

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”

Matthew 5:6



EMMANUEL

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Secondary Handbook

2023-2024

Revised October 20, 2023

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Student Life Covenant

Community Life at Emmanuel Christian Academy

Introduction

Emmanuel Christian Academy (ECA) is a community of Christians intentionally joined together for academic progress, personal development and spiritual growth. We are a Christ-centered K-12 school committed to strong academics and advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a broken world. We seek to honor Him by integrating biblical faith and learning while our hearts and lives embrace the process of maturing in Christ.

The Emmanuel Christian Academy community consists of those who, in furtherance of our mission, are living together in intentional, voluntary fellowship, aware that we are called to live our lives before a watching world. Although centered on the ECA campus, this community is not defined by geography, but rather by membership in the ECA educational mission.

This Student Life Covenant (SLC) identifies the expectations for living in community as we seek to fulfill our mission. It is impossible to create a community with expectations totally acceptable to every member. Nevertheless, certain responsibilities and expectations must be specified to define orderly community life. When families join the Emmanuel community, they commit their children to the responsibilities and expectations outlined in this covenant. These expectations are not intended to measure spirituality or to promote legalism. Galatians 5:13-14 reminds us that while we were called to be free, our freedom is best used when we serve one another in love. (Romans 14:1-23; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13, 10:23-33)

A foundational support for the Student Life Covenant is the ECA Statement of Faith. The Statement of Faith affirms that the Bible is the inspired, inerrant and authoritative Word of God; therefore it provides the essential teachings and principles for personal and community conduct. The Statement of Faith also affirms the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling believers are enabled to live a Godly life, thus equipping them with the inner resources and attributes to minister to others through supportive relationships. It is our hope that our students and their families are in complete accord with our desire to help them grow in their faith. Unfortunately, in some cases, individual students or parents may have reservations about biblical or institutional standards here at ECA. Nevertheless, enrollment at ECA acknowledges that these biblical and institutional standards form the basis for guidance, discipline and correction within the Emmanuel Christian Academy student body despite the personal spiritual condition of individual students or their parents.

Biblical Responsibilities

Responsibilities for Loving God, Others and Self

We glorify God by loving and obeying Him. Because we are commanded to love one another, relationships and behaviors which reflect such love confirm our allegiance to God and bring glory to Him. (Matthew 22:36-40; John 15:11-14; Romans 15:5-6)

Living in daily fellowship with other Christians is a privilege and an expression of God's will and grace. In recognition of this privilege, great value is placed on the quality of relationships in our community. We acknowledge that we are living in a fellowship where we are dependent on and accountable to one another. The New Testament word for fellowship is *koinonia*, which is translated as a close mutual relationship, participation, sharing, partnership,

contribution, or gift. Students are encouraged to seek opportunities to demonstrate fellowship. (1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Ephesians 4:1-6)

All persons are created in the image of God, and each person is known by God and knit together in the womb with intentional design. God's attention to creative detail is uniquely applied in each person in whom is given the capacity to love God with heart, soul, mind and strength. The commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves reminds us of our potential to minister to others while at the same time recognizing our own need for care and support. (Psalm 139:13-14; Mark 12:29-31; 1 Corinthians 6:19)

Responsibilities for Community

Within our community, the greatest expression of fellowship and the highest principle for relationships is love. Since God first loved us, we ought to demonstrate love toward one another. (1 John 3:11, 16, 18; 4:7-21) For the purpose of our community, we have identified the following specific expressions of love as being among the most desirable.

Building Up One Another: We expect each member of the community to strive consciously to maintain relationships that support, encourage and build up one another. (Romans 15:1-2)

Forgiving One Another: Because of our fallen nature, difficulties in relationships will occur. In such cases we must strive to respond with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, making allowance for each other and forgiving one another. (Colossians 3:12-13)

Caring for One Another: We are responsible to come alongside those experiencing grief, discouragement, illness, tragedy, or other personal trials. Expressions of bearing one another's burdens include comfort, encouragement, consolation and intercession. (Galatians 6:2)

Respecting One Another: Because of the God-given worth and dignity of people, each member of the community is expected to be sensitive to the image of God created in every person. Therefore, discrimination against others on the basis of race, national origin, age, gender or disability is not acceptable. Any kind of demeaning gesture, symbol, communication, threat or act of violence directed toward another person will not be tolerated. (Colossians 3:11-14; 1 John 3:14-18)

Speaking the Truth in Love: A community such as ours can be strengthened by speaking the truth to each other with love. Problems in relationships and behavior can be resolved constructively by confronting one another in an appropriate spirit. If the welfare of the one being confronted is paramount and if the confronter is motivated by and acting in love, the process can produce growth. (Ephesians 4:15, Galatians 6:1)

Reconciliation, Restoration and Restitution: Healing broken relationships is necessary for a healthy community. When relationships have been harmed, regardless of the reason, individuals are expected to reach out to one another, forgive one another, restore relationships and make restitution. (Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15-20)

Responsibilities for Individual Attitudes and Behavior

Attributes of the Heart: Scripture gives us mandates for daily living through the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. (Exodus 20:2-17; Matthew 5-7) In addition, scripture teaches that certain attributes are available to individuals through the Holy Spirit. These attributes include: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." (Galatians 5:22-24 NIV) This "fruit of the Spirit" is to be sought, encouraged and demonstrated in our relationships. We are also called to live lives

characterized by peace and holiness. (Hebrews 12:14)

In contrast to encouraging these positive attributes of the heart, scripture condemns injustice and attitudes such as greed, jealousy, pride, lust, prejudice and hatred. Although these attitudes are sometimes difficult to discern, they can hinder relationships with God and others and lead to unacceptable behavior. (Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 4:31; Micah 6:8)

Prohibited Behaviors: Certain behaviors are expressly prohibited in scripture and therefore are to be avoided by all members of the community. They include theft, lying, dishonesty, gossip, slander, backbiting, profanity, vulgarity, crude language, sexual immorality (including adultery, homosexual behavior, premarital sex and involvement with pornography in any form), underage use of alcohol, immodesty of dress and occult practice. (Mark 7:20-23; Romans 13:12-14; 1 Corinthians 6:9-1)

Academic Integrity and Truthfulness: As a Christ-centered academic community, we apply biblical responsibilities for honesty to all forms of academic integrity. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating are forbidden; we expect truthfulness to be expressed in every learning context. Luke 16:10; Ephesians 4:25)

Submission to God Ordained Authority: All students are first and foremost under the authority of their parents, and by extension, institutions and authority structures under which their parents place them, such as their local church and this school. (Ephesians 6:1, Exodus 20:12) In keeping with scriptural admonitions to bring ourselves under the authority of government, members of the Emmanuel community are expected to uphold the laws of the local community, the state and the nation. An exception would be those rare occasions in which obedience to civil authorities would require behavior that conflicts with the teaching of scripture. On such occasions, each individual would submit voluntarily to the penalty for his or her behavior (Romans 13:1-7). Behavior resulting in arrest on or off campus is subject to review within the school's disciplinary procedures*.

****Inappropriate actions and behavior that occur outside of the school day and away from Emmanuel including character, life decisions and/or breaking the law will be handled by administration with the family depending on the severity of the behavior. School action will be taken for incidences that involve unlawful behavior.***

Institutional Expectations

In addition to subscribing to the section on Biblical Responsibilities, members of the Emmanuel family voluntarily commit themselves to the following expectations of behavior. This commitment results from the conviction that these expectations serve the common good of the individual and the institution. These expectations are not set forth as an index of Christian spirituality, but rather as values and standards of the school and guidelines that serve to preserve the values of the campus community. Furthermore, they reflect our commitment to helping each member of the community grow in maturity and in the ability to make wise choices. Because of the importance of trust and responsibility to one another, violations of these expectations are regarded as a serious breach of integrity within the community. The following expectations apply to all members of the ECA student body:

Worship: Corporate worship, prayer, fellowship and instruction are essential for our community. Therefore, students are expected to attend, and encouraged to participate in the life of a local church.

Lord's Day: Members of the community are encouraged to observe this day as a day set apart primarily for worship, fellowship, ministry and rest. While activities such as recreation, exercise and study may be a part of the day, "business as usual" relative to school programs and services will not generally be sanctioned or encouraged.

Entertainment and Recreation: Students are expected to use discretion and discernment in their choices of entertainment and recreation (some examples include media, internet usage, and games). Activities and entertainment that are of questionable value or diminish a person's moral sensitivity should be avoided. Consideration for others and standards of good taste are important, and all activities should be guided by this principle.

Illegal and Legal Substances: ECA prohibits the possession, use or distribution of illegal substances and the abuse or illegal use of legal substances, including prescription and over-the-counter medication.

Tobacco: Students will not possess, use, or distribute tobacco in any form on or off campus, regardless of their age.

Alcoholic Beverages: Underage use, possession, or distribution of alcohol is illegal.

Gambling: Gambling (the exchange of money or goods by betting or wagering) is viewed as an unwise use of God-given resources.

Respect for the Property of Others: Members of the community are expected to respect the property of others, including school property, private property on and off campus, and public property. The intellectual property of others is also to be respected.

Conclusion

The book of Colossians provides an appropriate summary of the goals for our community: "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another. . . . And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." (Colossians 3:12-17 NIV)

Acknowledgement of the ECA Student Life Covenant

The Student Life Covenant (SLC) identifies the expectations for living in community as we seek to fulfill our mission. It is impossible to create a community with expectations totally acceptable to every member. Nevertheless, certain responsibilities and expectations must be specified to define orderly community life. When families join the ECA community, they commit their children to the responsibilities and expectations outlined in this covenant.

A foundational support for the Student Life Covenant is the ECA Statement of Faith. The Statement of Faith affirms basic biblical truth that forms the basis for expectations regarding personal and community life at ECA. In addition to these biblical responsibilities flowing from the scripture and articulated in our Statement of Faith, ECA has some specific institutional expectations as is the case with any such organization. Therefore, compliance with day-to-day policies and procedures of the community is expected from students. These policies and procedures are given in the Student Handbook which is readily available on the school's website.

It is our hope that our students, and their families, are in complete accord with our desire to help them grow in their faith. In some cases, however, individual students or parents may have reservations about particular biblical or institutional standards here at ECA. Nevertheless, enrollment at ECA acknowledges that these biblical and institutional standards form the basis for guidance, discipleship and correction within the Emmanuel Christian Academy student body despite the personal spiritual condition or reservations of individual students or their parents.

***We have read the Student Life Covenant and acknowledge that it outlines the core values to which students must adhere as part of community life at Emmanuel Christian Academy. An electronic acknowledgement signature will be required for enrollment and can be found in the online Enrollment Packet.**

EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY STUDENT HANDBOOK

Statement of Faith

Emmanuel Christian Academy was founded and functions upon the basic fundamental principles of the Word of God, and it espouses the historic Protestant Christian view of life as presented in the Bible. The following statements of faith and practice are held by every Emmanuel Christian Academy employee and school family:

1. I believe the Bible to be the verbally inspired and only infallible, authoritative, inerrant Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21)
2. I believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:1; John 10:30; John 10:37, 38)
3. I 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 personal return in power and glory. (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:35; Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 7:25; John 2:11; Hebrews 9:12; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14; John 11:25; Acts 1:11; Revelation 19:11-16)
4. I believe that man is sinful by nature and that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential and an absolute necessity for his salvation. (Romans 3:19; John 3:16-19; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:5-6)
5. I believe in the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life. (Ephesians 5:18; Ephesians 4:30; 2 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 6:19-20)
6. I believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost. They who are saved unto eternal life and they who are lost unto eternal damnation. (John 5:28-29)
7. I believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 8:9; 2 Corinthians 12:12-13; Galatians 3:26-28)
8. I believe in the creation of man by the direct act of God. (Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 5:1-2)

NOTE: Emmanuel Christian Academy neither supports nor endorses the World Council of Churches, National Council of Churches or any other world, national or regional organization which gives Christian recognition to unbelievers or which advocates multi-faith union.

Accreditation

Emmanuel Christian Academy (kindergarten through twelfth grades) is chartered by the State of Ohio, Department of Education. Emmanuel Christian Academy is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International. ECA is accredited by ACSI and Cognia.

Mission Statement

Emmanuel Christian Academy is a Christ-centered learning community that exists to educate students of Christian families and prepare them for God's calling.

Diversity Statement

As a Christian school partnered with the traditions from our understanding of a biblical church, Emmanuel Christian Academy values and promotes the diversity brought about through our unity in Jesus Christ. Scripture calls us to love others as we love ourselves, to exhibit and extend hospitality toward everyone, and to pursue reconciliation with one another. At Emmanuel Christian Academy we believe that love, hospitality, and reconciliation are essential to experiencing the initial declaration of the Gospel by the angels in Luke 2:14, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward humankind."

At Emmanuel Christian Academy, diversity is a key part of living out our mission to be a "Christ-centered learning community that exists to educate students of Christian families and prepare them for God's calling" in an increasingly diverse nation and world. An educational environment rich in diversity promotes cross-cultural understanding, encourages collaboration, and fosters innovation, thereby benefiting all within the learning community. Much more than reaping the benefits of a diverse learning community, Emmanuel Christian Academy's commitment to diversity is a grateful and faithful response to the biblical mandate to love one another, to extend hospitality, and to pursue reconciliation.

To say that you are welcome at Emmanuel Christian Academy, no matter your background, is not enough. You are welcome, because of your background. Our backgrounds are part of our identities and shape the stories of our lives. We realize that creating a welcoming space where all stories are heard and valued makes for greater conversations, learning, and community. It is through such Christian learning and community that God will transform our brokenness into the full and vibrant life that He intends for each of us.

At Emmanuel Christian Academy, we are committed to creating an atmosphere where diversity and inclusion flourish. Based upon our statement of biblical beliefs, this commitment includes welcoming family members regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, or ability. ECA upholds the truth that all men and women, regardless of their physical, social, and spiritual backgrounds, are created in God's image and as such should be treated as Christ commands us in Matthew 22:39 to "Love your neighbor as yourself." For the believer, we further uphold that our sinful nature was crucified with Christ, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin (Romans 6:6). As such, the believer yearns to be transformed into the image of Christ. We don't claim to have it all figured out, but with hearts gripped by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and open minds to the revelation of God's intent for an international family, we are building a stronger community of believers to change the world.

Emmanuel Christian Academy embraces the biblical vision of the kingdom of God as seen in Revelation 7:9, "There before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb." We envision a kingdom community in which cultural diversity is seen as normal; a Christian "family" that transcends all ethnic, cultural, racial, and societal boundaries.

Doctrinal Position

Even though we have many denominations represented on our staff and in our student body, we have experienced great unity here at Emmanuel Christian Academy. God is blessing this ministry because we have strived to place Jesus

Christ at the focal point of everything we do. We all believe in the central message of the Word of God, and stand solidly behind the Statement of Faith that appears on every student, faculty and staff application. We will not compromise on these central doctrines of the Word of God, yet those of us who belong to the body of believers have some differences that are peculiar to our particular denominations. When these particular issues are raised in our school system, we refer the student to their parents, and their local church for guidance.

Marriage and Sexuality Policy

Redemptive Community

Emmanuel Christian Academy has developed its policies from a Christian perspective and desires to be a redemptive community. From a Christian understanding, a redemptive community is one in which we recognize the goodness of Creation (Genesis 1:31), the reality of the Fall (Genesis 3:17-19), and the redemptive work of Jesus Christ in bringing about God's purposes (Romans 8:22). A redemptive community is one in which we honor one another as made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26). We do this by treating one another with respect, by extending grace and mercy to one another, by being loving and understanding, and by being patient and trustworthy. All this must be done in a manner that maintains order and discipline. In order for this to occur the Academy believes that members of the Academy community need the opportunity to learn and grow through accepting responsibility for their actions. A redemptive community is characterized by the fruit of the spirit: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." (Galatians 5:22-23). The Emmanuel Christian Academy community wishes to model and foster these qualities of redemption and personal responsibility in the lives of Faculty, Staff, and Students.

