

Blair County Christian School

Parent / Student
Handbook



925 Blacks Lane

P.O. Box 840

Duncansville, PA 16635

Phone # 814—696-3702

Fax # 814—696-2783

Pastor: Dr. David Huston

Administrator:

Mr. Duey Whitfield

Ministry of the

Foot of Ten Bible Church

*"The Heart of Education
is the Education of the
Heart"*

Home of the Bobcats



Table of Contents

Introduction..... 1
 BCCS Philosophy of Education..... 1
 Statement of Faith..... 1
 Notice of Nondiscrimination..... 2
 Teacher Standards and Qualifications..... 2
Admissions.....2
 Student Acceptance Requirements.....2-3
 Withdrawal.....3
 Financial Guidelines.....4-5
Academics..... 5
 Graduation Requirements..... 6
 General Diploma.....6
 Honors Requirements..... 7
 Curriculum and Textbooks.....7
 Library.....7
 Attendance Requirements..... 7-8
 Excused Absences..... 8
 Unexcused Absences.....9
 Tardiness to School.....9
 Leaving During School Hours.....9
 School Visit Policy.....9
 Parent Teacher Meetings.....9-10
 Communicable Diseases.....10

Discipline.....	10
Philosophy of Discipline.....	10-11
Student Code of Conduct.....	11-12
Student Driving.....	12
Field Trips.....	12
Senior Trips.....	13
Social Functions.....	13
Lockers.....	13
Inclement Weather.....	13
Dress Code.....	13-17
Music Standards.....	17
Electronic Devices.....	18
Cell Phones.....	18
General and Specific Discipline.....	18
Dismissal.....	18-19
Demerit System.....	19-20
Demerit System Code.....	20-21
Detention.....	21-22
Probation.....	22
Social Restriction.....	22

Introduction

Blair County Christian School's Philosophy of Education

The primary objective of Blair County Christian School (B.C.C.S) is to assure that all of our students have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, and then train them to have the proper knowledge, attitudes, and skills to serve the Lord effectively in whatever service He has planned for them.

Our faculty and staff do not look at teaching as their job but rather as their ministry. It is our desire to minister to each of our students.

Proverbs 1:7a says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Therefore, any truly valid education must have this reverence of God as its starting point and doing the will of God as its goal.

We believe that children are a gift from God. This gift is a most serious responsibility. We praise the Lord for each student and family in our ministry.

Statement Of Faith

Blair County Christian School, as a ministry of Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church, believes and teaches the doctrines of the Christian faith as embraced by the historic, Biblical, Baptist position.

- We believe in the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
- We believe that the Bible is God's preserved Word and that the King James Version is the best translation of the original transcripts for English speaking peoples.
- We believe in the triune God.
- We believe in the deity and humanity of Jesus Christ.
- We believe in the personal existence and eternal destiny of Satan.
- We believe in the creation of man by the direct act of God.
- We believe in the sinful nature of man and his salvation by the grace through the blood of Christ.
- We believe in the eternal security of the believer.
- We believe in the establishment of the church for the purpose of worship, observance of the ordinances, and proclamation of the Gospel.
- We believe the only ordinances of the church are baptism and the Lord's Supper.
- We believe in the Pre-tribulational rapture of the church.
- We believe in the judgment of the unsaved dead and their consignment to the lake of fire for all eternity.
- We believe that as Christians we are obligated to follow the Bible as our guide for faith and practice.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Blair County 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, admission policies, athletics, and other school-administered programs.

Teacher Standards and Qualifications

All faculty members of Blair County Christian School are born-again Christians, dedicated to serving the Lord through the ministry of teaching young people. We believe that teachers are called to teach, just as pastors and missionaries are called to their fields. Each full-time faculty member has been interviewed by the school administration, pastor and deacons of Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church. Each teacher must have a clear testimony and must sign a pledge that he/she is in full agreement with the doctrinal statement of Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church.

It is our policy to require that all of our teachers hold a degree. However, this may be waived in situations where the school administration, the deacons of Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church, and our Pastor are in agreement that an individual is qualified for a position.

Our full-time teachers are active members of Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church. In limited situations, some of our faculty may attend other churches of like faith in our area. These situations must be approved by the school administration, deacons, and pastor of Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church.

Admissions

Student Acceptance Requirements

1. B.C.C.S. does not discriminate in admissions on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin.
2. Students must reach the chronological age required for a given grade by November 1st in order to be placed in that grade. Mental and social maturity will also be taken into consideration.
3. Necessary medical records (vaccinations, etc.) must be provided as determined by the state regulations. When enrollment forms are received, you will be notified as to what medical information is required.
4. An interview may be requested by the principal based on academic information found in the student's application.
5. Complete and return application and enrollment forms. Accompanying fees should be paid at this time.

