



Dear Parent,

Greetings.

I am so grateful to GOD that you have chosen to investigate Christian Education for your child. Clearly you have made the right choice in looking into an educational system that will train your child in solid academic pursuits, as well as knowledge of how to please GOD.

I will be praying for you that as you search for the best option for your family, you will be lead by GOD to make the right choice.

As you read through this Student Handbook, if there are any questions that come to your mind, please don't hesitate to call me.

School - 717-843-4562

Cell - 717-818-1028

As always, we are here to serve you and your family. If there is anything we can do to help, please let us know.

Chad Weaver

Chad Weaver, administrator

Tidings of Peace Christian School

Tidings of Peace Christian School

The Tidings of Peace Christian School is a vision and ministry effort of the Tidings of Peace Mennonite Church to help parents follow their God-given responsibility to “teach their children”. We aim to assist parents by presenting to children both academic and eternal instruction.

Statement of Faith

We believe:

- ⇒ That the Bible is the holy inspired word of GOD and is without error in it’s origin.
- ⇒ That there is one GOD, manifesting himself as a godhead consisting of Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
- ⇒ That Jesus Christ as Emmanuel is “God come in the Flesh”. We believe that he lived a sinless life, died on the cross to take away the sins of all who call out to him for forgiveness, and is coming again to take all who live a godly life “unto the end” to be with him for ever in heaven.
- ⇒ That no man is good enough to go to heaven, and must through faith call upon the name of the Lord to receive the free gift of eternal life.
- ⇒ That all who receive the gift of eternal life become “new creatures” in Christ and will live a life separated from the world, bringing forth good works to the glory of GOD.

School Goals and Objectives:

Our Goals include:

- Giving families a knowledge of the Bible.
- Teaching families to fear GOD.
- Teaching families to worship the one true GOD.
- Leading students to a personal relationship with Christ.
- Teaching Christ-like character.
- Teaching stewardship of life.
- Becoming dedicated to excellence.

Our Objectives include:

- Getting students, staff and as many others as possible to obey the Scriptural imperatives of Deuteronomy 6:5-7a and Proverbs 22:6
- Giving students and their families an appreciation for the Bible and its principles as the best and final authority for life.
- Assisting parents by giving children the very best possible academic training

Attendance:

Attendance at this school is a privilege and not a right. While we expect God's Holy Spirit to reform all of us day-by-day, we are not a reform school, and no parent should enroll their child hoping we will miraculously change a bad-behavioral child into an angel.

Parents wishing to enroll their child shall follow these steps:

1. Visit the school for a tour and receive an application and handbook.
2. Parents and Children must read through the entire student handbook.
3. Parents shall return the application.
4. After the administrator has reviewed the application, he may request an additional interview with parents and/or child.
5. If the child is accepted, at least one parent will attend a 3-hour Parent Orientation.
6. New students are accepted at the beginning of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd marking periods.
7. If the school is full, parents may opt to have their child placed on a waiting list for possible consideration in the future.

PLEASE NOTE:

- ★ A child must be six years old by September 30 in order to be eligible for enrollment in the 1st grade. Exceptions may be given if there is evidence that a child is ready for school by passing an entrance test.
- ★ No Student is accepted as a student of this school until the parents receive written notice of the same.
- ★ Students are accepted and dismissed at the sole discretion of the administrator

Church Affiliation and Admission policy:

While we don't discriminate on the basis of age, gender and national origin, we are a Christian School in the city of YORK and we do give preferential consideration in admission as follows:

- Church attending Christian families living in York city
- Other families living in the City of York
- Church attending Christian families living outside the city.
- Others living outside the city.

Financial Involvement:

Each summer, the school board will publish the tuition rate. This rate is typically lower than the actual cost of teaching a child.

Parents are required to sign a Financial Responsibility Form before their child will be accepted at the school. The form is a pledge from the parents that they will contribute at least the asked amount of tuition each month.

Parents who aren't able to meet their financial obligation have the option of applying for financial aid through scholarship organizations and/or through the school's Community Service program.

Parents who refuse to assist the school financially or through community service, may lose the right to reenroll their child in the coming school year.

Parents' examples:

We believe that parents are the biggest influence in a child's life, and while we can teach godliness, we believe that children will learn it best from parents who set a good example by:

- Attending church regularly
- Ridding their home of destructive media such as TV and trash periodicals
- Reading God's word: the Bible
- Gaining victory over destructive drug, cigarette and alcohol addictions in their personal lives.