Traditional Biblical View on Human Sexual Relationships

1. Humans, being created in the image of God, are inherently relational beings. (Genesis 1:26)
2. The inherent relational nature of humankind is expressed in a variety of contexts including family, marriage, work, and for Christians, the body of Christ. (Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Corinthians 12:14)
3. Humans were created as gendered beings. They were expressly blessed by God to be fruitful and multiply and to exercise dominion over the earth. (Genesis 1:26-28)
4. Heterosexuality is God's design for sexually intimate relationships. Sexual union between a man and a woman is only to take place within the marriage covenant. (Genesis 2:18, 21-24; Hebrews 13:4)
5. Jesus reaffirms the marital covenant as existing between a man and a woman. (Matthew 19:4-9)
6. The New Testament teaches that followers of Christ are to remain celibate outside the bond of marriage. In sexual union, both body and soul are deeply impacted. A person who engages in sexual unions outside the bond of marriage sins against his or her own body, which is the temple of the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 6:13, 18-20)
7. The sexual union between a husband and wife has been designed by God to bring them together as "one flesh," creating a solid foundation on which to build a family. (Genesis 2:18-24; Ephesians 5:31)
8. In scripture, several sexual behaviors are expressly forbidden, which include, but are not limited to: fornication, adultery, incest, unnatural sexual intercourse, and homosexual acts. (Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 18:7-23, 20:10-21; Matthew 5:27-28; Romans 1:20-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9; Galatians 5:19; Ephesians 4:17-19; Colossians 3:5).

Because the Academy fully accepts the teachings of the traditional biblical view with regard to the goodness of our sexuality, the importance of chastity, and the place of heterosexual marriage as God's intended context for complete sexual expression to occur (Genesis 2:21-24), sexual misconduct that is prohibited includes disorderly conduct or

lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct or expression, involvement with pornography, premarital sex, adultery, homosexual conduct or any other conduct that violates biblical standards.

Sex, Sexuality and Gender Identity

The Academy's policy regarding sex, sexuality and gender identity is grounded in our long-standing institutional religious identity. This identity, in turn, is grounded in the teachings of the Bible as understood in the Protestant Evangelical theological tradition. This policy is intended to address transsexualism, transgenderism, and broader related gender identity issues. We acknowledge that uninformed and harsh actions by Christians have inflicted unnecessary pain. We recognize our obligation before God to love all persons, understanding such love in the context of God's revealed truth. We affirm that God's original and ongoing intent and action is the creation of humanity manifest as two distinct sexes, male and female. We also recognize that due to sin and human brokenness, our experience of our sex and gender is not always that which God the Creator originally designed, and yet affirm further God's capacity to heal and transform our brokenness.

With this foundational understanding of Creation, Fall, and Redemption, we do not affirm the resolution of tension between one's biological sex and one's experience of gender by the adoption of a psychological identity discordant with one's birth sex. Similarly we do not affirm attempts to change one's given biological birth sex via medical intervention in favor of the identity of the opposite sex or of an indeterminate identity. As a Christian school we will respect those whose moral views diverge from ours, and seek to embody the gentle and patient love of Christ for all. We will make institutional decisions in light of this policy regarding student admission and retention, employment hiring and retention, and other matters.

Ministry Goals/Core Values

1. **Serving the FAMILY:**
To serve the home and local church as they train young people to have a personal and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. (Deuteronomy 6:5-7)
2. **Providing the TRUTH:**
To provide a Christ-centered educational program which is based on the authoritative Word of God. (2 Timothy 2:15)
3. **Equipping the STUDENT:**
To equip students to evangelize and disciple others and to encourage involvement in practical ministry opportunities. (Matthew 28:19-20)
4. **Unifying the BODY:**
To offer Christian education which unifies the body of Christ in accord with Biblical principles and the Statement of Faith. (Ephesians 4:1-6)
5. **Modeling the SAVIOR:**
To employ and develop mature Christian faculty and staff members who minister through the power of the Holy Spirit to their family, students, and community by word and action. (Luke 6:40)

6. Following the BIBLE:
To follow Biblical principles in all of our practices, policies and guidelines. (2 Chronicles 1:10)
7. Balancing the RESOURCES:
To communicate, locally and globally, the purpose and objectives of Christian education by sharing Emmanuel Christian Academy's goals, curricula, policies and resources. (1 John 3:17-18)

Vision Statement

Our vision is to educate children from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, imparting excellence in academic standards while also developing solid moral character. The governing Board of Trustees of Emmanuel Christian Academy along with the faculty and staff seeks to glorify Christ in every aspect of the school and in the fulfillment of all their commitments. In doing so, they seek and desire to provide quality education in an environment that encourages biblical standards for all aspects of the student's educational experience.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The Emmanuel Christian Academy recruits and admits students of any race, color, or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities. In addition, the school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or ethnic origin in administration or its educational policies, scholarships, loans, fees, waivers, educational programs and athletic/extracurricular activities. In addition, the school is not intended to be an alternative to court or administrative agency ordered, or public school district initiated desegregation.

Emmanuel Christian Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color or ethnic origin in the hiring of its certified or non-certified personnel.

Confidentiality Policy

State and Federal law requires that student education records be maintained as confidential. State law further exempts certain information and records from public disclosure. As such, Emmanuel Christian Academy is obligated to take appropriate steps to maintain certain information and records as confidential. Individuals who have access to student education records may not remove them from school property without express permission from their building principal or supervisor. An individual authorized to remove student education records from school property is responsible for the safety and security of the records and for returning them to the school intact. Confidential information and records may not be disclosed except as authorized by policy and administrative guidelines. Individuals who have access to confidential information and records while employed by the Emmanuel Christian Academy are reminded that their legal obligation to maintain such confidence extends beyond their term of employment in the school and are prohibited from releasing, disclosing or otherwise disseminating confidential information or records subsequent to leaving the school's employ.

It is further the policy of the Emmanuel Christian Academy that when the school receives in trust from a public agency information identified as confidential (whether such information is confidential by Ohio law, common law privilege, case law, or federal law), it will maintain the confidentiality of said information to the maximum extent permitted by the law.

The following portion of this policy applies **only** to identified confidential information received from a public agency.

In order to prohibit the unauthorized disclosure of information identified as confidential by the sending public agency, the Emmanuel Christian Academy may seek to obtain court protection by:

- A. denying requests for release of such information absent subpoena or court order;
- B. pursuing motions to quash or protective orders to prohibit unauthorized disclosure

When possible, Emmanuel Christian Academy will attempt to notify the sending public agency of the request for release of such information prior to complying with the request.

Expected Student Outcomes

POLICY 1.3

We believe that where possible, there should be demonstrable and measurable academic, social and spiritual outcomes that can be expected of graduates who apply ECA's curriculum and values as they engage the culture. Further, these outcomes and inputs used to achieve them should follow the doctrinal position as outlined in the Foundational Documents section of the ECA Policy Manual. Emmanuel Christian Academy is developing programs, and strategies within the context of biblical principles and under the sovereignty of God that produces students who:

Academic

- 1.3.1. Are academically prepared for God's calling in their life and equipped to pursue that calling.
- 1.3.2. Are well prepared in a breadth of academic disciplines, especially as compared to local competitors as well as state and national standards.
- 1.3.3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of current events, historical movements and cultures.
- 1.3.4. Demonstrate the ability to think, read, write, speak, and utilize technology in order to communicate effectively.
- 1.3.5. Apply the distinctives of a Biblical worldview within all academic disciplines.
- 1.3.6. Appreciate the arts and understand how they express and shape beliefs and values.
- 1.3.7. Apply critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- 1.3.8. Understand the need for life-long learning.
- 1.3.9. Demonstrate characteristics of a strong work ethic.

Social

- 1.3.10. Understand that the biblical husband and wife family unit is the foundational, God ordained social structure.
- 1.3.11. Understand the positive benefits of biblical Christianity on society.
- 1.3.12. Demonstrate positive citizenship.
- 1.3.13. Demonstrate compassion through acts of service to the community and individuals.
- 1.3.14. Demonstrate an understanding of society which promotes peace, hospitality, and Godly love toward all peoples.
- 1.3.15. Demonstrate environmental responsibility from a dominion and stewardship perspective.
- 1.3.16. Demonstrate a servant mindset in all areas of God's calling on their lives.
- 1.3.17. Demonstrate responsibility and unity within the Body of Christ as a witness in the world.

Spiritual

- 1.3.18. Understand and commit to a personal and vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ.
- 1.3.19. Understand the indispensability of the Gospel to their justification, sanctification and glorification.
- 1.3.20. Have a solid understanding of biblical and systematic theology in order to faithfully live their callings through the lens of a biblical worldview.
- 1.3.21. Can make disciples locally and around the world in a culturally sensitive manner.

Anonymous Tip Reporting

SPEAK Up! By texting or calling the statewide hotline 844-SAFEROH to report anything that is suspicious or endangering you, your friends or your school.

Governor Mike DeWine established the Ohio School Safety Center (OSSC) in August of 2019 to support schools, first responders, and communities in preventing, preparing for, and responding to threats and acts of violence, including self-harm. One of the resources that the OSSC administers is the Safer Ohio School Tip Line.

Victimizations, bullying, and other disorders such as drug and alcohol use are often not reported directly to school authorities or even to parents and guardians. Oftentimes this is because students do not want to be identified, do not want a friend or classmate in trouble, or do not know how or where to report these threats.

The Safer Ohio School Tip Line helps bridge that gap and enables information to be shared by students to law enforcement and school officials, even outside of the school day.



SPEAK UP
SAVE LIVES

By calling or texting the statewide hotline 844-SAFEROH you can report anything that is suspicious or endangering you, your friends or your school.

Academic Expectations

It is our belief that a quality education is the result of (1) a curricula that integrates God's truth into all courses and adequately prepares the student for future educational endeavor, (2) teachers that model a Christian life and (3) class sizes of 22 or less which enable the student to derive maximum benefit from his/her academic exposure.

Each student is expected to utilize all of the available resources and to perform at his or her highest level so as to take full advantage of the educational program. Originality and creativity are encouraged within the organized framework of the classroom.

The teacher is the focal point of our instructional emphasis. Each member of the faculty is qualified to teach his or her major subject area through using a Christian philosophy. This environment is carefully constructed to enable the student to derive maximum benefit from this academic exposure.

Academic Expectations (Online/Remote Learning): See Remote Learning

Academic Performance

Academic progress is reported at interim and at the end of a grading period basis. Final grades are recorded on the student's permanent record.

Grading Scale (Current Policy Through The Graduating Class of 2024)

Grades	Numerical Scale	GPA	GPA Honors
A+	99-100	4.0	5.0
A	94-98	4.0	5.0
A-	92-93	3.7	4.7
B+	90-91	3.3	4.3
B	85-89	3.0	4.0
B-	83-84	2.7	3.7
C+	81-82	2.3	3.3
C	76-80	2.0	3.0
C-	74-75	1.7	2.7
D+	72-73	1.3	2.3
D	67-71	1.0	2.0
D-	65-66	0.7	1.7
F	0-64	---	---

Class Ranking/Graduation Honors

1. Class ranking is calculated at the conclusion of each semester after all grades are finalized. Class ranking is determined by weighted GPA to the third decimal point (thousandths).
2. There will be one valedictorian and one salutatorian per graduating class. These honors, along with graduation rank, are determined at the end of first semester of the 12th grade year (7 semesters) so students will have this information for their college application processes.
3. Eligible candidates for these two top honors must demonstrate exemplary character and will have been enrolled on or before the first day of school their junior year.
4. Incoming students with honors/AP credit will receive equal weighted credit to existing honors/AP courses taught at ECA. Honors/AP credit not offered at ECA will receive regular (non-honors) credit.
5. Should academic achievement or conduct deteriorate the second semester of the senior year, these honors may be revoked.

6. Tie Breakers: If there is a need for a tie-breaker to decide the valedictorian or salutatorian, the calculation will be carried to the fourth decimal point (ten thousandths). If there is a need for a second tie-breaker, the 3rd nine weeks marks of the final semester are averaged and compared on a 100-point scale. If an additional tie-breaker is needed, the student who attended ECA the longer period (during high school) will earn the honor. If all these guidelines produce a tie, there may be two or more valedictorians or salutatorians.

Grading Scale (For the Graduating Class of 2025 and Beyond)

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Numerical Scale</u>	<u>GPA</u>
A+	99-100	4.0
A	94-98	4.0
A-	92-93	3.7
B+	90-91	3.3
B	85-89	3.0
B-	83-84	2.7
C+	81-82	2.3
C	76-80	2.0
C-	74-75	1.7
D+	72-73	1.3
D	67-71	1.0
D-	65-66	0.7
F	0-64	---

Class Ranking/Graduation Honors for the Class of 2025 and Beyond

- Class ranking is calculated at the conclusion of each semester after all grades are finalized. Class ranking is determined by the unweighted GPA to the third decimal point (thousandths).
- Class ranking will be included on the student’s final transcript for college admission and scholarship opportunities.
- Students who earn Summa Cum Laude (see below) will be ranked first, and then all remaining students will be ranked.
- In lieu of a valedictorian and salutatorian, ECA will adopt a cum laude recognition for the class of 2025 and beyond. These honors, along with graduation rank, are determined at the end of the first semester of the 12th grade year (7 semesters) so students will have this information for their college application processes.

<u>Level</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Additional Requirements</u>
Cum Laude	With Honors	3.5-3.7	No failing semester grades
Magna Cum Laude	With High Honors	3.8-3.89	No failing semester grades
Summa Cum Laude	With Highest Honors	3.89-4.0	No failing semester grades Earn Honors Diploma (guidelines set forth by ODE)

- Eligible candidates for these top honors must demonstrate exemplary character and have been enrolled on or before the first day of school their junior year.
- Should academic achievement or conduct deteriorate the second semester of the senior year, these honors may be revoked.

Class Ranking/Graduation Honors for the Class of 2025 and Beyond FAQ

1. Why has ECA made changes to the valedictorian/salutatorian policy?

Valedictorian and Salutatorian is a system that recognizes two students for their academic accomplishments. Historically, one or more students who have also accomplished great things academically go unrecognized. The race for valedictorian and salutatorian is a close race every year, sometimes the GPA determination being within thousandths of a point. ECA wants to provide a system where those students are recognized as well.

2. What is a Laude System?

A Laude System is a way to recognize academic achievements in graduates. It is modeled after the college model of honoring its graduates.

3. Why did ECA decide to use the Laude system?

The purpose of adopting the Laude System is to encourage students to choose rigorous courses, decrease unnecessary competition between classmates and inspire students to take courses that they may not have chosen to take under the old system.

4. How will the Laude system work?

Students' recognition will be determined at the end of seven semesters using the guidelines below:

Level	Meaning	GPA	Additional Requirements
Cum Laude	With Honors	3.5-3.7	No failing semester grades
Magna Cum Laude	With High Honors	3.8-3.89	No failing semester grades
Summa Cum Laude	With Highest Honors	3.89-4.0	No failing semester grades Earn Honors Diploma (guidelines set forth by ODE)

5. When will the Laude system changes go into effect?

The changes will take place with the class of 2025 and beyond. It does not affect the class of 2022-2024.

6. Will more students be recognized with these new policies? Are these standards too low?

All students will have the opportunity to work toward this goal, should they choose. The work required to achieve this goal has not changed. It simply provides more students the opportunity to be recognized for their academic achievements.

7. **How long have these changes been considered? Who was involved?**

These changes have been under consideration for two years. A committee of high school teachers and administrators met to look for solutions. We then took the recommendation to the Student Advisory Council and the Parent Advisory Council for additional feedback. Students were strongly in favor of the proposed changes because they keep an emphasis on rigor but reduce competition between students.