6. If deemed necessary, based on previous academic records or upon a teacher's evaluation, academic testing may be given to assure Blair County Christian School's ability to meet a particular student's needs. Testing may also be given to determine the grade level of a student.
7. Blair County Christian School reserves the right to review the academic and disciplinary background of a student before admitting them into the school.
8. Attendance at B.C.C.S. is a privilege; therefore, each student entering B.C.C.S. must comply with all the rules and not gripe or cause strife among fellow students.
9. **If a family (parents or children) is found to be griping or causing strife, it may result in the child being dismissed from the school. If a student is found to not be in harmony with the Christian teachings of the Bible, its guide for living, and the philosophy of Christian living held by B.C.C.S. he/she may be dismissed from the school.**
10. Blair County Christian School will not accept students who actively and blatantly do not want to attend our school.
11. All new students in grades 7-12 must meet with the administrator before final acceptance is made.

Withdrawal

Withdrawal from the school must be made by parents or legal guardians through the school office. Records will not be released until all bills are paid in full and all textbooks and materials have been returned. Tuition must be paid for the remainder of the month in which the student is withdrawn. If tuition has been paid for subsequent months (past the month of withdrawal) that tuition will be refunded.

FINANCIAL GUIDELINES

Re-enrollment Fee – due from returning students who attended the previous year. Payment must be made when submitting re-enrollment form.

- 1) On or before June 1 = \$25.00
- 2) After June 1 = \$50.00
- 3) This fee is **NON-refundable**

Registration Fee – due from any student who has not attended the previous year. Payment must be made when submitting registration form.

- 1) Anytime = \$50.00
- 2) This fee is **NON-refundable**

Book Fee

- 1) See Fee / Tuition schedule for current amounts. You will receive the Fee/Tuition schedule with your application. Additional copies are available in the school office if needed.
- 2) Due by July 1st or at day of registration or re-enrollment (whichever is later).
- 3) A \$20 late fee will be assessed immediately if payment is not received by July 1st (or on the day of registration / re-enrollment if after July 1st). If payment is not received by Aug 15th, an additional \$50 late fee will be assessed.
- 4) This fee is **NON-refundable** after July 1st.

Tuition

- 1) See Fee / Tuition schedule for current amounts. You will receive the Fee/Tuition schedule with your application. Additional copies are available in the school office if needed.
- 2) Paid monthly Aug thru May. Payment is due the 1st of each month. If payment is not received in the office by the close of school on the 5th, a \$20 late fee will be assessed immediately. If payment remains past due until the 15th of the month you will be contacted by a school representative to verify payment status. If the payment continues to be delinquent beyond the 5th day of the following month contact will be made again by a school representative to verify your intentions to be current by the last business day of the month. If by the last business day of that month your account is not current your child(ren) will not be allowed to return to school the following month.

- 3) If necessary, arrangements can be made to spread payments out over 12 months rather than the 10 month schedule in item #2. The first payment would still be due in Aug. Please contact the school office prior to July 15th if you would like to be considered for such an arrangement.

Discounts

- 1) Alumni (Graduates only) – 5% off all students’ tuition only.
- 2) Foot-of-Ten Church Member – 5% off all students’ tuition only.
- 3) Full time Christian service – Awarded to a family if the main income earner is employed in full time Christian service (as determined by the finance committee). Discount will be 5% off all students’ tuition only.
- 4) Referring Family – Awarded to a family who is responsible for at least one full-time student enrolling at BCCS from a family who has never before enrolled a student at BCCS - \$500 discount credited at \$50/month spread over 10 months. A family may earn more than one “Referral Discount” but earns only one per each new family, not for each student in a new family.
- 5) New Family - Awarded to a family who 1) has been referred to the school, 2) has never had a child attend BCCS, 3) enrolls at least one full-time student. Only one \$500 discount is available per family. It is not based on the number of students they enroll. The \$500 discount is credited to the eldest student’s account at \$50/month spread over 10 months.

Scholarships

- 1) DO NOT count on a scholarship to pay your bill. Please make sure you are able to pay your bills on time without counting on scholarship money arriving on a particular date. Your account must be current for scholarship money to be applied to your account. If your account is not current, scholarship money cannot be applied to your account until it is. If your bill is paid in full for the full year and you receive scholarship money, the money will be refunded to you.
- 2) Scholarship money may not be applied to anything other than tuition.
- 3) Scholarship money must be applied to the student’s account who receives the scholarship. It is not allowed to be credited to other students’ accounts in the same family.

Academics

Grading Scale

A+	100	B+	90-92	C+	83-84	D+	73-74
A	96-99	B	87-89	C	78-82	D	69-72
A-	93-95	B-	85-86	C-	75-77	D-	67-68
						F	Below 67

Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 20 credits must be earned in the areas listed for students attending B.C.C.S. 9th – 12th grades. In addition, 1 credit of Bible must be earned for each year a student is in attendance at B.C.C.S. Therefore, a student who attends 9th – 12th grades will have 24 credits. Students transferring into B.C.C.S. must take a Bible course for the final grades he/she attends B.C.C.S.

