Bible, and has commissioned Christians to use the gift of language to communicate His truths to others.”

PHONICS/READING - A phonics approach to reading allows the students to learn the sounds and rules that the words in our English language primarily follow. Students taught phonics can therefore read anything including the most important book, the Bible. “Books and articles continue to be written exposing the deficiencies of the sight-memory method of teaching reading.

The whole language method is best illustrated by comparing it to the Chinese language. In Chinese, there are thousands of symbols that must be learned before students can pick up and read anything they desire. Whole language treats the English language this same way. Instead of learning a few simple rules, whole words must be memorized before it can be recognized in other printed matter. In Samuel Blumenfeld's book, "The New Illiterates", he states, "There is probably no way more calculated to confuse, discourage, and finally frustrate a child than teaching him to 'read' via the whole-word method. Not only does this method not teach the child to read, but it places almost unsurmountable obstacles to his ever learning to read."

GRAMMAR/WRITING - "Grammar is taught with the purpose of making clear to the students the orderly structure of their language, a picture of God's orderly plan for the world and for their lives. The grammar is taught in a useful, practical way. The student is guided to develop complete orderly thoughts - to learn to reason and think."

MATHEMATICS - "No subject matter better reflects the glory of God than mathematics. Mathematics is the language of God used in His creation of the universe, and thus is logical, orderly, beautiful, and very practical in science and daily life. To study mathematics is to study God's thoughts after Him, for He is the great Engineer and Architect of the universe. Unlike the "modern" or "fuzzy" math theorists who believe that mathematics is a creation of man and thus arbitrary and relative, we believe that the laws of mathematics are a creation of God and thus absolute."

HISTORY - "Ever since H.G. Wells published his "Outline of History" in 1920, the theme of world history texts has been man's supposed progress from savagery toward socialism, from tribal religions toward one-world government. American history is usually presented as a series of struggles - rich vs. poor, black vs. white, North vs. South, labor vs. management, male vs. female, etc. (Christian) texts reject this Marxist conflict theory of history in favor of a truthful portrayal of peoples, lands, religions, ideals, heroes, triumphs, and setbacks. The result has been positive, uplifting history texts that give students a historical perspective and instill within them an intelligent pride for their own country and a desire to help it back to its traditional values. The character and accomplishments of great American heroes are clearly described."

SCIENCE - "Science is the study of God's order, provision, and reasonableness as revealed in His physical creation. While secular science textbooks present modern science as the opposite of faith, (Christian) science texts teach that modern science is the product of Western man's return to the Scriptures after the Protestant Reformation, leading to his desire to understand and subdue the earth, which he saw as the orderly, law-abiding creation of the God of the Bible."

This is only a portion of the information which sets Christian textbooks apart from their public counterparts. At Calvary Christian School, we believe it is not possible to have a Christian school without textbooks that are scripturally sound and of good moral character.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
ARTICLES OF FAITH

We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible and authoritative Word of God.

We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His future personal return in power and glory.

We believe that salvation can be neither deserved nor earned, but that it is the gift of God, bestowed in mercy upon those who accept it by faith.

We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by indwelling the Christian, enabling him to live a Godly life.

We believe in the Genesis account of creation - God spoke the worlds into existence in six days and rested on the seventh day.

We believe in the sanctity of life and the sanctity of the marriage relationship as described in God's Word as being between one man and one woman.

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God.

These articles of faith do not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Calvary Christian School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our school's administrative team is the school's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.