8. **How will senior commencement speakers be determined?**

The senior class president and the chaplain will be the senior commencement speakers. Valedictorian and salutatorian will continue to speak for the classes of 2022-2024.

9. **Will the Laude system drive students to take less rigorous classes to ensure a higher GPA?**

We do not believe so. The Laude System fulfills the Board Policy standard, “[Students] are academically prepared for God’s calling in their life, including competitiveness for entrance into their top choices of colleges, universities and other post-secondary pursuits.” A student who takes a rigorous class load and earns mostly A’s and B’s will be a stronger candidate for college admission than one who takes all regular classes and earns A’s and B’s. This is discussed with parents and students on a regular basis as they create their course schedule. We are not afraid to encourage a student to take a more difficult class if we believe they are qualified to take it.

10. **What about scholarships? Don’t some scholarship criteria include class rank?**

A student’s class rank will still be included on a student’s final transcript. This will allow students to apply for scholarships where monies are determined by class rank. Many colleges also use the student’s ACT scores to determine scholarships, and we will focus on helping students improve these scores to create eligibility for additional scholarships.

11. **Why is ECA no longer using a weighted GPA?**

A weighted GPA takes into account how challenging a class is while an unweighted GPA does not. However, that weighted adjustment oftentimes gives a student a false sense of security. Because high schools across the country use differing policies to determine a student’s GPA, colleges must come up with a way to compare students fairly and accurately. Therefore, college admissions specialists will unweight a GPA, recalculating it on their own scale. We want students to focus on the rigor of the class vs. the weight of it.

12. **How will a college know that the course I took was “rigorous”?**

Any classes that are rigorous in nature are marked as “honors” or “AP” on the student’s transcript. College classes are listed under the college they were taken at on the student’s transcript. Honors courses are also included in the school profile that is sent to prospective colleges with the student’s transcript.

13. **What are colleges looking for in student applications?**

Colleges tell ECA they look for four things in students: good grades in high school, rigorous classes, high college entrance exam scores, and extracurricular, co-curricular and leadership activities (this includes church,

community service, band/choir, clubs, etc.)

Grading Policy

- Teachers will post grades weekly and clearly communicate their grading weights in advance.
- Progress reports will be distributed to give a snapshot of grades halfway through the grading period via email. Printed copies may be available upon request. Parents are able to obtain grading information at any time via ParentsWeb.
- RenWeb grades and assignments will be updated weekly. Become familiar with the RenWeb program and use this information to stay on top of your child's education. If you need assistance, please contact the main office.

Honor Rolls

Academic Excellence: Grade average of 3.7 or higher.

Honor Roll: Grade average of 3.3 or higher.

Secondary specials as well as outside classes (CCP and/or CTC) are not calculated when determining Honor Roll eligibility. Only core academics taken at ECA are used in the calculation for determining Honor Roll eligibility.

Academic Probation

Students who fail two or more core classes (Bible, English Language Arts, Math, Science, or Social Studies) for a semester, or a core class for both semesters, will be placed on academic probation. The student's family will be required to schedule and attend a parent teacher conference to develop a strategy with the teachers to help the student succeed. In addition, there will be another required conference at the midpoint of the probationary period to review progress and modify assistance strategies as needed.

The goal of academic probation is substantial academic improvement by the end of the semester probationary period. Should the student pass all core classes during the probationary period, she/he will be returned to regular status. If the student is failing classes at the end of the semester-long probationary period, she/he may be dismissed or denied re-enrollment following administrative evaluation of student improvement and communication with faculty.

As with all biblical discipline, the goal of academic probation is to restore the student to a position of good standing for their good and for God's glory. The probationary period will be used to identify if the student is having academic challenges that need to be addressed with various forms of intervention. On the other hand, it is a tool to identify if a student who has failed due to lack of effort is teachable and open to instruction and change. As with behavioral discipline, it is imperative to identify and address simple, foolish, and mocking behavior for the good of the student and the school as a whole.

Addressing Concerns

If a parent has a question or concern, he or she should contact the individual involved. If the matter is not resolved, the principal is the next contact. If a parent feels that he or she cannot accept the decision or explanation given by the principal, then a meeting with the superintendent will be scheduled. In Matthew 18:15-17, we are told that we ought to go to the offender, after making our own hearts right before God, and confront him or her with the purpose of

restoration about the wrong (This takes tremendous courage).

Age of Majority

Students who have attained the age of majority (18 years or older) are subject to all school policies regarding their conduct pertaining to the operation of the school campus. The school will remain in contact with parents and guardians of the students.

Athletics – See Athletic Handbook Addendum

Attendance Procedures and Policies (Traditional Student 7-12)

Due to the clear correlations between attendance and academic performance, good attendance is of vital importance to the students and faculty at ECA. Since we are preparing our students for success in adulthood, there are strong and obvious correlations between rigorous attendance requirements and the desire for their success in future endeavors.

The school must receive a written note or email from the student's parent/legal guardian for an absence to be evaluated and considered excused.

When a student is absent from school, it is the responsibility of the student/parent/guardian to contact the teacher(s) and secure the class assignments for that period of time. A student with an excused absence will be given a reasonable opportunity to make up assignments and tests missed during the absence.

1. School notification of parent/guardian in the event of an absence: When a student is absent from school and a phone call from a parent/guardian is not received: a phone call will be made in an attempt to notify the person responsible for that student (parent, guardian, custodian, or other).
 - a. First phone call will be made to the home.
 - b. Second phone call will be made to the place of work of the person(s) responsible.
 - c. *All absences will initially be entered as "unexcused" until a written note or email is received from the student's parent/legal guardian.*
 - d. This phone call, whether initiated by parents or the school, does not excuse the absence, which remains documented as "Unexcused" until the office receives the note described below under "Absence Documentation."
2. Prior approval is needed for any early dismissal. Students are to turn in early dismissal notes to the front office at the beginning of the day.
3. Leave/arrive during the same day that totals less than 2 hours with a doctor/dental note will NOT be counted against the child's attendance, unless excessive absences have become a problem.
4. Any student absent after 11:30 a.m. will not be allowed to participate in any after school activity unless his/her absence during the day was prearranged with the administration.
5. Parents are to call the school office before 8:30 a.m. each morning their child is absent. This enables us to know where the students are and it helps us provide safety for all our children.
6. See homework and late work policy for make-up work procedures.

7. Being ten or more minutes late to a class equals an absence to that class for the purpose of attendance. Absences accumulated in this fashion will be factored into overall student attendance numbers.

Notification of Absence

Parents must notify the front desk each morning their child will be absent from school: (937)390-3777 or attendance@ecaoh.com.

Absence Documentation

The student must bring a note or parent send an email containing the following information on the day of his/her return to school in order for an absence to be considered excused:

1. Name of student (including last name) and homeroom teacher
2. Date of absence(s)
3. Reason for absence(s)
4. Signature of parent or guardian (or email from the parent)
5. Excuse notes not containing all of this information are unexcused (i.e. "Please excuse Joe Jones" is not acceptable). Students are not to sign their parent's signature under any circumstances. ALL excuse notes are to be brought to the front desk upon arrival at school.

Excused Absences

Excused absences may be granted for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness
2. Serious illness or death in the student's immediate family
3. Extenuating circumstances, such as:
 - a. Extended illness
 - b. Hospitalization/recovery
[Doctor's notes must be submitted for administrative approval to waive extended absences.]
4. Doctor's appointments - students must bring a note from the parent/guardian to the school stating the time of the appointment. Parents must check the student out through the office. The absence will be excused for the time determined to be reasonably necessary for the appointment (i.e., a student with an 8:45 a.m. dental appointment for a general check-up or cleaning should not miss a full day of school).
5. Prearranged absences such as:
 - a. College visits
 - b. Court appearances

- c. Family vacations

Unexcused Absences

Absences for any other reason than those described above are considered unexcused. Final authority for judging the legitimacy of an absence rests with the school administration. All grades for the day(s) missed will be zero. Truancy is unexcused. Students who are out of class during the day for any length of time without the teacher’s permission, or without following proper checkout procedures, will receive a zero for work missed and/or will be subject to disciplinary action. Excessive unexcused absences may result in consequences ranging from loss of credit for a class and loss of a grade promotion to possible school contact of local authorities or dismissal from the school.

Truancy (Unexcused and/or Habitual/Chronic Absences)

Students reaching certain absence levels will be in danger of losing credit for individual classes, loss of grade promotion, or possibly dismissal from ECA (**regardless of if the absences are excused or not**).

Ohio State Law Concerning Chronic Absenteeism

	Consecutive Hours	Hours per School Month	Hours per School Year
Habitual Truancy	30 hours without legitimate excuse	42 hours without legitimate excuse	72 hours without legitimate excuse
Excessive Absences	-----	38 hours with or without legitimate excuse	65 hours with or without legitimate excuse.
Chronic Absenteeism	-----	-----	10% or more of the school year with or without legitimate excuse

Actions

School will notify parents (email, phone call) of students who have any of the following:

- a. Five (5) absences in a school year. If the absences occurred 5 days in a row without a legitimate excuse, the student and parent/guardian will be required to meet with the Absence Intervention Team.
- b. Seven (7) absences in a school year. If the absences occurred 7 days in a month with or without a legitimate excuse, the student and parent/guardian will be required to meet with the Absence Intervention Team. At this point, the administration may require a physician’s note for any further absences.
- c. Ten (10) absences in a school year. At 10 days absent, the student is considered excessively absent. The student and parent/guardian will be required to meet with the Absence Intervention Team. This

meeting will be required whether the absences are excused or unexcused. At this point, the student is at risk of losing credit for the class (7th-12th) or at risk of being retained (TK-6th).

Absence Intervention Team

The Absence Intervention Team (AIT) is a committee composed of administrators and teachers. The purpose of the team is to establish a student-centered absence intervention plan by identifying specific barriers and solutions to attendance. The goal of the AIT is to help students improve attendance. Should that not occur, and students do not improve attendance, they could be reported to Juvenile Court as truant, be required to repeat a class or grade, lose their Ed-Choice Scholarship or be dismissed from Emmanuel Christian Academy.

Tardy

There will be no excused or unexcused tardies; students late to class without a note from a staff member or administrator are tardy. Tracking of tardies will begin the second week of school. Students reaching the following criteria will risk increasingly severe consequences.

- Four (4) tardies to class will result in a minor infraction and parental notification. For 11th and 12th grade students, during 2nd semester, it will also result in the loss of the opportunity to exempt the second semester exam in that class.
- Eight (8) tardies to class period will result in a detention and parental contact.
- Twelve (12) tardies will lead to a parental conference with the principal and a Saturday School.
- Sixteen (16) tardies to class will result in a parental contact, a Saturday School, Behavior Probation and an additional community service project requirement.
- Twenty (20) tardies to class will result in (2) Saturday Schools, an additional community service project, loss of class credit, and a parent conference with administration.
- This progression of accumulated tardies will reset at the semester.
- If a student reaches eight (8) or more tardies in more than one class, the discipline steps may progress more rapidly at administrative discretion.
- Being ten or more minutes late to a class equals an absence to that class for the purpose of attendance. Absences accumulated in this fashion will be factored into overall student attendance numbers.

Make-Up Work for Absences

When a student is absent, he or she must contact the teacher to receive make-up work as soon as possible. Students will be given a reasonable amount of time to complete make-up work. Such work is the responsibility of the student, not the teacher. When an absence occurs, the student shall receive full credit for make-up work, unless it is turned in past the deadline stated. If, however, a student misses only the day a test is given, or an assignment is due, he or she is responsible to make-up the work the first day back in class. An exception to this would be if the parent wrote a note stating that the student was unable to do any studying during the illness; the test could be delayed at the teacher's discretion. Please check with your child's teacher and/or ParentsWeb for more information.

Before and After School

No student is permitted on school property prior to 7:30 a.m. or after 3:25 p.m. unless in approved programs. Any student found unsupervised after 3:25 p.m. will be required to attend an after-school program and the parents will be charged a per hour fee. Student athletes with athletic obligations may attend the after-school program at no cost.

Each student, athlete or otherwise, is permitted to be unsupervised in or out of the building.

Bible Translation Statement

Emmanuel Christian Academy believes the Bible to be the verbally inspired and only infallible, authoritative, inerrant Word of God. We believe this refers to the original manuscripts of scripture and we hold to this without compromise. We have chosen to use the *New International Version* and the *English Standard Version* of the Bible in our school system. Upon request of the parent, students may be permitted to memorize scripture from another translation.

Book Bags

Use of book bags is only permitted in grades 7-12 classrooms, but book bags must be stored out of the aisles in areas the teacher designates. Students are expected to carry backpacks to class and limit trips to their locker.

Bullying or Harassment Policy

Emmanuel Christian Academy believes that all students have a right to a safe and healthy environment. Our goal is to foster relationships and a Christ-centered learning community that exists to educate students of Christian families and prepare them for God's calling.

Emmanuel Bullying Policy states: "Bullying, harassment and intimidation is an intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once. The intentional act also includes violence within a dating relationship. The behavior causes mental or physical harm to the other student and is so sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student. This behavior is prohibited on school property, on a school bus or at a school-sponsored activity. Students found responsible for harassment, intimidation or bullying by an electronic act may be suspended or expelled."

"Hazing, bullying and/or dating violence can include many different behaviors. Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Physical violence and/or attacks
- Racial slurs, taunts and or teasing which involve statements on the subject of race will be considered bullying or harassment and will not be tolerated
- Verbal threats, taunts and intimidation through words and/or gestures
- Other acts such as: extortion, damage or stealing of money and/or possessions
- Exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors
- Repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies and other web-based/online sites (also known as "cyber bullying"), such as the following:
 - a. Posting slurs on websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals
 - b. Sending abusive or threatening emails, website postings or comments and instant messages
 - c. Using camera phones to take embarrassing photographs or videos of students and/or distributing or posting the photos or videos online
 - d. Using websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals, e-mails or instant messages to circulate gossip and rumors to other students

No parent wants their child to be bullied, and no parent wants to think that their child is a bully. If you believe there has been a bullying incident, please do the following:

1. Report the incident to the teacher immediately.
2. Parents may be asked for a written document containing the facts and information needed.
3. A conference or meeting with the student and family may be required.
4. A meeting between the two families and principal may also be warranted.