Classes taken in 8th grade such as Algebra 1 cannot be given a credit toward graduation. Four Math(s) are still required from 9-12 Grades.

Required courses, credits and suggested grade levels the courses should be taken in:

General Diploma

<u>Subject/Class</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Bible	4	9 th – 12 th
English	4	9 th – 12 th
History	4	9 th – 12 th
Math	4	9 th – 12 th
Science	3	9 th – 12 th
Physical Education	1	9 th – 12 th
Health	.5	9 th – 12 th
Computer	1	9 th – 12 th
Financial Planning	.5	9 th – 12 th
Foreign Language	1	9 th – 12 th
Speech	.5	9 th – 12 th
Elective	.5	9 th – 12 th

Honor Courses

Algebra II	2 years Foreign Language
Pre-Calculus	Physics

Honors Requirements:

1. Overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.
2. Completion of all honor courses.
3. GPA of 3.0 or higher in the honor course taken.
4. A salutatorian and a valedictorian are chosen from the senior class. To be considered a student must attend B.C.C.S. for the entire 11th and 12th grades. Honor courses must be taken. The GPA which decides the salutatorian or valedictorian will be computer based upon all grades received through the first semester of the senior year.

Electives offered, and credits given for these electives, also may vary from year to year. The amount of credit for each elective will be determined when the elective is offered.

Curriculum and Textbooks

The curriculum is designed with the students needs in mind. Careful planning and textbook selection are the criteria used to develop our curriculum. In our elementary and high school we use the A Beka Book and Bob Jones Press curriculum. Our Bible curriculum may vary based on the teacher's discretion and will coincide with the doctrinal stance of B.C.C.S. and Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church.

The curriculum fee is a usage fee. Some curriculum is reusable from year to year. Please see that all textbooks are covered and kept in good condition.

Due to the varied sources and diverse materials covered in the students' textbooks, we cannot be held responsible for contradictions to the Word of God found in some of these materials. Therefore, we reserve the right to present the Biblical viewpoint in each subject area where, in our opinion, the authority of God's Word has been challenged.

Library

The fact that certain books are available for student use or reference in the school library does not necessarily mean that the school endorses their content from the standpoint of morals, philosophy, religious or scientific theories.

Attendance Requirements

For your child to gain the most in school, he/she must be in regular attendance. If a family finds it necessary to take a vacation or trip during school time, the parents should send a note to the school office a minimum of two weeks in advance of the proposed absence. School work must be gathered in advance. The student will be responsible for taking all necessary material with them to have the work done by the return date provided in the above mentioned note. The student will be permitted one day for each day they were not able to complete homework due to time in transit.

A student must attend a minimum of 3 hours in order to be counted as present for that day. The student is responsible to make arrangements with teachers to make up missed work. If the student is unable to get this work, we ask that the parents get the material needed for the student to fulfill their assignments.

MISSING SCHOOL IS VERY DETRIMENTAL TO YOUR CHILDS EDUCATION. IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS MISS MORE THAN 1 WEEK AT A TIME.

A note from the parent will be required to explain why a student was absent immediately upon the student's return to school. If a note is not received by the second day upon returning it will be counted as an unexcused absence. If an absence is deemed unexcused by the school administration, the student will not be permitted to make up missed work. Students will be permitted to make up work missed due to excused absences at the teacher's convenience. Absences for the following reasons will be considered excused absences:

- a. Personal Illness
- b. Death in the family
- c. Any other reason excused by the principal before the absence occurs.

Exceptions to this may be made by the principal in situations involving extenuating circumstances. If a student is out sick for three or more days, a doctor's excuse is necessary.

IF A STUDENT MISSES MORE THAN 15 DAYS OF SCHOOL HE/SHE WILL HAVE TO REPEAT THE GRADE.

Excused Absences

We would ask that all parents contact the school office as soon as you know your child will not be attending the following day or as early as possible the same day to avoid any question of whether the absences will be counted excused or unexcused at a latter time during the school year. If a student has more than fourteen absences per semester, he/she will fail the semester.

Exceptions due to extenuating circumstances (homebound due to car accident, major surgery, prolonged sickness, etc.) will be considered by the administration.

Doctor appointments should be made outside of school hours. A note is required one day in advance. Unexpected doctor appointments should be avoided, if possible, but must be called into the school office.

Arriving past 10:00am will be counted as a half-day absence.

Leaving school before 11:40am will be counted as a half-day absence.

Unexcused Absences

A zero will be averaged in for each class for each day of an unexcused absence.