We will regularly do our part in educating parents in the value of achieving the above items.

Parental Involvement:

Parent-teacher Conferences and Fellowships will be held throughout the school year as a way of helping to ensure that the goals of the parents and those of the staff remain in harmony. Parents are expected to attend these meetings.

Parents/guardians are expected to help with and attend the annual Christmas program held the 1st Sunday evening of December, and the school picnic held the last Saturday in May.

Parents will be informed of field trips. Family members are invited to attend such events as space permits.

Parents will be informed of such events by way of the "Parent Communication Envelope". This envelope will be given to the oldest child in each family, and the parent shall sign it for the child to return the very next school day. Failure to return the envelope in a timely manner will result in a detention for the oldest child.

Parents may feel free to visit the school at any time during the day, but must not interfere with the teachers' ability to maintain educational control of the class room.

Student Conduct:

Language

Students, staff and parents shall only use language that glorifies the LORD Jesus Christ. Anyone doing otherwise may face dismissal from the school.

Because we believe the numerous studies that show that television is a destructive force in the home, students are to refrain from talking about television shows, and/or movies.

Additionally, students shall not talk about nor engage in:

- Cheating
- Swearing
- Obscene gestures
- Dancing
- Rock or country western music
- Drinking alcohol or using drugs.

Actions:

It has been said that actions speak louder than words. Therefore all students enrolled at this school shall strive to obey 1 Corinthians 10:31; “ Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

It is our opinion that the following does not glorify God and shall be avoided:

- Kicking, punching and all forms of fighting
- Name calling and all prejudicial statements
- Profanity
- A disregard for those in authority in the school, home and community.

Leave at Home:

Because of their potential for disruptions in the classroom, the following items shall be left at home:

- Radios, tape and CD players
- Comic books, pornographic and sports magazines
- Knives, guns, and other potential weapons
- Any form of tobacco and drugs
- Lighters, matches and drug related paraphernalia
- Electronic games and toys
- Toys having to do with TV characters
- Dice and card games
- All other items which the staff interprets as disruptive.
- Jewelry of all kinds.

The staff will confiscate any of the items on the above list. Depending on the nature of the violation, the circumstances of the discovery and the attitude of the offender, the staff may at their discretion keep the item for a week, month or the whole year. They may decide to return the item to.

NOTE: The staff has the right and responsibility to inspect book bags, lockers, desks and other personal areas with or without the consent or presence of the student.

If you don't want the staff to see it, LEAVE IT AT HOME.

Cell phones: Many students are getting pagers, cell phones and other electronic communication devices. We recognize that many parents feel safer if their child walks to school with a phone. However, we do not see a need for any child to have these during the school day. Therefore, all such devices shall be turned into the school secretary upon arrival at school each day, and picked up at the conclusion of the school day.

Boy-Girl Relationships

Boyfriend - girlfriend relationships are not allowed at this school. The "hands-off" rule (no physical contact) shall be observed between male and female students.

In keeping with Biblical standards, any student that is involved in immorality will face suspension, and possible dismissal; if there is no repentance.

Student Pledge

Each child aged 12 and above will annually sign a "student pledge" agreeing to strive to be of unquestionable character in dress, conduct and attitude.

Each student shall agree to abide by the standards of conduct and regulations expected of each student enrolled in this school. At no time shall any student give the impression to others that they are not in harmony with the goals, aims and standards of the school.

Profanity, obscenity in word or action, dishonor to the Godhead and the WORD of GOD, or disrespect to the personnel of the school will not be tolerated.

We use verbal reminders of poor behavior.

Demerits are given to remind students to improve their behavior.

After three demerits, a detention is given equal to 5 minutes per demerit. The staff at their sole discretion will decide if the detention shall be served during or after school.

Any child receiving more than three detentions in one marking period may be required to serve subsequent detentions with their parents.

If a student does not cease disruptive behavior after verbal commands and demerits/detentions have been given, the staff will call the parents to have them come immediately to remove the child from the school. If the parent is not available to come to school, the staff reserves the right to call the police to remove the disruptive child.

Before the child is allowed to return to school, a parent-teacher-student conference will be held to determine next steps and future enrollment for the child.