Campus Wear Rules

1. Students are to be in Campus Wear during the school day.
2. Campus Wear
 - a. Campus Wear items must be purchased from MacRay's except for pants, socks and shoes. ECA Spirit Wear, sweatshirts, hoodies and t-shirts are only available through ECA official online organizations. Only items purchased through ECA sales may be worn. Families may not have their own ECA apparel designed for Campus Wear.
 - b. Tops: Campus Wear is considered as the ECA polo or ECA outerwear. ECA outerwear may consist of any long sleeve ECA Spirit Wear t-shirt or "team wear" item including ECA sweatshirts or ECA hoodies. **ECA short sleeve t-shirts are NOT approved ECA outerwear for a school day unless it is a designated day.** If a student takes off ECA outerwear, they must have an ECA polo on.
 - c. Bottoms (Boys and Girls): Any khaki, casual, dress, or cargo pants (no "joggers" or cuffed).
 - The pants may be blue, black or any shade of tan or khaki.
 - May be tapered, skinny fit, stretch, or regular fit but must be worn at the waist.
 - **MacRay purchased uniform pants may still be worn.**
 - d. Shorts/Skirts/Jumpers: **Only MacRay purchased shorts are permitted.**
 - (Girls only) MacRay skirts and jumpers are permitted and **must be determined as modest** with a **guideline** of no more than 2 inches above the top of the kneecap. Visible hosiery/tights/leggings may be worn under skirts or jumpers.
 - No leggings, yoga, joggers, jeggings, exercise pants are to be worn on their own (May be worn under the skirt).
 - e. Jeans: No jeans may be worn except as permitted on designated days.
 - Jeans may have a "shredded, ripped" look and have designs on them as long as they are school appropriate (as deemed by administration).
 - **No skin may be seen through holes, shreds or rips.**

3. Dress Code Requirements

- a. No visible logos, words or graphics should be seen through or outside of any Campus Wear attire.
- b. Girls must wear appropriate undergarments under white and other light colored shirts, or layer with an ECA approved sweater. Male or female underwear is not to be seen.
- c. Students must be clean, neat, modest and well-groomed at all times while at ECA. The administration reserves the right to determine modesty issues and appropriate dress. This applies to extracurricular and end of the year activities as well. Parents of students out of dress code may be required to pick up the student or bring a change of clothes to school. **Violations of the dress code will result in a discipline notice.** Students wearing outerwear that is not approved, will be asked to turn it in to the teacher or the office to be picked up at the end of the day. Students who abuse the outerwear policy will be asked to change or to put on a replacement item. Failure to heed correction will lead to greater consequences. **Administration reserves the right to determine what is acceptable that may not be defined in this section.**
- d. Clothing must be well-laundered; free of split seams, holes, torn or frayed hems, and properly fitted.
- e. **Hats and non-ECA outerwear will not be worn in the building during the school day.** Hoods on ECA approved outerwear may not be worn on the head during school hours.
- f. Hair: must be neat, clean, and not distracting to the educational process. Color streaks are permitted as long as they are not distracting from the educational process as determined by Administration.
- g. Shoes:
 - Girls: Students must wear shoes. Stiletto heels are not permitted. Sandals and flip-flops are permitted. Athletic shoes must be worn for athletics and P.E. class.
 - Boys: Students must wear shoes. Sandals and flip-flops are permitted. Athletic shoes must be worn for athletics and P.E. class.
- h. Fridays will be a Spirit Wear Day. Students may wear the current year Spirit Shirt sold by the Athletic Dept. Students may wear jeans (any color denim), denim capris (any color denim), or uniform shorts. Beginning the first Friday of the second semester, other ECA produced shirts (e.g., previous years' ECA Spirit Shirts, club, sports or trip t-shirts) may be worn with jeans. If a student cannot meet any of these Friday Spirit Day standards for any reason on a given week, regular Campus Wear is the default uniform.
- i. A relaxed dress code may be determined by the administration for designated events; i.e. field trips, Spirit Week, etc.
- j. Piercings/Tattoos:
 - Girls may wear piercings in their ears. Girls may have one nose piercing. The piercing can only be a small stud. No rings, or septum piercings will be permitted. ***Administration reserves**

the right to determine appropriate piercings.

- Boys may have a single ear piercing in either or both ears. They may not have other piercings. ****Administration reserves the right to determine appropriate piercings.***
- Visible tattoos, whether permanent or temporary (including henna, or pen and ink) are not permitted.

Adherence to the Campus Wear Dress Code is a family responsibility.

1. The cooperation of the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) are necessary in maintaining the standards of the Campus Wear dress code. Dress code violations will be recorded. Repeated violations will result in disciplinary action. Therefore, any action taken to enforce the dress code will be directed to the parent(s)/guardian(s), though such actions will, by necessity, impact the student. **Parents shall assume this important responsibility and leave the school free to focus on its primary goal, building godly character and academic excellence. Parents of students out of dress code may be required to pick up the student or bring a change of clothes to school.**
2. **Violations of the dress code will result in a discipline notice.** Students wearing outerwear that is not approved will turn it in to the teacher or the office to be picked up at the end of the day. Students who abuse the outerwear policy will be asked to change or to put on a replacement item. Failure to heed correction will lead to greater consequences as determined by Administration.

Care of Property

Emmanuel Christian Academy belongs to God. The way the property is maintained and cared for is important in reflecting our Christian testimony of the school and its students. Thus, willful damage, defacing of or destruction to the school, will not be tolerated. All damage must be paid for, whether willful or accidental.

No signs, banners, plaques, pictures, posters or other objects may be hung on walls of the building without permission from the school administration.

If a student willfully destroys school or private property, suspension and subsequent dismissal is possible. If a student damages an item by accident, it should be reported to a teacher immediately.

Cell Phones: See Electronic Devices Guidelines

Chapel

Students will meet for corporate worship and expression in chapel service at least once each week during the school year. It shall be a portion of their Christian training, but not the extent of it.

Chapel is held each week. A designated individual/class will be responsible for conducting the chapel service. A spirit of reverence should be felt in all chapel services. Attentive, courteous conduct that is honoring to the Lord should be observed at all assemblies.

As a part of our chapel program and spiritual growth curriculum, we have small groups. All groups are led by trained high school student leaders and supervised by a teacher. We expect all students to participate.

Child Abuse/Mandated Reporting Policy

In the state of Ohio, school authorities, employees and teachers are mandated reporters of child abuse. When child abuse is suspected, a teacher will immediately bring it to the attention of the administration.

Mandated Reporting: Staff and faculty of Emmanuel Christian Academy will be in compliance with Ohio Revised Code 2151.421: Reporting child abuse or neglect. The clinic nurse will complete a yearly in-service with staff concerning mandated reporting.

Chromebook Guidelines for Students and Parents

The following provides detailed information to parents and students about how to care for the technology being entrusted to them.

1. Receiving a Chromebook

- Students will sign a form accepting a Chromebook, and by signing, agree to the terms of use.
- Chromebooks should go with the students to and from school daily. Elementary teachers may make arrangements to store them overnight. If stored at the school, parents will need to pick up the device if distance learning is initiated.

2. Student Distribution

- Chromebooks will be assigned to students in their homeroom the first week of school.
- Each student will be assigned a specific device that is tagged and tracked by serial number. They will have the option of turning it in for the summer break or keeping it year-round.

3. Returning the Chromebook

- After four years, the devices will be replaced with a new Chromebook.
- After four years of use, students will be given the option to keep the device or turn it in for school use.
- Graduates who have not paid the fee for 4-years can opt to buy the device by paying the remaining years. For example, a graduate who paid the fee for two years would pay \$200 to purchase the device.

4. Transferring/Withdrawing Students

- Students that transfer out of or withdraw from Emmanuel must turn in their Chromebooks to the assigned homeroom teacher. Failure to turn in the Chromebook will result in the student being charged the full replacement cost for each missing asset.

5. Taking Care of the Chromebook

- Students are responsible for the general care of the Chromebook they have been issued by the school.

- Students should never leave their Chromebooks unattended except when locked in their hallway locker or core class.
- All Chromebooks are the tagged property of Emmanuel Christian Academy and as such may be inspected at any time.
- ECA will not be held liable for any damage to personal property (purchased cover or headsets).

6. **General Precautions**

- No food or drink should be next to Chromebooks.
- Cords, cables, and USB devices must be inserted carefully into appropriate ports on the Chromebooks.
- USB thumb drives and storage devices are NOT to be used on Chromebooks. Google Drive should be used for storage only.
- Heavy objects should never be placed on top of Chromebooks.
- Chromebooks should never be loaned to another student or individual during the school day or otherwise.
- No stickers or other like items are to be placed on Chromebooks. Failure to follow this will result in a replacement fee for the total cost of a new Chromebook.

7. **Carrying Chromebooks**

- Always transport Chromebooks with care. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.
- Students should hold the Chromebooks (cover closed) with two hands if they need to carry the Chromebook anywhere inside or outside of the classroom during instructional time.
- Never lift a Chromebook by the screen.
- Never carry a Chromebook with the screen open.

8. **Opening the Chromebook**

- Open the Chromebook only when it is resting on a flat surface such as a table or desk.
- To open the Chromebook, use one hand to hold the keyboard against the table. Use the other hand to open the screen by grasping the screen's edge (in the middle) and gently moving the screen to the open position.
- The hinge of the screen will only allow the screen to be open to a slight angle. Do not attempt to open the screen beyond this stopping point as the screen will break if forced.

9. **Closing the Chromebook**

- Before closing the screen, make sure there is nothing on the keyboard to prevent the full closure of the device. Obstacles on the keyboard could cause broken screens or damaged hinges.
- Close the screen only when the Chromebook is resting on a flat surface such as a table or desk.
- Close the Chromebook using two hands--one at either corner of the screen
- Close the screen gently.

10. Screen Care

- The Chromebook screen can be damaged if subjected to heavy objects, rough treatment, some cleaning solvents, and other liquids. The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure.
- Do not put pressure on the top of a Chromebook when it is closed.
- Do not store a Chromebook with the screen open.
- Make sure there is nothing on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, or disks).
- Never lift the Chromebook by the screen.
- Only clean the screen with a soft, dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.

11. Asset Tags

- All Chromebooks will be labeled with a tag. The tags may not be modified or tampered with in any way.
- Students may be charged up to the full replacement cost of a Chromebook and/or disciplinary action for tampering with a tag or turning in a Chromebook without a tag.

12. Using Chromebooks

a. Media

- Inappropriate media (pictures, music, movies, etc.) may not be used as Chromebook backgrounds or themes. The presence of such media will result in disciplinary action.
- Inappropriate media (images, videos, etc.) may not be stored on or accessed on the Chromebook. The presence of such media will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the handbook.

b. Audio

- Sound must always be muted unless permission is obtained from a teacher.
- Students will be required to provide their own personal headphones and/or ear buds (for sanitary reasons) and are expected to bring them every day. ECA is not liable for any damage or loss.
- Headphones or earbuds use will be at the teacher's discretion.

c. Printing

- Students will be encouraged to digitally publish and share their work with their teachers and peers when appropriate. Because all student work should be stored in an internet/cloud application, students will not print directly from their Chromebooks.

d. Network Access and Security

- Students will log into their Chromebooks using their school issued Google Apps for Education account.
- Students should never share their account passwords with others, unless requested by an administrator.

- e. **Managing and Saving Digital Work with a Chromebook**
- The majority of student work will be stored in internet/cloud-based applications and can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection and from most mobile internet devices.
 - No files may be stored on the Chromebook's hard drive.
 - No USB or external hard drives may be used in correlation with the Chromebook.
 - Students should always remember to save frequently when working on digital media (although many cloud-based applications, including Google Suite, automatically save work).
 - ECA will not be responsible for the loss of any student work.

13. **Student Responsibilities**

- a. **Following Classroom Guidelines**
- Students are responsible for following school and classroom specific guidelines and expectations for use. This means following instructions, guidance, and protocols regarding when and how to use the technology in the instructional setting.
 - Misuse of Chromebooks and other electronic devices will result in additional training and or corrective action.
 - Re-Training: Students who are written up for any issue dealing with Chromebooks will attend a session with an Instructional Technology Assistant. Students will watch a video and take a test after.
- b. **Classwork**
- Students are responsible for bringing their Chromebook to class daily.
 - If a student does not have their Chromebook, the teachers may direct the student who has forgotten the Chromebook to seek the assistance of another student to view information.
 - Not having the device in class will be treated the same as if a student did not bring his textbook or homework to class.
 - Loaners are not available for students who forget their Chromebooks or who have misplaced them.
- c. **The following behaviors are examples of prohibited computer use:**
- Sending or displaying offensive pictures or messages (sexual, racial, or other)
 - Using obscene language
 - Harassing, threatening or insulting others
 - Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks
 - Importing or placing in the system "viruses"/other destructive programs
 - Violating copyright laws
 - Plagiarism
 - Using another's password, trespassing in another's files or work
 - Intentionally wasting limited resources
 - Employing the network for commercial purposes
 - Stealing of computers or parts

d. Discipline

- Minor Offense: warning or student write up/attend re-training. (e.g., not properly caring for the device.)
- 2nd/3rd Offense: write up and/or student detention/attend re-training. (e.g., damaging device.)
- All Offenses: students will have a write up and student conference. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may be contacted. All students will attend a re-training session after lunch.
- More serious offenses will result in additional disciplinary action.
- Students who miss re-training will be assigned lunch detention or after-school detention and possible loss of Chromebook until the session is attended and/or assessment passed.

14. **Repairing/Replacing Chromebooks**

- Contact Vivacity Support at support@vivacitytech.com at any time to receive a call back M-F from 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. EST. In addition, tickets will be automatically forwarded to ProStratus (Emmanuel Christian Academy's IT Contractor) for on-site support collaboration.
- All Chromebooks in need of repair must be brought to Emmanuel Christian Academy ASAP for an exchange.
- Accidental breakage or destruction of a Chromebook or power supply will be covered one-time. All subsequent losses will be the student's responsibility to pay for the repair or replacement.
- Invoices for repair or replacement will be issued by the Business Office.
- Loaner Chromebooks may be issued to students when their school-issued Chromebook is being repaired. They will need to see Emmanuel Christian Academy's IT Support to have a Chromebook assigned to them during the duration of the repair.

15. **Charging**

- Chromebooks must be properly charged daily at home before the next day of school.
- Students must carry their power cord with them along with their Chromebook to each class.
- Power strips will be available in each classroom where a student can place the device on the counter and plugged in for charging. Stringing a power or extension cord to desks is not permitted to prevent tripping and to prevent a device being knocked to the floor. See the policy for your responsibilities for device accidental damage. Power cords are a student's responsibility.

16. **Operating System and Security**

- Students may not use or install any operating system on their Chromebook other than the current version of Chrome OS that is supported and managed by the district.
- The Chromebook operating system, Chrome OS, updates itself automatically. Students do not need to manually update their Chromebooks.

17. **Virus Protection**

- Chromebooks use the principle of "defense in depth" to provide multiple layers of protection against viruses and malware, including data encryption and verified boot.
- There is no need for additional virus protection.

18. **Content Filter**

- ECA utilizes an internet content filter that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks will have all internet access provided by the district filtered, protected, and monitored by the district. If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students should contact their teacher who will assist in creating an IT Support ticket.

19. **Software**

- No additional software is to be installed or attempted to be installed.
- Chromebooks seamlessly integrate with the Google Apps for Education (GAFE) suite of productivity and collaboration tools. This includes Google Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Drawings, and Forms.
- All work is stored in the cloud.

20. **Chrome Web Apps and Extensions**

- Students will not have the ability to download apps and extensions from the Chrome Web Store.
- Apps are also subject to internet filtering.

21. **Chromebook Identification**

- ECA will maintain a log of all Chromebooks that includes the Chromebook serial number, asset tag code, and name and ID number of the student assigned to the device. Chromebooks will be checked in and out to the students in a very similar way as to when library books are checked in and out.
- Each student will be assigned the same Chromebook for up to four years. Take good care of it!

22. **No Expectation of Privacy**

- Students have no expectation of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of a Chromebook, regardless of whether that use is for school-related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law. ECA may, without prior notice or consent, log, supervise, access, and monitor the use of student Chromebooks at any time for any reason related to the operation of the school. By using a Chromebook, students agree to such access and monitoring.
- During the school year, there may be times throughout the day that class instruction will be viewed by distance learners who are also a part of the class. Some class sessions may be video recorded, for distance learner use at a later time.

Church Attendance

The parent, sponsor, or guardian of a student must demonstrate evidence of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. One such evidence is participating in a local church. We believe it is important for all students to be regular in their church attendance.

Closed Campus

Emmanuel is a closed campus. Therefore:

1. No visiting students are allowed in or around the school during normal school hours of 7:30 a.m. to 3:25 p.m. unless they have been given prior approval to attend.
2. No minor student is permitted to leave during the day without authorization from a parent. Any student who has turned 18 years of age must have approval from an administrator. No student, regardless of age, may sign out without permission from a parent.
3. No student may transport another student without parental permission.
4. CCP students may leave and arrive as needed to attend off campus classes with parental consent.
5. Individual tutoring, therapies, enrichment activities, etc., need to be scheduled outside school hours for full-time students.
6. No student may leave campus for lunch or order in food for lunch.