An absence that is not pre-approved or accompanied by a note from the parent will be counted as an unexcused absence. **For all students... no excuses will be allowed for a “group skip day” and zeros will be given for all daily work, projects and/or tests.**

Tardiness to School

Unexcused tardies will be issued in those cases reflecting carelessness on the part of the student or parent. Students who are tardy due to riding area public bus that arrives late will not receive an unexcused tardy.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME

STUDENTS SHOULD BE IN THERE CLASSROOMS BY 8:40AM

Every 4th tardy will result in an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences will result in a zero for each class missed due to tardiness.

Leaving School During School Hours

If a parent needs to pick up a child during the school day for an excused reason, that parent should report to the school office and **NOT** to the child’s classroom. After speaking with the secretary the parent should wait in the seating area outside the office. One of the office personnel will bring your child to the office. The parent will then sign out the student in the office. Siblings should not be picked up out of convenience while picking another child up. This interrupts the student’s day as well as the classroom environment.

School Visitor Policy

When a visit to the classroom is necessary or desired, please come by the office first; all visiting parents and visitors will be required to sign in, and in some cases, wait in the seating area to be greeted by an approved school guide. For the safety of our student body we ask that all parents, family, and guests check in at the school office before proceeding into the school building.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

If a parent would like to schedule an appointment with a teacher or with school administration, the parent should contact the school office to set up an appointment. To assist in the smooth operation of our school, we kindly request that you make an appointment. Just showing up at the school will not guarantee a meeting with staff or faculty. Teachers are not to be contacted at their homes unless given permission by said teachers.

It is a requirement that no faculty members or administration (including spouses) are approached about school matters at church services / functions. Our faculty is also instructed not to approach parents regarding school matters at church. If there is a concern, please make an appointment with the teacher or administrator.

Communicable Diseases

Blair County Christian School desires to maintain a healthful school environment by instituting controls designed to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. The term communicable disease means an illness which arises as a result of a specific infectious agent which may be transmitted either directly or indirectly by a susceptible host of infected persons or animal to other persons.

All health records must be kept up to date according to PA State standards. The school nurse will send notices to the families to inform them of the need for updated records. If a student's record is not kept up to date, the student will be removed from school until the records are updated.

A teacher or an administrative official who reasonably suspects that a student or employee has a communicable disease shall immediately notify the school office. If a child is believed to have any sickness the child may be sent home.

Any students or employees with a communicable disease for which immunization is required by law or is available shall be temporarily excluded from school while ill and during recognized periods of communicability. Students and employees with communicable diseases for which immunization is not available shall be excluded from school while ill. If the nature of the disease and circumstances warrant, Blair County Christian School may require an independent physician's examination of the student or employee to verify the diagnosis of a communicable disease. Blair County Christian School reserves the right to make all final decisions necessary to enforce its communicable disease policy and to take all necessary action to control the spread of communicable diseases within the school.

Discipline

Philosophy of Discipline

Our main goal at Blair County Christian School is to prepare our students for whatever the Lord calls them to do after they leave our school. In order for them to be prepared, we must do whatever we can to build and develop the student's character.

The school is proud of our high standard of behavior. Without a standard of discipline, our school would cease to be a Christian School.

Happiness, achievement, success, and our relationship with God all necessitate discipline. The success of our school is totally dependent on our attitude toward Biblical discipline.

Happiness, achievement, success, and our relationship with God all necessitate discipline. The success of our school is totally dependent on our attitude toward Biblical discipline.

When a person lives a well-disciplined life, he also lives a happy and productive life. Because we have the best interests of our students in mind and because we want them to live productive and fulfilled lives, we strive to instill discipline in them while they attend our school.

The best way for our students to become disciplined is for the school and the home to work in harmony with one another. Because of this fact, it is imperative that each family and the school have a clear, two-way line of communication. If the school feels that cooperation is lacking from a student and/or parent, that student may be requested to leave our school.

Discipline is both a positive and a negative word. Much of the task of instilling discipline in a child can be done through positive means; however, there is also a negative side to discipline. First, it is the desire of the school for each student and parent to know exactly what is expected of our students. Secondly, our goal is to enforce our discipline policy fully and fairly for each student.

Student Code of Conduct

Students and parents are asked to read the following Student Code of Conduct with the understanding that not complying with any part of this student agreement may be grounds for appropriate discipline.

As a student of Blair County Christian School,

1. I will cooperate with basic Christian standards of behavior and conversation.
2. I will submit myself to those in authority at BCCS and/or any rules and regulations established by the school.
3. I will obey the teachers and staff promptly and cheerfully, and treat them with respect (no arguing or back talk).
4. I will respect and be kind to my fellow students.
5. I will arrive at my classes promptly (on time), prepared (with appropriate materials), and with a positive attitude (toward teachers, students, and subjects).
6. I will work hard in all my classes, turning in all homework on time.
7. I have read the uniform dress code and will endeavor to follow the spirit and letter of the code.
8. I will not chew gum while in school.
9. I will not bring inappropriate items to school (radios, CD players, MP3 players, portable gaming devices, guns, knives, etc.)
10. I understand that I will be held responsible for **any** damage done to school property (including textbooks, lockers, and computers) and that lockers are **not** private property and are subject to inspection. I will also be held accountable for any misuse of school or student property.