Discipline:

Since this is not a “reform school”, we strongly request that no child be enrolled that is not able to respond immediately to verbal commands.

Clothing Regulations & Personal Appearance:

Uniforms:

The highest standard for dress codes is a top quality uniform.

- Uniforms prevent youth from being a stumbling block through immodesty or slovenly dress.
- Uniforms result in higher discipline and higher academics.
- Uniforms help improve a student’s self-image.
- Uniforms provide distinct difference, “being not conformed... but...transformed”.
- Uniforms give identification for building school spirit.
- Uniforms reduce yearly clothing costs.
- Uniforms eliminate the daily decision of what to wear.
- Uniforms eliminate competition in dress between potential social climbers.
- Uniforms standardize and neutralize externals while enhancing individualization in internal values.

All clothing should be clean, in good repair, and well pressed.

Dress Code:

Sweaters or jackets worn in the Learning Center must be solid colors of either black, blue, white or gray matching the colors of the girls’ jumpers. They shall not have any other lettering, pictures or emblems except *Tidings of Peace Christian School*. Sweaters or jackets may not be worn inside out. No leather motorcycle jackets are to be worn to school.

On days when the school takes a field trip, does community service, etc., the staff may choose not to require the uniform to be worn. On those days, clothing of the same high standards as the uniform shall be worn. No stretch pants or tight fitting clothes are allowed.

All students shall wear dress shoes with solid color socks or hose that match the four colors of the girls plaid jumpers. The hosiery shall at least cover the ankles.

Sneakers shall be limited to physical education and break

only. Students enrolling after the school year has begun shall have dress shoes within 30 school days after enrollment.

All students shall keep themselves and their hair in a well-groomed, well-kept, neat manner.

For Boys

- Navy Trousers are required.
- No tight fitting trousers shall be worn.
- Light blue shirts are encouraged. White shirts are acceptable.
- Shirts must have collars and buttons
- Shirt tails must be kept inside trousers
- Students must have a standard, conservative haircut. No “punk”, “bowl”, “block” or “mod” hair styles.
- The hair is to be above the ears, off the collar and with sideburns no longer than to the middle of the ears.
- No jewelry shall be worn.
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For Girls:

“Whose adorning let it not be the outward adorning of plaiting of the hair, and the wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.” 1 Peter 3:3-4

According to the above Scripture, we ask that girls dress simply and modestly.

- The uniform shall come to the mid-calf.
- No jewelry, fake nails, fingernail polish or cosmetics shall be worn.
- Girls shall not cut or trim their hair while students of our school.
- Slacks are permitted only if worn under the uniform to and from school. They must be taken off immediately and not worn in the Learning Center. We strongly encourage the use of leg warmers, tights, nylons, knee highs, etc. in place of slacks.

Medical Guidelines:

No staff member will be allowed to administer any medicines, tranquilizers, aspirin, Tylenol or pep pills to any student for headaches, fever or other reasons without parent authorization in writing. All medicines must be kept and administered by the supervisor. In instances where a student needs medical attention, the principal will call the parent or family doctor (in that order).

No student is admitted to this school without all legally required shots and medical forms filed with the school nurse.

Relationship to Home Scholars

The School will work with Tidings of Peace Church families who choose to educate their children at home. The school library, science labs and other equipment will be available to such families. In addition, field trips and other special assemblies/projects will be made available.

Home scholars will be expected to wear appropriate attire and abide by all the school rules while they are participating alongside our students.

Financial contributions to cover the school's additional expense due to the addition of home scholars for any given activity will be expected from these families.

Annual ear and eye tests as well as the Achievement tests will be available to home scholars.

Transportation

We do not provide transportation to or from school. Parents living outside of York City may request transportation from their local school district.

Snow Delays & Closures

We **DO NOT** always go by the York City Schedule for delays and closures due to inclement weather. Parents are responsible to get their child to school on days when school is delayed. Failure to do so could result in fines from the York City Schools for illegal absences.

Delays and closures will be announced on our website at www.tidingsofpeace.org and on WDAC – 94.5 FM , WSBA – 910 AM and WGAL-TV8. If you want it texted to your phone give the school your cell phone number and tell us your cell's provider.

Changes to this Handbook

The school board reserves the right to revise this handbook without prior notice.