Service Hour Requirement

Twenty (20) hours of service/outreach are required for high school students each year. Hours completed are part of the Bible curriculum. In order to receive a passing grade in Bible each semester, students must have submitted service hour forms accounting for at least ten (10) hours of service per semester by the end of that semester. Students are free to submit summer service hours for the entire school year's required service by the end of first semester, and they may submit hours for the entire year if they complete enough hours to cover the subsequent semester requirement. However, should students turn in hours throughout the year, they must have the equivalent of ten (10) hours per semester submitted at the end of the semester grading period in order to pass that semester of Bible. Service hours cannot carry over into subsequent years (Example: student submits 80 hours service for a mission trip the summer before the freshman year of high-school. Hours above the 20 hours required for the upcoming school year cannot be applied to the following year's requirements). Students may begin to accrue service hours to apply to the next year's requirement beginning the first day of summer break.

Students are encouraged to do more than the required service hours and keep track of them for future college application purposes. ECA will keep all service hours they submit in their files.

Outreach is defined as:

1. Hours of active participation.
 - The total hours required do not have to be in the same type of ministry and do not need to occur in a single block of time.
 - Training will qualify if it is done as a preparation for the outreach activity (e.g., training to volunteer at a camp for disabled children)
 - Active participation is doing something to assist in the activity. Listening, watching or observing an activity would not qualify.
 - The equivalent of 10 hours per semester must be completed by the end of each semester. However, the entire year's hours may be completed in advance as noted above.

2. A service/outreach activity is giving of one's self to others in service. If compensation of any kind is received in any form, the hours will not be credited toward the community outreach requirement.
3. The outreach must be supervised, directly or indirectly, by an adult.
4. Hours are to be completed outside of school hours, unless it is a school sponsored outreach activity and has received approval from the administration. Helping one's own family does not count as a community service.

Communication

The faculty and staff will be in contact with parents via phone, conference (in person), letter, classroom newsletters, website, email, RenWeb and/or other internet access. Please inform teachers of the best method to connect with you in order to serve your student's needs.

College Credit Plus (CCP)

Program Purpose

Ohio's College Credit Plus can help students earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking college courses from community colleges or universities. The purpose of this program is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wide variety of options to college-ready students. Taking a college course from a public college or university is free. This means no cost for tuition, books or fees. If you choose to attend a private college or university, you may have limited costs (House Bill 487).

Program Requirement

1. Students must be in grades 7–12.
2. Students must fulfill college/university admission/testing requirements.

The Steps Towards Eligibility: Responsibilities and Requirements of Students and Parents

Prior to enrollment in the program, students and their parents must do all of the following:

1. Receive counseling/information regarding CCP and sign a form indicating they received information/counseling covering the major aspects of the program (online form).
2. Indicate in writing the student's intent to participate in CCP (Letter of Intent to Participate in College Credit Plus for Nonpublic Students). The form must be signed by students and parents, mailed to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), and a copy given to the ECA Guidance Office.
3. Students must apply for post-secondary admission at a college, meet the testing requirements for the college (ACT/SAT, Accuplacer), be accepted by the college, adhere to their guidelines, and meet all requirements and standards for college courses.
4. Students must notify the Dean of Pupil Services the name of the college(s) to which they have been accepted (and plan to attend) and the total number of CCP credit hours they are requesting to be funded for the upcoming school-year.

5. Parents must create a SAFE Account through ODE and apply for funding. This application must be filled out by the April deadline.
6. In May, the state will attach a letter to the SAFE account to notify him or her of the number of allocation units he or she has been awarded for the upcoming school year.
7. Students must have each college course that they intend to take approved by ECA. In order to do so, students must first complete the "Request to Earn ECA Credit Through CCP" form for each college course that they intend to take and submit it to the Dean of Pupils Services. Keep in mind the following:
 - a. Students who enroll in college courses will receive high school and college credit for the course. No CCP courses can be taken for college credit only.
 - b. Some courses may not be comparable to ECA courses. This means that students will be unable to substitute ECA courses for a college course. Students may need to provide a course syllabus or further information.
 - c. College courses that do not substitute for ECA courses may be counted as electives or credited with their subject area.
 - d. The weighting of courses is contingent on the comparable high school subject that the student is wishing to substitute for credit. This means that if a student is wishing to take a course (perhaps Composition) in place of Honors English III, we would award honors credit. However, if the student elected to take a course such as Appreciation of the Arts in place of taking an Art class at ECA, the student would not receive honors credit as ECA offers no honors courses in Art. This means that the awarding of honors credit is contingent on the courses a student wishes to substitute. If a course is not offered at ECA and is being considered for high school credit, it will not receive honors credit.
8. Transportation arrangements must be taken care of by students and parents.
9. Textbooks will need to be purchased. They can be purchased with the following two options:
 - a. Purchasing textbooks with ECA funds. Under this option, all textbooks are the property of ECA and must be returned to ECA at the end of the course. Students will be fined any damage to the textbooks (minus normal wear). ECA will be looking for the best price, so we will require the Title, Author(s), Publisher, and ISBN. We may purchase from the college, online, or through discount stores. Prior notice will be necessary to ensure books are received before the beginning of the course.
 - b. Textbooks can be purchased by the family if the student wishes to keep them. However, this is optional and cannot be required by ECA. Under this option, though, students would be able to highlight and make notes in their textbooks. If you would like to pursue this option, notify the Dean of Pupil Services as soon as possible.
10. Upon completion of the CCP course(s), the student must ensure that an official transcript is sent by the college or university to ECA. Students are also responsible for returning their college textbooks (when applicable) to ECA.

Consequences of Failing (or Withdrawing)

- Will potentially affect GPA and class standing.
- May limit what college courses a student may take through CCP in the future (must have a 3.0 subject GPA).
- May cause the student to fail to meet ECA's requirements for graduation.

Granting Academic Credits

Conversion of college credits to high school Carnegie Units:

Semester Hours	High School Credits
1	$\frac{1}{3}$
2	$\frac{2}{3}$
3 or more	1

Scheduling

- All CCP students will remain full-time ECA students, enrolled in at least 6 courses for the academic year. There are no tuition discounts. The 6-course requirement can be between the college and school. For example: The student could be enrolled in three classes at ECA and three classes at the college.
- Students must meet with the Dean of Pupil Services prior to scheduling college coursework for each quarter or semester. Additionally, students must meet with the Dean of Pupil Services before making schedule changes, such as adding or dropping a course.
- Students must have periods available in order to participate (unless the student is enrolled in after school courses or online courses).
- Students have a limit to the amount of courses they can take (maximum of 30 credit hours). Calculation can be completed with the Dean of Pupil Services to ensure this ceiling is not passed.
- Schedule conflicts are not the responsibility of Emmanuel Christian Academy. CCP schedules will be arranged around the high school schedule.

Graduation Requirements

- No high school graduation requirements may be waived for any student as a result of participating in the CCP program.
- All graduation requirements must be completed prior to the graduation ceremonies in order to participate.
- Final transcripts are not mailed (e.g., to prospective colleges) until final records are received from the college or university at which CCP courses are being taken.

CCP Attendance Policy

Due to the schedule of a CCP student, we understand that it may require a CCP student to leave ECA in the middle of a school day. CCP students must adhere to the following policy concerning their attendance at ECA:

- Students participating in CCP who plan to leave ECA during the school day must have a note from a parent/guardian giving them permission to leave the school. This note can be written for a semester or every time the student has permission to leave. This is at the discretion of the parent. No CCP student will be permitted to leave ECA without prior permission from the parent/guardian.
- All CCP students must sign in and out at the front window if they arrive after 8 a.m. or leave before 3 p.m.
- Any CCP student who decides to stay at ECA, but does not have a scheduled class, must report to Study Hall.

Students are not permitted to sit in hallways, locker rooms, empty classrooms, etc. While on ECA's campus, CCP students must follow the same policies as their fellow classmates.

- CCP students that are able to attend chapel when it does not conflict with their CCP schedule are expected to do so.

College Visits

Many high school students desire to take college visits during the academic year. ECA permits three of the visits to be counted as excused absences. Parents/students are asked to fill out the *College Visitation Request Form* in the front office at least a week before the planned visit to have the absence to be excused.

Discipline Philosophy and Practice

We want to assist Christian families in the great duty and privilege to raise their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord and to see discipline issues as discipleship opportunities. Therefore, as much as possible, we want to use the discipline process to incline our students' minds and hearts to the wisdom that comes from God and is revealed in His Word. In addition, we strive to make the whole school atmosphere one that is well-ordered and conducive to learning. To accomplish this, we need a clear framework of discipline action steps that progress from relatively minor consequences all the way up to a student's removal from the school, if necessary.

The following is a list of graduated consequences and the model of the process that could lead to a student's eventual removal from ECA. Throughout the process, the goal is always that of repentance and transformation. It is vital that these steps be integrated with regular communication with the students' families so the school and family have the opportunity for a strong partnership throughout the process.

It is important to note that the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the invaluable gift of grace are central to the mission of the school. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for people to appeal to an unbiblical caricature of grace in attempts to avoid the consequences of ongoing sinful behavior. While true grace is often extended to students, it is by definition an unmerited favor and should never be expected simply because ECA is a Christian school. Biblical principles of reaping and sowing are also a central part of our instruction in order to prepare our students to live responsibly in a real world that rewards and punishes positive and negative behavior.

Discipline Steps

1. Teachers will have positive reinforcement procedures established in their individual classrooms that will encourage positive behavior to be communicated to students and parents.
2. Verbal correction of negative behavior. Routine violations addressed by teachers/staff.
3. Communication with parents when behaviors are repeated or are disruptive enough to warrant formal disciplinary proceedings.
4. Formal Discipline Process
 - a. **Minor Infractions:** Formal write-ups given for minor disruptions to the educational atmosphere and process. Examples: Tardiness, dress code violations, minor classroom interruption etc. Teacher fills out the form, explains to the student why he or she is receiving the infraction, and submits it to the

office for entry into the student's behavior file. Multiple minor infractions lead to more serious consequences.

- b. **Detentions:** Given for an accumulation of minor infractions which demonstrate the student is not reforming behavior where needed or for more serious breaches of behavior. Usually given by an administrator who will also seriously consider teacher/staff recommendations in a given incident. Examples: Incidents of disrespect to teachers, staff, or fellow students, defiance of instruction or a scoffing attitude toward correction or authority, horseplay that could intentionally, or unintentionally injure fellow students, cutting class, truancy, etc.
- c. **Saturday School:** Saturday Schools are meant to provide an opportunity for a student to get back on track without having to miss school time. Saturday School will be assigned for accumulations of detentions or instances requiring an additional punishment before reaching the point of suspension. A \$75 fee will be assessed to the student's account and the student will serve from 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- d. **Suspensions:** (In or Out of School at the administration's discretion) Given for an accumulation of detentions which demonstrate the student is not reforming behavior where needed or for more serious breaches of behavior. Examples: Fighting, threats of violence/acts of intimidation, writing on social media, legal violations, etc.
- e. **Behavioral Probation:** 4-10 week provisional enrollment status following any serious offense, a second suspension, succession of multiple offenses, or as a part of the attendance policy. If the student shows marked improvement within two weeks of being on probation, the student may appeal to the administration to request a two-week extension of probation. By this point in the process it is imperative that the student and family take significant initiative in proving their desire to remain part of the school.
- f. **Expulsion/Administrative Dismissal:** Given for an accumulation of lesser violations and a failure to correct behavior. May be given for any offense following a second suspension. May be given for more serious breaches of behavior or legal violations. This constitutes the removal of the student from ECA for up to a full year at which time, should the family and student choose, they may reapply for admission. If re-admission is granted, the student will return to ECA on probationary status for one month. If the student has a clean disciplinary record at that time, he/she may be returned to regular status.

Discipline Process

Different levels of behavior incidents, of course, warrant different levels of consequences, therefore, the path different students could take to be in danger of expulsion may vary widely. For example, in one case, a student could commit a serious enough offense to warrant expulsion for a single offense. On the other end of the spectrum, a student could potentially be expelled for an accumulation of 21 "minor infractions." Since various offenses can lead directly to detentions or suspensions depending on their severity, students can end up on probation and in danger of removal through a widely varying number of incidents. Below is a model of what it could look like if a student never committed a "serious" violation of school rules. One must remember, however, that a failure to repent and reform one's behavior in the wake of numerous corrective actions is, in itself, a very serious matter.

Note: Based on the severity/frequency of offenses, the administration has the discrepancy to modify this process as needed to serve the best interest of the ECA learning community.

***Actions and behavior that occur outside of the school day and away from Emmanuel including character, life decisions and/or breaking the law will be handled by administration with the family depending on the severity of the behavior. School action will be taken for incidences that involve unlawful behavior.**

Model of Discipline Steps by the Accumulation of Minor Infractions

Minor Infractions:	1,2,3	= Lunch Detention #1
	4,5,6	= After School Detention #1 (additional lunch detentions as needed)
	7,8,9	= Lunch Detentions, After School Detentions
	10-12	= Saturday School
	13	= Suspension #1
	15-20	= Suspension #2
	15	= Behavioral Probation, up to 5 weeks. At this point the student can appeal to the administration to request a two week extension of probation in order to demonstrate transformed behavior.
	17-20	= Expulsion

Biblical Considerations in the Discipline Process:

The Way of Wisdom vs. the Simple, the Fool and the Mocker

The scriptures, and most particularly the book of Proverbs, have a very clear way of defining good and bad behavior as well as giving us a vocabulary for teaching our students the distinctions between ways of living.

First, we desire wisdom for our students. This combination of a biblical worldview, knowledge, and the skill to live in light of them is invaluable! When disciplining students here at ECA, we want it always to be with their growth in wisdom and in the Gospel as the primary goal. All of us, as sinful people, are prone to types of behavior about which the book of Proverbs gives us ample warning. These fall under three categories, the simple, the foolish and the mocker (also called scoffer or scorner in various translations).

While there is some variation in the use of these terms, **“simple,” “fool,” and “mockers”** give us a pretty solid way to consider our students’ behavior. “Simple” can be associated with ignorance, lack of knowledge, or the basic childish impulsiveness that leads to wrong behaviors. Foolish behavior includes simple behavior but expands into areas such as a spirit of arrogance by persisting in sinful disobedient behaviors. It is more of a consistent choice of the worldly ways over God’s truth as the “fool says in his heart there is no God.” This can range from occasional instances to a more habitual, set behavior that moves the foolish student into the third category, that of the mocker. The mocker is hardened in his or her ways. More dangerously, for the effective operation of a Christian learning institution, the mocker’s attitude and actions infect surrounding students who are, for the most part, simple, occasionally foolish, but sensitive to correction and growth.

The book of Proverbs and scripture as a whole give us ample examples of the principles of reaping and sowing. Simple and foolish behavior warrants correction and varying levels of consequences. The mocker, on the other hand, is to be treated with substantially more severe penalties (something we refer to as proportionality when discussing the

execution of justice). This more severe justice includes removal of the mocker from the society, in this case, the school. This type of expulsion is nothing we ever want to do lightly, but, on the other hand, we do not want to endanger our mission to the larger learning atmosphere by allowing mockers to do serious harm.