11. I will not be involved in public displays of affection (romantic physical contact with members of the opposite sex or in homosexual relationships) at school or school activities.
12. When areas of conflict arise, I will bring any questions, criticisms, or concerns directly to the teachers or administration so that they may be dealt with properly by those in authority. I will also approach the authority figures in an attitude of respect and honor.
13. I will not intimidate or bully any of my classmates.
14. I will keep my hands to myself.
15. I will not be untruthful with anyone.
16. I will not use the school computers or internet without written permission from a teacher and the supervision of a teacher.

Student Driving

1. Students who drive to Blair County Christian School must park in the designated student parking area. Students driving to school should park their cars immediately upon arrival at school. Students should not return to their vehicles during the school day for any reason without permission from faculty.
2. A five mile-per-hour speed limit is to be observed on school property.
3. No student is to drive or ride in another student's vehicle, including bicycles, motorcycles, trucks, etc. **unless written permission is on file in advance in the office.** No blanket permission slips will be approved.
4. When leaving school, student drivers should use the east parking lot exit.
5. No students should loiter in the parking lot area before or after school hours.
6. All student drivers must be properly licensed and insured.
7. Parking is to be within the spaces provided during school hours and functions. BCCS reserves the right to revoke a student's driving privileges at the administration's discretion.
8. Music standards and all other standards of conduct apply while the vehicle is on campus.
9. Once students arrive to school there will be no leaving.
10. There will be no meeting in vehicles on school property.

Field Trips

Field trips to places of educational interest are taken at various times during the school year. BCCS is within reasonable driving distance of many places of special interest and educational benefit for the school.

The same standards of conduct and dress required of the students at school are also required of students on school-sponsored activities.

Depending on class size and the nature of the field trip, teachers may ask parent chaperones to attend field trips. Chaperones are expected to abide by **field trip dress code policies** and assist the teacher in whatever way possible.

Senior Trips

Senior Trips are an exciting opportunity to be rewarded for years of hard work in school! The senior classes will raise their money for their class trip through different fund raisers and activities. The class trip location will be the Wilds Christian Camp in Brevard, N.C. There is an option of visiting one other place on the way to the Wilds or on the way back from the Wilds. This location must be approved by the deacons and pastors of the Foot of Ten Independent Bible Church. The sponsors for the trip must be school or church faculty unless otherwise approved by the deacons and pastors. The senior trip is a school sponsored activity therefore the standards of conduct and dress will apply. The senior class trip is also a privilege and not a right therefore, a student may forfeit his/her privilege to attend the trip.

Social Functions

At school approved and sponsored activities we ask that the students and guests abide by the school's standard of dress and conduct. We ask that modest, loose fitting clothing must be worn.

Lockers

Lockers are the property of Blair County Christian School, and the administration and teachers have the authority to open lockers to make sure that all material within the locker is in line with school policy. Only lockers assigned are to be used. Parents will be charged for damages by students to any lockers.

Inclement Weather

During times of inclement weather the school recognizes that there may be a need for jackets, sweaters or hooded coats to be worn. No hooded jackets are to be worn during school hours.

Dress Code

STANDARDS OF DRESS AND APPEARANCE

The biblical principle underlying all standards of dress and grooming is modesty: Modesty applies not only to common decency but to the matter of calling undue attention to oneself as well. An appearance that makes a person a public spectacle is as inappropriate for the Christian as clothing that calls inappropriate attention to the body. The clothing and grooming of our students should be appropriate in both facets of modesty.

While at school, student dress will be governed by the school uniform program. Students are to be neatly and appropriately dressed for all school-sponsored activities. Students violating the

dress code at school or other activities may, at the discretion of the administration, be asked to leave campus until their appearance meets school standards. Parents and guests of students are encouraged to honor the standards of modest dress exemplified by the school dress code while participating in school activities or attending school functions.

Young Men

All students must wear the school uniform each day. Khaki or navy blue cargo or dress pants. Shirts: Any solid color of polo shirt, but it must be loose fitting and have only 1 button open from the top and must also be tucked in with a belt. No other shirts may be exposed from underneath top or bottom; the only exception is a solid color turtle neck at the top.

Haircuts are to be traditional and masculine in nature. The hair may not rest on the collar or cover any portion of the ear. Hair must fall at least 1 inch above the eyebrow. Sideburns may not extend below the middle of the ear or be cut above the top of the ear. Hair coloring is not permitted. Facial hair is not allowed.

Effeminate or excessive jewelry is not allowed.

No earrings or tattoos are allowed.

Athletic shoes or casual shoes must be worn. (No flip flops or sandals)

Brown or black leather belts must be worn properly.

Belts are made to be used to keep loose fitting pants where they are meant to be worn.
(No cloth or rope type materials)

All shirts are to be tucked in.

Since fads change continually, the administration reserves the right to address the appropriateness of such trends as they arise.

Preschool

Preschool students are required to wear the school uniform. The dress code is listed above in bold for our young men.

Elementary After-School Activities

Long pants are to be worn. Neat blue jeans that are in good condition may be worn. If pants have belt loops, belts must be worn. Shirts other than uniform shirts maybe worn as long as they are neat, and do not advertise anything inappropriate.

Secondary After-School Activities

Shirts with collars will be required. Shirts with tails should be tucked in. Square bottom shirts may be left out. Shirts must be buttoned except for the top button. Shirts without buttons must not be low-cut.

Long slacks are to be worn. Neat blue jeans that are in good condition may be worn (No holes, rub spots or extreme fading). Slacks are to be worn at the normal waistline.

Belts must be worn with slacks that have belt loops.

Socks must be worn at all times.

Neatness is required, therefore, there will be no bib overalls, military clothing, shirts tails worn out (unless square bottom), sweat shirts, T-Shirts, etc. Clothing should not be sloppy, or excessively baggy.

Neck jewelry or bracelets of any kind are not permitted. Watches and rings are acceptable.

Extremes in fashion or clothing which promotes questionable products, people, places, ideas, words, etc. should not be worn. Unisex items for boys (necklaces, earrings, etc.) are not allowed. Any clothing which is considered by the administration to be inappropriate or in bad taste is not permitted.

Young Ladies

All students must wear the school uniform each day. Young ladies are to wear khaki or navy blue skirts or jumpers. They must be below the bottom of the knee while sitting. There will be no exceptions for this. All skirts must be loose fitting. Shirts: Any solid color of polo shirt, but it must be loose fitting and have only 1 button open from the top. No other shirts may be exposed from underneath top or bottom; the only exception is a solid color turtle neck at the top.

The length of a skirt, dress or jumper should be no shorter than the bottom of the kneecap when the student is sitting. There will be no exceptions for this.

Proper, age-appropriate undergarments must be worn at all times.

Brown, black, or blue casual or dress shoes, sandals (with a back/strap), and athletics shoes (laced properly) are permitted. No flip-flops or backless shoes will be permitted.

Knee socks, ankle socks (of traditional colors, no extreme designs or patterns) or conventional hosiery may be worn.

All shirts are to be loose-fitting (not form-fitting or calling attention to ones self).

Make-up may be worn conservatively and modestly.

Nail polish may be worn and must be in traditional colors.

Jewelry must be conservative in both quantity and style.

Hairstyles must be conservative and consistent with a traditionally feminine appearance. Hair must be tied back or otherwise held off the face. Hair accessories must coordinate with the uniform being worn and not as a distraction.

Since fads change continually, the administration reserves the right to address the appropriateness of such trends as they arise.

Preschool

Preschool students are required to wear the school uniform. The dress code is listed above in bold for young ladies. Shorts may be worn underneath skirts or jumpers.

Elementary After-school Activities

Blue denim/jean skirts and jumpers in good condition, loose fitting pants are permitted for after school athletic events.

Sun dresses worn without a blouse are not acceptable. Shirts should not be sleeveless.

Slits in dresses or skirts should be no shorter than the middle of the knee-cap while sitting or standing.

No low-cut or see through garments are permitted.

Secondary After-school Activities

Girls' dresses are to be feminine, appropriate, and modest in length, style, fit, and neckline. Length of dress/skirts must be at least to the bottom of the knee-cap when sitting (this includes slits and flaps). Button-down skirts must be stitched to prevent accidental unbuttoning higher than allowed.

Sheer, see-through, half blouses, low-cut, or scoop front garments are not permitted. The neckline must never be lower than three inches from the base of the neck.

The back of a dress or blouse must be no lower than four inches below the base of the neck (where the shoulders and the neck meet). Shoulders must be completely covered.

Skirts, dresses and loose fitting pants may be worn to any school sponsored events (games, parties, rehearsals, etc.)

Neatness is required. Clothing must not be wrinkled, sloppy, excessively baggy, etc. Hairstyles should always give a neat appearance.

Extremes in fashion or clothing which promotes questionable products, people, places, ideas, words, etc. should not be worn. Unisex items, clothing, or hairstyles (extreme boy-cut styles) etc. are not permitted.

Jean skirts/pants must be in good condition (No holes, rub spots, or extreme fading).

Sleeveless tops and dresses are not permitted.

Skirts, dresses, pants and tops should fit modestly, but not to the degree that they are baggy or sloppy in appearance.

Any hair or clothing style considered by the administration to be in bad taste or inappropriate is not allowed.

Girls whose dresses do not meet dress code standards will be sent home to change. Demerits will be given for each offense.

Make-up will be allowed only in moderation to enhance natural beauty. Over use is prohibited.