The following acts by a student shall constitute sufficient cause for discipline, placement in suspension or expulsion:

- Arson
- Assault or attempted assault
- Behavior that adversely affects the testimony of Jesus Christ, ECA, and/or the student
- Deception, lying, and/or cheating
- Defiance of authority
- Destruction or defacing of school or private property
- Disrespect to an adult or student
- Disruptive behavior
- Excessive unexcused class tardiness
- Excessive unexcused tardiness to school
- Extortion
- Failure to attend detention
- Failure to follow a teacher's instructions
- False alarms or threats of such
- Fighting or horseplay
- Forgery
- Gambling or betting
- Inappropriate dress
- Insubordination
- Intimidation of a student or staff member
- Leaving school without authorization
- Possession and/or concealment of a dangerous weapon
- Possession and/or use of fireworks and/or explosives
- Repeated violations of school rules
- Sexual immorality
- Stealing
- Threats, physical, verbal or written to other students or staff members
- Truancy
- Unauthorized absence from class or school
- Use, possession, distribution and/or sale of drugs, drug substances, drug-like substances, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, tobacco and/or tobacco products
- Verbal abuse of staff or students
- Violation of motor vehicle guidelines
- Vulgarity, profanity or obscenities (verbal and non-verbal)
- Aiding and/or abetting any of the above
- Weapon on school property

Dress Code: See Campus Wear

Drills

Fire Drills

State law requires periodic fire drills. At the sound of the fire alarm system, each student will leave his or her room and move, single file, to the designated place as outlined in the drill plan. All doors should be closed. Silence MUST prevail during the entire procedure. Students are to stay together with their teacher and remain until dismissed.

Lockdown Drills

State law requires periodic lockdown drills. This procedure will be announced over the public address system by a building administrator. ECA is using the A.L.I.C.E. training program as a response to an armed intruder to the school grounds. Look online for helpful videos concerning the A.L.I.C.E. training program. Measures related to A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lock-Down, Inform, Counter, Escape) procedures in the event of an intruder will also be discussed with students at the time of drills.

Tornado Drills

State law requires periodic tornado drills. At the sound of the alarm, students are to move in a single file to the designated area. Students will be made aware of the exact area by their teachers. Silence MUST prevail during the entire drill. Students are to remain in their designated group areas until dismissed.

Early Dismissal

For the safety of the children, we ask that all visitors, including parents, report to the office first. Teachers will not release a student except to an authorized person.

Electronic Device Guidelines

(Computer/Internet Policy – See Computer & Internet Acceptable Use Policy)

Students grades TK-8 are permitted to bring a cell phone to school, however they must remain in their locker during school hours and may only be taken out with the approval of a teacher or administration.

Students grades 9-12 are permitted to bring a cell phone to school, however they must be left in a locker or in a bookbag and may not be used except in the case of an emergency with the exception of:

- An “administrative pass” may be used for special circumstances for high school only (CCP, other) and may be requested from the principal.
- Students may be given permission by teacher
 - For music
 - For “Duo” Authentication
 - Other purpose as permitted by the teacher
- **No cell phone use in hallways including music and ear buds**
 - **Students will be asked to remove immediately. Students who are caught multiple times will have the ear buds taken to the office to be picked up at the end of the school day.**

- Electronic devices may not be taken into the bathroom for use. All discipline rules apply for usage in the bathroom.
- Students are permitted to use their cell phone during the lunch period only.
- Students are not permitted to take pictures of other students without their permission at any time.
- Any complaints made to administration about inappropriate use, pictures or videos taken without permission, viewing inappropriate or obscene material are subject to further disciplinary action including: having their lunch privileges or after-school privileges prohibited, or additional discipline as determined by administration.

Students using “smart devices” such as watches may only do so for the purpose of keeping the time.

Students may contact their parents at lunch for an “urgent need”. They may communicate with their parents via email as permitted on their chromebooks.

Students are permitted to use cell phones on field trips only if the teacher has specifically given them permission.

- No pictures or videos may be taken of other students unless given permission.
- Pictures or videos taken on field trips are subject to ECA rules and guidelines.
- No pictures or videos are to be taken during school hours (other than lunch).
- No inappropriate pictures and/or video that involve school day activities are to be posted or shared to other students or social media outlets of any type.

Use of cell phones is permitted after school **EXCEPT**:

- **During** guided study (unless permission is given)
- After school detention.
- **During practices for music, drama or athletics.** They may only be used as permitted by a coach or teacher.

Pictures or videos taken after school:

- No pictures or videos may be taken of other students unless given permission.
- Pictures or videos taken on extra curricular trips are subject to ECA rules and guidelines.
- Pictures or videos posted must follow social media guidelines.

Discipline For Violation Of Using An Electronic Device

- First time offenders: receive a lunch detention and their device returned to the student at the end of the day.
- Second time offenders: after-school detention and their device returned to an adult.
- Third time offenders: Saturday School and their device returned to an adult.
- Fourth time offenders: one day in-school suspension and their device returned to an adult.
- Additional offenses: Behavioral Probation and subsequent dismissal.

Emergency Closing of School

School closings and delays will be communicated through multiple avenues: One Call Now, Facebook, and television (TV 2 WDTN, TV 7 WHIO). If no message is aired, then one can assume school is on a regular schedule.

If you depend upon public school busing, you need to monitor your resident district's closing/delay status which may differ with that of ECA. If ECA is open and your public school district is closed, and you are unable to secure alternate transportation, your child will receive an excused absence.

Calamity closings may vary from district to district. Therefore it is important that parents and students monitor the status of both ECA and their district of residence, especially if relying on public school bussing.

Calamity days may be determined to be converted and shifted to REMOTE LEARNING for a day. Extended closures due to cold temperatures or inclement weather will shift students and teachers to REMOTE LEARNING but will be announced in advance of that event. (For example, if ECA has used several calamity days, an announcement may be made that the next inclement weather day will be used as a "REMOTE LEARNING" day.)

Pandemic/Illness Closure: Administration may need to temporarily close school for a day or period of several days if there is an outbreak on several different levels of the school or if there becomes a difficulty to continue to educate in the building in a short-term situation. Every effort will be made to communicate in advance of the closure. In the case of a closure due to this reason, REMOTE LEARNING will become the short-term modality for all students and teachers until a safe return can be made to the school building. This situation would provide an opportunity to sanitize and clean our building, slow the spread of illness, but continue the academic process.

ESM: ("Enrichment, Service, & Ministry") Guidelines

Purpose

ESM week is designated for our 10-12 grade students to choose and participate in various "ESM" opportunities. The goal of ESM is to provide spiritually-integrated opportunities for students to "Enrich, "Serve" or be involved with "Ministry" (ESM) as a part of enhancing the student's exposure to service and following God's call for them.

Objective

Emmanuel Christian Academy's mission is "to serve as a Christ-centered learning community that exists to educate students of Christian families and prepare them for God's calling". Building opportunities outside of our school building during the course of an academic year, gives students a chance to see outside of their own world while reflecting and praying about God's leading in their lives.

Participants

ESM week is for students that are enrolled at ECA. Parents of the enrolled student will have the opportunity to sign up as well. Other family members (grandparents, siblings, close relatives) must be approved by the lead teacher and ESM director. Trips are not open to friends or other student-age participants that are not enrolled at ECA. International students are eligible for ESM activities, but must obtain permission/waiver from their guardians or parents. Students attending ECA must be involved and participate with ESM week or one ESM option.

Options

Each year the offerings for ESM week will be made available by September. Interested participants for International trips and mission trips will usually meet in the spring of the year before the trip. Options for ESM will include the following:

- International Trips (subject/class concentrations): These trips will be limited to participants meeting criteria as set by the lead teacher.
 - This option will be determined by ECA administration, teachers and ESM director.
 - These trips will require mandatory parent and student meetings.
- Mission Trips: Local, Regional (United States), International
 - Local opportunities
 - Regional opportunities
 - International opportunities through Score International and Lifeline Ministries
 - All regional and International trips will require mandatory parent and student meetings.
- Washington D.C. Trip
 - This trip will require mandatory parent and student meetings.
- Camp Ministry and Local Service Opportunities
 - Camp ministry will include providing clean-up and fun activities at a camp ministry in Ohio.
 - Local service opportunities may include packaging meals, cleaning up areas as well as other service projects.
- Enrichment Options: Classes provided that will vary each year.
- Individual Research, Service, Volunteer or Projects
 - Students that are interested in this option may submit an individual request for the week of ESM. This may include serving, volunteering, job shadowing for the ESM week. The proposal must include:
 - Objective
 - (3) achievable goals
 - Location/address
 - Location contact and title with permission email or letter for the project
 - 2-page reflection paper, including a summary of what was accomplished
 - *All individual projects must be pre-approved by the principal or ESM director.

Timeline

September: Parent/student letter with ESM offerings
September: Meetings for DC, Regional. (International trips will begin at least one year prior to the trip.)
October: Interest forms submitted as well as individual project requests
November: Final student assignments complete
Nov. - March: Meetings; deposits due
ESM Week: March (see calendar)

ESM Commitment/Disqualification

Once a student has made a commitment to their ESM choice, changes will not be made unless there is a viable reason, such as the following: emergency, health, discipline, academic reason as determined with parent, student and administration. Students and parents must attend mandatory meetings and participate in pre-trip activities as required.

Emmanuel Christian Academy reserves the right to remove or change placement in an ESM activity in the event of behavioral or academic issues. In addition, students may be removed from their ESM activity if there is a problem during the week.

Crisis Procedures

All participating students and/or family members should prepare themselves for the risks of traveling. Special attention should be paid to travel outside of Ohio whether for an educational or missional trip by attending all meetings prior to the trip. The following are guidelines for crisis intervention during a trip:

1. **Evacuation** - Travel that is in progress when a location becomes High Risk must be reviewed by the administration and the traveling team officials within a reasonable timeframe to determine if the threat is imminent and if travelers should be recalled or relocated. Individual team members and families have the authority to self-evacuate at any point with notification given to administration and the traveling team officials.
2. **Ransom and Extortion** - In the case of kidnapping, hostage-taking or other extortion, no ransom or concession shall be paid or made. Although we are concerned for the well-being of every student, staff member or family member and will labor and pray diligently for the release of any taken hostage, it is our policy to not pay ransom or yield to other extortionary demands.
3. **Release** - All students, staff, and family members participating on the trip must sign a risk release form before being released for a trip.

Travel Advisories

As a general practice, travel inside the United States will be planned to include precautions of areas deemed as unsafe. Travel inside and outside of the United States will be taken in consideration of the following:

1. Regional and International trips are voluntary and parents and students are not required to make these trips as an academic requirement.
2. As with all trips, extreme caution must be taken and students must never be alone.
3. Students will be assigned to a travel group which will be overseen by a chaperone.
4. Participants will be accounted for before each departure.
5. International trips and/or mission trips may plan and complete a trip for a US Department of State "Level 2" (exercise increased caution).

High-Risk Travel Authorization (Level 3 or Level 4)

1. Administration must provide advance authorization for travel to “High-Risk” areas through the appropriate international travel authorization process.
2. Planned travel that is not yet in progress when a destination becomes “High-Risk” is reviewed by administration through the appropriate international travel authorization process. Deposits may or may not be refunded depending on the situation.
3. Travel that is in progress when a location becomes “High-Risk” must be reviewed by administration within a reasonable timeframe to determine if the threat is imminent and if travelers should be recalled or relocated.
4. Travel that has been approved by the administration may be subject to additional review if there is a change in circumstances and/or additional review is deemed necessary by the board or administration.
5. Travel to countries listed as “Level 4” (Do not travel) will not generally be considered and countries that have a status change to “Level 4” will be carefully reviewed or canceled.

Obtaining a Passport/Visa

Participants that are traveling out of the United States will be responsible for obtaining a passport and/or visa, if required. This is the responsibility of the traveler. Participants who are not able to secure a passport or visa will not be able to go and will forfeit their deposits. We recommend beginning the process six months before the trip. There are options for expedited passports as well.

Immunizations and Medications

In order to participate in some mission trips, participants may need to have immunizations updated. These are the responsibility of the participant. Immunization forms and medication forms will need to be updated and turned in before the trip approval is granted.

Financial Summary

ESM activities will vary in financial responsibility. Individual projects will not carry a fee unless required as part of your individual project. Washington DC, Regional and International trip costs will vary.

1. Financial Support Policy - participants are responsible for the cost of their ESM activity. Participants who are involved with a Regional or International mission trip are permitted to seek fundraising within the ECA fundraising policies and guidelines via: letters, social media, or personal phone calls.
 - a. Emmanuel Christian Academy will not provide social media access for individual fundraising.
 - b. Emmanuel Christian Academy will allow “group fundraisers” for school-sponsored group trips within the ECA fundraising policies and guidelines. Division of the proceeds will be decided by the trip coordinator or ESM director.
 - c. Lead teachers or trip coordinators must meet with the business office to arrange for purchases, trip costs, etc. in advance of the trip.

2. Payments
 - a. All trip payments that are made through ECA must be made payable to ECA with the ESM activity in the subject line. All payments must be complete by January.
 - b. Regional and International trips will have a payment schedule that must be followed.
3. Refunds - there are no refunds unless approved by the ESM director or trip insurance (travel insurance, if applicable)

Required Forms

ESM Student Choice and Parental Authorization
Medication Authorization (if necessary)
Final Permission and Parental Authorization
Regional/International trips will require additional forms.

Contacts

Superintendent: John Essig (jessig@ecaoh.com)
Principal: Dan Moore (dmoore@ecaoh.com)
ESM Director: Ryan Bostater (rbostater@ecaoh.com)
Business Office: Richard Ford (rford@ecaoh.com)

Event Dress Code

Students may follow a “relaxed” dress code to attend sporting events at ECA or sporting events at other schools but should not push boundaries on standards of modesty and should maintain dress that reflects the school in a positive manner.

Guidelines for student dress at off-campus activities will be designated for the event. Those not following guidelines may be asked to make an adjustment, change or leave the event.

Exam Information

All core academic classes will have semester examinations (first semester midterms and a second semester capstone assessment). Exams will count towards 20% of the student’s semester grade, with each quarter counting as 40%. Seniors will not complete a capstone assessment during the second semester.

Procedures and Policies Regarding Semester Exams and Capstone Assessments

- First Semester Exams (9-12 grades)
 - Exams are cumulative and based on content learned during the semester.

- A student is not permitted to leave an exam period early. Students will remain in the classroom and must bring materials to study or a book to read if they finish early.
 - Students' scores may be invalidated if they cause distractions during testing.
 - No visitors are permitted.
 - Please keep in mind that non-core classes will not have exams. Electives courses will not have an exam during exam days. However, elective teachers may assign final projects, tests, or similar assignments for their courses that occur before the formal examination times.
 - Students needing to reschedule an exam must make it up after the scheduled time. Exams will not be administered early.
- **Second Semester Capstone Assessments (8-12 grades)**
 - Capstone assessments are cumulative and based on content learned during the semester.
 - The assessment may be a project, presentation, or traditional exam. The assessment will be determined by the classroom teacher.
 - If there is an Ohio State test or MAP assessment associated with a class, there will be no capstone assessment in that class.
 - Ohio State tests include Algebra I, Geometry, 10th Grade ELA, Biology, American History, and American Government.
 - MAP assessments include 9th Grade ELA and 9th/10th Grade Math.
 - Please keep in mind that non-core classes will not have a capstone assessment as an exam grade. However, elective teachers may assign final projects, tests or similar assignments for their courses at the end of second semester.
 - Capstone assessments will be completed during the last few days of school. The building will run on a normal, eight-period schedule.
 - Seniors will not complete a capstone assessment.
 - Classes with no exam/testing of any kind at the end of the year will finish the year with normal testing/assessments.
- **Attendance/Late Arrival/Early Dismissal (First Semester Only)**
 - With parental permission, students will be excused to leave during exam times for which they are not enrolled. For example, if a student is not enrolled in a foreign language, then they will not be required to be in the school during that exam time.
 - If a student has no more exams on an exam day, a parent may allow the student to leave campus for the remainder of the school day following his/her exam. Completion of the Late Arrival/Early Dismissal Form (available in the front office) will be needed particularly when families are making different travel arrangements for their students. Otherwise, a parent may sign their student out following the exam period.