Jewelry must be conservative in both quantity and style. No more than two earrings per ear should be worn at a time.

No backless shoes are to be worn. Tennis shoes are acceptable.

Music Standards

It is the policy of Blair County Christian School that students are not to listen to any kind of rock music, including "Christian rock" while on school property or at school sponsored activities. It is the stance of this ministry that we do not support the Contemporary Christian Music Industry or Praise and Worship Movement. To help understand what this covers the different types of music are described below.

CCM or Contemporary Christian Music: Specifically, this includes music styles such as soft rock, pop/rock, easy listening or classic rock, but could also include other forms of heavily syncopated music with rock influences such as jazz, rap, blues, ska, hip-hop, punk, or modern country and western.

P & W or Praise and Worship: this music style also has a strong rock influence. Some of the best-known sources for this music are Integrity, Hosanna, Vineyard, and Maranatha Music.

Electronic Devices

No media devices such as iPods, walkmans, gaming devices, etc. should be brought to school. No laser pointers should be brought to school. If a parent needs to reach a child during school hours, or vice-versa, the parent may call the school office or the student may ask permission to use the phone in the school office. All opportunities for contact in case of emergency will be given.

Cell Phones

ALL CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF AND TURNED IN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE STUDENTS TO HAVE THEIR CELL PHONES ON THEM DURING THE DAY. FIRST OFFENSE WILL BE A WARNING. THE SECOND OFFENSE WILL BE A \$10.00 FINE, AND THE PHONE WILL BE RETURNED ONLY TO A PARENT. THIRD OFFENSE WILL RESULT IN THE PRIVILEGE BEING LOST AND THE PHONE WILL NEED TO BE PICKED UP BY THE PARENT.

STUDENTS MAY PICK THEIR PHONE UP AT THE END OF THE DAY AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

General and Specific Discipline

General Rules

The following rules will be observed by all students:

1. Students must be in their seats with the proper materials ready for class when the class bell rings.
2. Students are not to communicate without permission from the teacher.
3. Students are not to leave their seats at any time without permission from the teacher.
4. At all times, students are to show the utmost respect for those who are placed in authority over them (for example, answering “yes, sir” and “no, sir”). Nothing less than this will be tolerated.
5. There will be no drinking or eating in any classroom during regular instructing hours.

Every teacher is given the liberty to make and enforce classroom regulations consistent with the general policies of the school.

Dismissal

Students who are dismissed during the last quarter of the year will not be allowed to re-enroll until the second semester of the following year. Before a student will be re-enrolled, there must be evidence of a changed behavior and attitude.

Blair County Christian School reserves the right to dismiss a child from the school at any time at its own discretion. We hold to the strict teachings of the Bible, and reserve the right to dismiss a student based on the teachings of the Bible and its guide for living.

Discipline for Grades K3-6th

Examples of corrective measures that will be taken in these grades are time-out from recess and extra seatwork. When problems arise, it is our desire to notify the parents so that the school and home can work in harmony to address any discipline issues.

Discipline for Grades 7-12th

Beginning in the 7th grade, a demerit system is utilized by the school.

If a student is given detention, a form will go home with him/her that he/she will have to bring back to school after being signed by a parent.

Detention slips are to be returned the very next school day.

Demerit System

The demerit system is primarily a system of recording disciplinary problems. It is designed to give the administration, the parents, and the student a better awareness of disciplinary problems. It is our objective to resolve discipline problems promptly in an effort to better maintain a Christ-honoring atmosphere for the BCCS student body.

All demerits are cumulative; therefore, demerits will accumulate on a semester basis. At the beginning of the semester, students will start at zero demerits and begin the accumulation process over. Simply put, if an infraction carries a penalty of one demerit, the one demerit will apply to the first three offenses. The 4th, 5th, and 6th offense of the same infraction will incur a penalty of 2 demerits; the 7th, 8th, and 9th offense of the same infraction will incur a penalty of 4 demerits; etc. The doubling process is the same for each repetition of the same infraction (i.e., GC- Gum Chewing or eating in class carries a penalty of 5 demerits which would increase as follows: offenses 1-3 incur 5 demerits each, offenses 4-6 incur 10 demerits each, offenses 7-9 incur 20 demerits, etc.).

As demerits accumulate over the course of a semester, specific actions will be taken at various levels to keep parents, the student, and school board informed of the student's disciplinary standing.

The various actions and levels are as follows:

- 10 demerits – Detention, student conference with the principal, letter to parent*
- 20 demerits – One day in-school suspension, conference with student, parent, and principal
- 30 demerits – Three days in-school suspension, conference with student, parent, principal and school board* (and teachers involved only if needed)
- 40 demerits – Disciplinary probation/social restriction, conference with student, parent, and principal; and letter to school board*
- 50 demerits – Three day in-school suspension and conference
- 60 demerits – Expulsion from school* (students will not be allowed to re-enroll at BCCS for at least one semester and must show a genuine repentance and change of behavior before allowing them to return to BCCS. Upon returning they would be put on disciplinary probation)

A zero will be given for all work missed during a suspension

*Notification will be sent to the Altoona Vo-Tech for all students who are enrolled in a Vo-Tech program.

The student's demerit total will appear on his report card each marking period. Any total over Ten (10) for the semester will go on the student's permanent record.

Students are required to sign a demerit slip whenever given. Failure to do so will result in demerits for direct disobedience.

Demerit System Code:

1. **BU** Books uncovered (1 demerit)
2. **C*** Cheating (20 demerits)
3. **CD** Classroom disturbances – excessive talking, distraction, etc. (5 demerits)
4. **DP** Defacing or misusing school property (20 demerits + work detention to help fix what was done)
5. **DD*** Direct Disobedience – failure to comply when given a direct command (10 demerits)
6. **DC** Dress Code – 1st offense sent to office to get school shirt/skirt, a \$1.00 fee,

item to be returned at end of day. 2nd offense sent home to get change of clothes and 5 demerits. Time missed from class results in zeros.

7. **DT*** Disrespect to faculty or staff (10 demerits)
8. **G*** Gripping about rules or faculty (10 demerits)
9. **GR** Ground rules – loitering in the hall, in the hall without a pass, littering, running in the hall, etc. (3 demerits)
10. **GC** Gum chewing or eating in class (5 demerits)
11. **HW** HW is due when it is assigned. An example would be “HW given on Monday and is due on Tuesday”. The HW is due on Tuesday unless the student brings an acceptable reason by the parent in written form on the day the assignment is due. Incomplete HW with no written note from parent will result in a zero being given. In the event of a second offence a student, parent, teacher and administrator conference will be held.
12. **HP** Horseplay (1 demerit)
13. **IC*** Inappropriate contact with another student (i.e. poking, unnecessary contact between students) (5 demerits)
14. **ISD*** Inter-student discourtesy (5 demerits)
15. **IR** Inappropriate response – i.e. double meanings, sassing, etc. (2 demerits)
16. **IT*** Inappropriate touching – i.e. kissing, hugging, etc. (10 demerits) (1st offense = 3 days in-school suspension; 2nd offense = 5 days in-school suspension and parent, student and principal meeting with the school board; social restriction)
17. **LA*** Language – crude, swearing, profanity, using God’s name in vain, etc. (10 demerits) **Using inappropriate text verbally or written is a violation of the language rule.**
18. **NPC** Not prepared for class (1 demerit)
19. **R** Rowdiness in lunchroom, hall, restroom, etc. (2 demerits). Throwing food, paper, basically anything at lunch will be considered a DP and will result in detention.
20. **TC** Tardy to class – (1 demerit)
21. **TS** Tardy to school – Every 5th Tardy to School will result in the day of the fifth offense being counted as an unexcused absence. The student will receive zeros in all of his classes for the 5th day.
22. **UA*** Unexcused absence – (5 demerits and zeros for the class or day)
23. **F** Fighting – school’s discretion
24. **L** Lying – (20 demerits) “playing on words”, “mixing or twisting words”, not being completely honest when relaying information or simply not being truthful.

*Those offenses marked with an asterisk require that the student meet with the principal and that notification will be given to the student’s parents.

****Double demerits will be given the last week of the school year.**

Detention

Detention must be served on the day it is assigned – no exceptions will be made. (We try to be flexible when scheduling detention and take in the needs of the student) (i.e., work, transportation, etc.). Missing a day's detention will result in an additional day's detention beyond the one missed; a second day missed will result in an additional week's detention. Detention typically lasts 1 hour. Three or more days missed will result in a day of in-school suspension. All missed detentions are cumulative.

Probation

As a result of unsatisfactory achievement or repeated misconduct, a student may be placed on either academic or disciplinary probation. Once placed on probation, a student will have six (6) weeks to improve academically or not accumulate over 20 demerits in a semester. In order to have his/her disciplinary probation lifted the student must not accumulate more than 20 demerits in a semester. If he/she fails to achieve this goal, he/she will not be allowed to attend Blair County Christian School for one (1) semester. If the criteria are met, the probation will be lifted.

Social Restriction

Students may be placed on social restriction when (1) any act, event, or attitude is deemed by the administration to warrant such action; (2) the student accumulates 40 demerits in a semester; or (3) the student earns his second Inappropriate Touching demerit.

A student on social restriction cannot be in any leadership position (i.e., class officer, team captain, etc.); cannot participate in fieldtrips, cannot attend extra-curricular activities (games, banquets, etc.), cannot continue as a member of a sports team and cannot be excused from classes to do class business (i.e., selling lunch, selling tickets, etc.)

***We realize the demerit list is not exhaustive. If an offense occurs which is not included in the demerit system code, the administration will do its best to be fair in the administration of Discipline.**