Faculty Exception to Policy Committee (Faculty/Staff Advisory Committee)

This is an ad hoc group of faculty members who, along with the Dean of Pupil Services or another administrator, will meet with students and/or families as various situations arise in which students, family, or faculty desire an exception to a school policy. These meetings will generally be held to address issues surrounding students' academic performance, attendance, eligibility for extracurricular activities or various school honors, behavior, or enrollment status (particularly when a student has been placed on probation). There will be three teachers on the committee

from the student's academic level (K-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-12) including two who have direct instructional contact with the student.

The purpose of this committee is to make recommendations to the administration regarding students' requests based on their knowledge of the students through daily contact and from the committee meeting. This allows faculty members, who generally have a more thorough knowledge of students and their performance/behavior, to add valuable counsel so the administration can make better decisions.

Family Service Hours Policy

Emmanuel Christian Academy recognizes the importance of a partnership between the school and its families. It is our desire to strengthen that partnership by encouraging families to participate in various areas of the school for 20 hours each year. Volunteer opportunities may be communicated through emails, The Week Ahead, Renweb, One Call Now, personal phone calls, text messages, or sign-up sheets. Families are encouraged to participate in school committees such as Athletics, Boosters, Fine Arts, Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF), and Volunteer Committee. To find out about meeting times and locations, please contact the school office for committee leader information.

Field Trips

Classes take field trips to interesting and educational places in the area as an integral part of the instructional program. Parents will be notified in advance of any costs associated with the trip. Students and parents will be notified of special dress code requirements for individual field trips. Parents will be notified in advance of a pending field trip with the appropriate information - what, when, where, how, and why.

All chaperones must be approved by the administration and only current ECA students may participate in the trip. Students with academic, attendance, or behavior problems, may lose the privilege of participating in field trips up to and including 8th grade Washington DC Trip, Mission or International Trips, and Senior Trip.

Financial Matters

Tuition and Fees are managed by the Business Office.

- Parties responsible for student tuition, fees, and all financial arrangements must be in good standing with the business office by having no past due financial obligations.

Past Due Accounts and Extracurriculars:

- Payments must first go towards resolving past due balances before being applied toward extracurriculars, such as athletic fees, mission trips, ECA trips, tech fees, etc.

Food and Drink in the Classrooms

Water is permitted in the classrooms. No other drinks are permitted except by special permission. Snacks may be permitted by the teacher's permission only. Teachers are responsible for granting permission and ensuring their rooms are kept clean.

Grade Level Placement (7-12)

PROMOTION, ACCELERATION, AND RETENTION

Promotion to the next grade (or level) is based on the following criteria:

- A. Current level of achievement based on instructional objectives and mandated requirements for the current grade
- B. Potential for success at the next level
- C. Emotional, physical, and/or social maturity necessary for a successful learning experience in the next grade. A student may be accelerated (either by whole-grade or by subject area) when his/her performance and measured ability significantly exceeds that of his/her grade level peers.

Students can be nominated for acceleration by teachers, administrators, parents, and the student him/herself.

Decisions regarding acceleration are based on the following criteria:

- A. Achievement of grade/course objective and any applicable State-mandated requirements for the grade/course in which the student is currently and any grade(s)/course(s) that the student will skip
- B. Achievement of instructional objectives for the present grade/course as well as the succeeding one(s)
- C. Potential for success in the accelerated placement based on sufficient proficiency at current level
- D. Social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for success in an accelerated placement

A student may be retained at his/her current grade level based on the following criteria:

- A. Failure to achieve the instructional objectives at the current grade level that are requisite for success at the next grade level.

A student may be retained if she/he is truant (absent without excuse) for more than ten percent (10%) of the required attendance days of the current school year AND has failed two (2) or more of the required curriculum subject areas in the current grade. Even if she/he falls in the preceding category, a student may be placed if the principal agrees that the student is academically prepared for the next grade level.

Graduation Criteria

Graduation criteria is listed in the Course Description Catalog, which is available on our website:

<https://www.ecaoh.com/academics/#high-school>.

Graduation Requirements For ECA Diploma With Honors

Students must fulfill all but one criterion to meet the requirements for a Diploma With Honors.

English	4 units
Mathematics	4 units, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content
Science	4 units, including physics and chemistry
Social Studies	4 units
Foreign Language	3 units, including at least 2 units in each language studied
Fine Arts	1 unit
Electives	Not counted toward requirements
Grade Point Average	3.5* on a 4.0 scale (must be a non-weighted GPA - grades earned in honors classes will not be weighted for this GPA calculation)
ACT/SAT	27 ACT/1280 SAT (excluding scores from the writing sections)

- See the Dean of Pupil Services for information about earning a Career-technical Diploma with Honors.
- Diploma with Honors requirements pre-suppose completion of all ECA high school diploma requirements including the following: one unit of Bible for every year enrolled, one-half unit physical education, one-half unit health, one unit of world history, one unit in American history, one-half unit in government, one-half unit economics, twenty-four hours of community outreach for each year enrolled, and successful completion of the End of Course exams or a remediation free score on the ACT/SAT.

*Students must have a cumulative unweighted G.P.A. of 3.5 at the end of the first semester of their senior year.

Commencement Ceremony

The primary purpose of the commencement ceremony is to award the ECA diploma. All other end of the year public awards and scholarships are presented during the secondary awards chapel. Part-time ECA students and Homeschool Connect students are valued members of the ECA family. We invite these students to participate in the commencement ceremony, although they do not receive ECA diplomas. Those who would like to participate in this ceremony need to contact the Dean of Pupil Services.

College Admission Requirements

- Admission policies vary from college to college. Most require a high school diploma or high school equivalency (GED). Many colleges consider a student's class ranking, SAT or ACT scores and recommendations from the high school when admitting students.

- Many colleges recommend or require the following:

English	4 units
Math	4 units
Science	4 units
Social Studies	3 units
Foreign Language	3 units (same language)
Fine Arts	1 unit

- For more information concerning college/career planning and a particular college’s admission requirements, see the Dean of Pupil Services.

Criteria For Diploma

The Board of Trustees must grant a diploma to anyone successfully completing the curricula and having fulfilled all responsibilities. It must be signed by the President of the Board and the Superintendent and bear the date of issuance.

Diploma With Honors

The Diploma with Honors recognizes those individuals who have successfully completed the academic requirements beyond the requirements for a graduation diploma. This diploma requires the following:

- A composite score of 27 on the ACT or a combined verbal/math score of 1280 on the SAT; or
- An overall high school grade point average of at least 3.5 on a four-point scale, up to the first semester of the senior year.

Guided Study

Teachers will interact with students to ensure the time is used wisely and to give accountability to the students. Students can use the time to complete the following four areas, called “House Rules”: Homework, Study, Reading, and Spiritual Growth.

Guided Study Policies/Procedures

Procedures

- Students or student athletes who are using ECA Guided Study must be checked in no later than 10 minutes after the end of school.
 - If a student comes in after that time, the time of the student’s arrival will be recorded.
 - Students who continue to arrive late will face disciplinary action.
- Students must ask permission before they leave the library.
- Students are not permitted to roam the hallways or the building.
- Students must work on homework or stay busy and are not permitted to be on their cell phone without permission from the Guided Study Instructor.
 - The Guided Study Instructor may collect phones as needed.

- Students will clean up the area they are working in before leaving.
- Student athletes may leave 15 minutes before their scheduled practice or team event and report to the Guided Study Instructor when leaving (Students will not be permitted to return once they leave for practice unless directed by their coach and agreed upon by the Guided Study Instructor).
- Students may drink water in the library and may be given permission to eat in the hallway as determined by the Guided Study Instructor.

Disciplinary Action

- Students should be respectful to the Guided Study Instructor as well as other adults.
- Students who abuse the Guided Study procedures will be written up.
- Students may be “suspended” from Guided Study and may not be permitted to return to Guided Study for continued disruptive behavior or discipline issues.

Gym Rules

1. Gym shoes are to be worn during PE classes and other activities in the gym.
2. There will be no playing in the gym unless supervised by a faculty, staff member or a coach.
3. Students will remain in the gym area until the assigned activity is over.

Hall Passes

Students in grades 7 through 12 are not to be in the hall during class time without a hall pass. A student must report to the assigned class before a pass to visit another teacher is valid. If a teacher detains a student after class, the detaining teacher is to write a pass for the student to be admitted to his/her next class.

Health Services - See Clinic Policy

Homeschool Students (Extracurricular Activities)

ECA welcomes homeschool students to enroll for classes to enrich the home school experience, to broaden the scope of subject matter for students, and to meet eligibility requirements for participation in extracurricular activities.

Homeschool students may enroll in classes at ECA, provided that space is available in the course(s), once full-time ECA students have enrolled. Open enrollment in courses for homeschool students will be made available by July 15 of each year for the coming fall.

Homeschool students are expected to comply with the policies, guidelines and rules of ECA. These include, but are not limited to, the dress code, code of conduct, discipline policies, and eligibility requirements for participation in extracurricular activities.

Homeschool students in grades K-12 are eligible to participate in ECA extracurricular activities provided they take at least one core class on the ECA campus. They must comply with the eligibility requirements that apply to ECA students and follow all ECA student policies.

Furthermore, it is recognized that the needs of those who homeschooled on the elementary level are different from those in grades 7-12. Students usually attend special activity classes and are here only one period each day. For this

reason, 1/7th of the tuition is charged. Should a parent decide to have a child attend more classes, then a charge of 1/7th will be made for each period of attendance. Tuition will be divided by 1/7th for each class taken. The homeschool family will be responsible for applicable registration, activity, book and administrative fees. The registration fees for the current year are expected at the time of registration. A full-time ECA student is given priority over the homeschool student for course availability during open enrollment which concludes on July 15. In addition, our homeschool students have the opportunity to take a Flex Credit course. These elective courses convene on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. See the ECA Financial Fact Sheet for the enrollment/application and year course fees (for two semester classes) for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Homeschool students who desire to take any State tests (End of Course exams, State tests etc.), placement tests (MAPs), or college entrance exams (PSAT, ACT) will be charged a one-time fee. The fee covers the cost of the test/exam, administration of the exam, and delivery of score reports. Any family interested in this service can contact the school administration for more details.

Homework and Late Work Policy

Work completed by students is a valuable, integral part of the learning process. Therefore, it is necessary for students to complete this work in or sometimes outside of class time. Students who do not complete their work on time will be penalized. Students are expected to complete the assignment whether credit will be earned or not as there are learning objectives to be practiced and/or mastered with each assignment.

7th-8th Grade Policy:

1 day late = 25% taken off

2 days late = 50% taken off

3 days late = 0%

8th grade students who take a high school level course will follow the 9th-12th grade policy for the high school course. All other 8th grade courses will follow the 7th-8th grade policy.

9th-12th Grade Policy:

1 day late = 50% taken off

2 days late = 0%

7th-12th Absence Policy: See Make-Up Work for Absences

Honors Courses

Emmanuel Christian Academy offers honors courses in the following areas: English, Science, and Math. Honors courses are calculated using a 5.0 point value scale. The weighted 5.0 point value scale is in effect for the Classes of 2022-2024. In order to gain and maintain acceptance into honors courses, students must meet prerequisites such as minimum grade standards, minimum MAP's score and instructor approval. Students must maintain an 85% in honors courses to remain in good standing. Any student who fails the first semester of an honors course will not be permitted to remain in the honors course for the second semester. This may affect the student's schedule as a whole.

Incomplete Grade

An "Incomplete" is given only when there are justifiable reasons for the work to be late at the end of the grading period. Such a grade changes to "F" if the work is not completed within two weeks.

Leaving the Building

Students must not leave the school building other than at the regular dismissal time, except by permission from the school office. A signed parental note must be presented to the school office for approval prior to the time of early dismissal. Students must sign out in the office when leaving early. A parent's phone call is an acceptable alternative to a written note. Students staying for approved after-school activities must have adult supervision, and are to remain on the premises until picked up by parents. No student, regardless of age, may sign out without permission from a parent (this includes CCP students).

Leaving the School Due to Illness

Any call made to a parent or guardian requesting student release due to illness must be made from the school office. All students leaving due to illness must be signed out by the parent, guardian, or parental designee.

Library

- Each student going to the library during school hours must have a hall pass signed by his/her study hall or classroom teacher. This pass must be given to the librarian on duty when the student enters the library and must be signed by the librarian and carried back to the teacher when the student leaves the library. If a student leaves the library before the end of the period, he or she is to report back to the study hall or classroom.
- Magazines and reference books are to be used in the library and not taken out.
- Since the library is a place for study and reading, only limited talking is permitted with permission.
- Students who abuse their library privileges will be restricted from its use.
- Students are not permitted in the library without adult supervision.

Check Out

Students and family members may check out books with the librarian on duty or sub during the day from 9:30am-3:00pm.

TK-4th grade: Students in TK-4th grade visit the library once a week to check out books.

TK-2nd grade: Students may check out (1) book per week.

3rd and 4th grade: May check out (2) books per week. Books must be returned to check out new books.

5th grade-12th grade: May check out books as needed and may check out (2) at a time for a two-week period. Books must be returned to check out new books.

Failure to Return

Families/students are responsible to return books to the library. If books are not returned, a student will not be able to check out any more books until the overdue books have been returned. If books are lost, the family/student will be responsible for paying for the book. The cost depends on the book that was lost.

Overdue Notices/Balances

Notices are sent out (1) time a quarter. Balances on the library account will be added to the family ECA account.

Lost and Found

The lost and found department is located in the cafeteria. Items that have not been claimed will become the property of the school and will be disposed of by the school periodically.

Lunch Period

1. All food is to be eaten in the lunchroom.
2. Tables are not to be moved.
3. Each student is to clean his or her area when lunch is concluded.
4. Courtesy and good manners shall be in evidence at all times.
5. All trash is to be placed in containers.
6. Students are expected to remain in the cafeteria until dismissed.

Music

Any music or “talk” recordings that are profane or of questionable taste, or clearly express anti-Christian standards are not to be a part of Emmanuel Christian Academy.

Music Concerts/Band Concerts

Students will follow the music concert and band concert dress code as outlined in the choir, orchestra and band handbooks.

Parent Messages and Telephone Calls

Lunch, forgotten books, assignments or other items will be delivered to the classroom. The office will contact your child with the forgotten item in a timely manner. Please remind your child to check at the office whenever he or she forgets an item. Students with illnesses or other needs that require parent pick up/permission to leave the building must check in with the nurse or front office before making any phone calls home.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled in the fall and spring. Additional conferences may be scheduled at any time during the school year. Conferences are required with families whose students are on academic probation.

ParentsWeb

ParentsWeb, a portal within our school management software called RenWeb, is a private and secure parents’ portal that allows parents to view academic information specific to their child, while protecting their child’s information from others. You can see your child’s grades, attendance, homework and conduct, as well as other useful school information. You can also communicate with teachers and other school staff online whenever necessary. ParentsWeb can be accessed from the internet or their app.

To login to ParentsWeb and create a profile, simply go to:

<https://www.renweb.com/rwlogin/ParentsWeb-Login.aspx?District=EM-OH&SchoolCode>. Visit administration or www.renweb.com for more information. RenWeb grades and assignments will be updated weekly. Become familiar with the RenWeb program and use this information to stay on top of your child’s education.

Plagiarism/Cheating

According to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, to "plagiarize" means to "use another's words or ideas without giving credit to that person." This could also include:

- To take ideas, thoughts, words and act as if they are your own
- To present something as a new or original from a source that already existed

The following can be considered plagiarism:

- Copying and pasting from another source
- Copying verbatim without the use of quotes and sourcing
- Supplying incorrect information about a source or withholding a source
- Changing a few words but keeping the same sentence structure or phrasing
- Majority of your work is from the source using quotation marks
- Using images, videos or copyrighted material
- Using Artificial Intelligence (ChatGPT or other) to complete course assignments. Assignments will be checked with AI monitoring programs and software.

Plagiarizing includes:

- On homework
- On a project
- On speeches
- On a quiz or test

Each incident of plagiarism is tracked during the time the student is in junior high school. Once he or she moves into senior high school, the old record is removed and the person begins the freshman year with a "clean slate".

- First Offense: The student will receive a zero for the assignment and the teacher will notify the parents.
- Second Offense: May lead to failure of the class in which the cheating occurred. The parents will meet with an administrator. The student will be given an in-school suspension.
- Third Offense: Expulsion from Emmanuel Christian Academy.

All cases of academic dishonesty will remain in the student's file during high school. Therefore, an act of plagiarism during a student's senior year will count as a second offense if the student plagiarized during their freshman, sophomore or junior year.

Both the junior and senior high school records are kept in the office and do not appear in the student's curriculum folder or on any transcripts.

Playground Rules

- *Elementary grades hold priority over the playground and equipment. Secondary classes may use the equipment if there are no elementary classes outside.*
- All students must have an adult to escort them to the playground.
- Nothing is to be thrown (rocks, snowballs, leaves, etc).
- A student should never leave the playground without permission from an adult on duty.
- All slides: Down and out, be able to see the one in front of you finish, lead with feet.
- Teeter Totter: One person may stand on the middle yellow spot.
- Teeter Totter, Horse, and Airplane: Do not push up and down with your hands.
- Various Equipment: Always keep head above the feet; no hanging upside down on anything.
- Trees: Stay off of them; no climbing or hanging; no picking leaves off trees or ground.
- Monkey Bars: One person may use them at a time.
- Twirl Wheel: One at a time; no one may swing and jump off while spinning.
- Swings:
 - One child per swing, NO STANDING ON SWINGS, and no high swinging.
 - Bottom only on seat; swing motion backwards and forwards only; no twisting and no tricks; no jumping from swings.
- Picnic Table:
 - No standing on the seats or table top
 - No sitting on the table top
 - No crawling under the table
 - Students completing school work have first priority.
 - Do not color directly *on* the table.

Pledges

American Flag:

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands; one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Christian Flag:

I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag, and to the Savior for whose Kingdom it stands. One Savior, crucified, risen and coming again, with life and liberty for all who believe.

Bible Pledge:

I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God.

Promotion: See Grade Level Placement

Public Display of Affection

Contact associated with students' dating (i.e., hand-holding, arms around one another, kissing, etc.) is not allowed at school or school-sponsored activities on or off campus.

Remote Learning Instructional Provisions for 7th-12th: (Quarantined, Shutdown or Calamity Day)

Terms

- **Asynchronous:** Online learning without “real-time” interaction
- **Synchronous:** Online or remote learning environment that happens in “real time” with classroom interaction
- Online learning will have synchronous components and asynchronous components as well (videos to review, recorded class lectures).
- **“Self Paced”:** There will be aspects of online learning that will be independent and self-paced. Assignment due dates will still be relevant.
- Teachers will use Google Classroom as the learning platform for their classes. Students are required to use this platform to access and engage in “live” instruction, view resources, complete assignments, etc.
- Paper assignments may be uploaded to the Google Classroom page.
- For help needed in regard to attendance or chromebook concerns:
 - Lynne Willis (lwillis@ecaoh.com)
 - Jule Fadley (jfadley@ecaoh.com)
 - Becky Mertens (bmertens@ecaoh.com)
- For help needed during the class time please email:
 - Your classroom teacher
 - Elementary: Asst Principal Karalee Lawrence (klawrence@ecaoh.com)
 - Secondary: Asst. Principal Alicia Kidder (akidder@ecaoh.com)
 - Or Building Principal Dan Moore (dmoore@ecaoh.com)

Elementary Online Day

- Students will check in to the Google Meet with their homeroom teacher on their Chromebook at 8:00 am.
- Students will have a morning session with the teacher and then have work to complete from their Google Classroom.
- Students are expected to be actively engaged in their learning until 11am. The teacher will have some form of live instruction that day, whether it be logged in together from 8am-11am, or set times as determined by the teacher/teachers.
- Teachers may give students assignments that are to be completed after 11am.
- Elementary Special Classes: NONE for online days
- Intervention team members will be available for online meets as needed.

Secondary Online Day

- Students will check in to the Google Meet on their Google Classroom at the designated class time.
- Attendance will be taken
- Teachers will have an assignment or activity that may be asynchronous or synchronous.
- Intervention team members will be available for online meets for additional support.

7-12 Band, Orchestra, Choir, or Theater

- In the event of school-wide use of remote or hybrid learning, Fine Arts classes will accommodate in the following ways:
 - Classes that take place during the day will be remote/hybrid per ECA’s plan.

- After-school activities will continue as scheduled unless ECA is required to shut down. Students will be expected to participate.
- Performances will continue on schedule to every extent possible. Extra rehearsals may be scheduled to accommodate transitions in school learning modes (remote/hybrid).

Learning Platform/Internet

- Families who do not have internet access may contact administration for recommendations and assistance.
 - Internet hotspots are available outside the school building.
- Google Classroom will be used for livestream, resources, and assignments.
- Paper assignments may be uploaded to the Google Classroom page.

Attendance

- Students will access their teachers “live” in the classroom using Google Meet. For students who may be absent, the lecture portion of the class time will be recorded and posted in Google Classroom.
- Students will log into Google Classroom during their regularly scheduled class time. Attendance will be taken daily for each class in which a student is enrolled, as normal. In order to be counted as “present”, a student must be logged into the Google Meet at the start of class, and remain logged in for the duration of the class period.
- **Alternative attendance:** If the student is not able to log on at the actual time of the class, the student will:
 - Let the teacher know in advance, if possible, and;
 - If not possible, (internet issue, other unforeseen circumstances) the student/parent will email the teacher and the attendance office and will confirm that the student has completed the class assignment or recording.

Online Classroom/Remote Learning: Student Requirements and Online Expectations

- Visual and verbal attendance. Students must join the Google Meet at the beginning of each day’s class and be prepared for class with all necessary supplies.
- Students should not be on their phone or distracted by other electronics (video games/music).
- Students should maintain a visual presence the entire class period showing their faces. Students may only turn off the video with permission from the instructor.
- Students should be focused on class instruction/discussion and prepared to participate and answer questions.
- Students should treat the remote classroom as if they were in the physical classroom showing respect to teachers and classmates.
- Students should be seated at a table conducive for learning in a quiet uninterrupted space.
- Students should be appropriately clothed.
- Chat comments should be “on task” and a constructive part of the learning environment. Holding side conversations or chat sessions is not permitted.

- All assignments must be turned in through Google classroom (not emailed) and will follow the same late policy as is in the handbook for in-class instruction.
- Any activity performed through Google Meet, Google Classroom or on a school Chromebook is subject to school guidelines and discipline

Grades

- **All students will be required to complete expected work for each of their classes. All policies will be enforced, including late policies.**

Remote Learning for Calamity Days and Other Closures

Calamity days may be determined to be converted and shifted to REMOTE LEARNING for a day. Extended closures due to cold temperatures or inclement weather will shift students and teachers to REMOTE LEARNING but will be announced in advance of that event. (For example, if ECA has used several calamity days, an announcement via ONE CALL and email will be made that the next inclement weather day will be used as a “REMOTE LEARNING” day.)

Pandemic/Illness Closure: Administration may need to temporarily close school for a day or period of several days if there is an outbreak on several different levels of the school or if there becomes a difficulty to continue to educate in the building in a short term situation. Every effort will be made to communicate in advance of the closure. In the case of a closure due to this reason, REMOTE LEARNING will become the short term modality for all students and teachers until a safe return can be made to the school building. This situation would provide an opportunity to sanitize and clean our building, slow the spread of illness, but continue the academic process.

RenWeb

Renewing School Management via the Web (RenWeb) is the software used by Emmanuel Christian Academy for parent communication, grading and more. RenWeb grades and assignments will be updated each Monday. Become familiar with the RenWeb program and use this information to stay on top of your education. Visit the administration or <https://www.renweb.com/> for more information.

School Colors

Emmanuel Christian Academy has chosen the following colors:

- Purple is a school color because it has long been a symbol of royalty. This is not to be construed as pride or self-exaltation but instead it is to signify our exalted “Royal” position with Jesus Christ. We all need to be reminded of our position in Christ, and that we should reflect that relationship as we represent Him! “Seek those things which are above.” (Colossians 3:1)
- White signifies moral, spiritual and physical purity. We feel our students need to remember their separation from things of the world which could corrupt their outlook, performance, and testimony. Hence, white is a focal point to remind us of purity and righteousness as we compete. “What would Jesus do?”
- Gold signifies we are constantly striving for success. One should strive for eternal rewards, not temporal. We want to achieve that which will last! “When he is tried, he shall come forth as gold.” (Job 23:10)

Senior Trip

The senior class may fundraise and plan for a senior trip that includes the following:

- An activity or “trip” that is no more than 400 miles away or can be reached within 7 hours via car or plane.
- The trip can be planned as a service, mission or bonding experience.
- The trip should be coordinated to allow all seniors who desire to go.
- The date must be requested and approved by October for a trip on either ESM, Spring Break, or an agreed upon date which does not conflict with the majority of those involved. (*School activities must be considered.)
- ECA-approved chaperones must be included with the request.
- Fundraised money can only go toward the trip expenses. Fundraised money may not be returned to seniors.
- All purchases must be coordinated with the class adviser and administration. Parents and students are not permitted to make purchases or reservations without administrative approval.

Sexuality/Gender

Emmanuel Christian Academy’s policy regarding sex, sexuality and gender identity is grounded in our long-standing institutional religious identity. This identity, in turn, is grounded in the teachings of the Bible as understood in the Protestant Evangelical theological tradition. This policy is intended to address transsexualism, transgenderism, and broader related gender identity issues. We acknowledge that uninformed and harsh actions by Christians have inflicted unnecessary pain. We recognize our obligation before God to love all persons, understanding such love in the context of God’s revealed truth. We affirm that God’s original and ongoing intent and action is the creation of humanity manifest as two distinct sexes, male and female. We also recognize that due to sin and human brokenness, our experience of our sex and gender is not always that which God the Creator originally designed, and yet affirm further God’s capacity to heal and transform our brokenness.

With this foundational understanding of Creation, Fall, and Redemption, we do not affirm the resolution of tension between one’s biological sex and one’s experience of gender by the adoption of a psychological identity discordant with one’s birth sex. Similarly we do not affirm attempts to change one’s given biological birth sex via medical intervention in favor of the identity of the opposite sex or of an indeterminate identity. As a Christian school we will respect those whose moral views diverge from ours, and seek to embody the gentle and patient love of Christ for all. We will make institutional decisions in light of this policy regarding student admission and retention, employment hiring and retention, and other matters.

Sexual Harassment

Biblical Principles

1. **Philippians 2:3-4** – Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.
2. **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8** – It is God’s will that you should be sanctified; that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathens, who do not know God, and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you His Holy Spirit.

3. **Galatians 3:26-28** – You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Emmanuel Christian Academy affirms its commitment to appropriate sexual behavior between all men and women who may be members of its student body, faculty, and/or staff. Amorous behavior, even though consensual, which is inconsistent with the Word of God and the Emmanuel Christian Academy standards will not be tolerated.

Furthermore, behavior which asserts sexuality as relevant to student or employee performance violates both federal law and school standards. Sexual harassment inhibits the spiritual and academic mission of the school and is prohibited.

When the authority and power inherent in relationships between faculty and their students or between supervisors and their employees is abused by sexual harassment, there is potential for great damage to students, to faculty, and to the spiritual and educational climate of the school. Therefore, individuals in positions of authority must be sensitive to the potential conflicts between personal relationships and professional responsibilities.

Sexual harassment is a particularly sensitive issue that may affect any member of Emmanuel Christian Academy and as such will be dealt with promptly and discreetly by the administration or the Board of Trustees, if necessary. The procedures are available in the Board Policy Manual. A copy of the Manual is in the school office.

Social Events

All social events (dances, lock-ins, etc.) are to be approved by the administration. These events are to be planned under the guidance of staff and/or parent advisors with administrative approval.

Social Media

Social networking sites (SNS) like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and others are prevalent worldwide. These great venues allow millions of people to easily connect with loved ones and share their thoughts and opinions. In alignment with the Student Life Covenant and Student Handbook, students are responsible for the content published on SNS. It is the desire of ECA for all students to reach maturity in their faith. Parent(s)/guardian(s) bear responsibility for supervision of student media use. Generally, when conflict arises among students as a result of social media/texting, they will be referred to parental authority. Students must remember that what they write is public. They should always assume that it will be read by their parents, family, friends, teachers, future employers and co-workers, future spouses and children, along with countless others. They need to ask themselves if they are comfortable with all of these people seeing what they plan to post. Also for consideration, students must understand that everything posted to the internet remains there, even after a post is deleted. The permanence of online content provides a somber truth that we are held accountable for everything we say or write. Therefore, strive to be like our Lord and Savior by speaking the truth in love.

***Questionable use of social media outside of the school will be directed toward the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student. Extreme, explicit, unlawful or bullying behavior will be dealt with by the ECA administration and the family.**

Springfield-Clark Career Technology Center (SCCTC)

CTC students must make every attempt to schedule core classes at ECA, and at a minimum, Bible must be taken

through ECA or an approved ECA location. CTC students will pay full ECA tuition. (Exceptions may be made on a case by case scenario by administration.)

Student Clubs and Organizations

All student clubs and organizations shall be formed with the permission of the administration. They shall have an adult advisor approved by the administration. Any activity scheduled must be approved by the advisor, who will secure permission from the administrator. The activity will then be scheduled on the appropriate form. Any collection of funds must be done only with the approval of the administration, which is secured by the advisor. Receipts will be given in every case. No money is to be spent by any club without the written permission of the advisor, and the written approval of the administration.

Student Drivers

Students who drive to school must have a copy of their driver's license, insurance card, and parental permission. Please note: The State of Ohio, House Bill 343 states that all student drivers ages 16-17 can only have one non-family member in the car while driving. This does not apply to drivers 18 years or older.

Student Grievance Procedure

Before starting the Student Grievance Procedure, a student must follow the Matthew 18 principle.

In the event that any student feels aggrieved of any policy of Emmanuel Christian Academy or actions of its agents or employees, such individuals shall be entitled to the use of the following method of obtaining redress. The student will be permitted an advocate during any of the hearing sessions. Either a parent or another adult may serve in this capacity. Each student will present his or her case.

If satisfaction is not achieved, the aggrieved has a three-day period in which to appeal in writing to the principal. If satisfaction is still not achieved, the aggrieved has a three day period in which to appeal in writing to the principal/superintendent. They may initiate a hearing or discussion based on this written request. Any assigned punishment will be held until a final determination is made.

Teacher
↓
Principal
↓
Superintendent

*Except in the event of extraordinary circumstances, students and parents with a grievance against a staff member, who have not started the process by first meeting with that person, will be referred back to that staff member by administrators.

Student Records

Current Records

- Current student's folders contain the past three years records (current year and the two previous years).

Previous Years Records

- Records are scanned into Google Cloud for storage.

Parental Requests Procedure

- Parent(s)/guardian(s) must submit a request in person or via email or must receive ROR from the new school.
- Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be able to provide identification and verification must be shown that the parent(s)/guardian(s) has "rights" to the student information.
- Copies are made of any records that the parent(s)/guardian(s) has requested.
- The parent(s)/guardian(s) will sign for the records upon pick-up.

Student-Staff Relationships

It is understood that every student at Emmanuel Christian Academy should develop and maintain an attitude of respect for each teacher and for fellow students. The proper method of addressing a teacher is to use the term "Miss", "Mrs.", "Mr. or "Dr.", and all replies should be given respectfully.

This standard is applicable throughout the school day and all school programs and activities. In responding to adults, students are to respond respectfully. Mannerly expressions such as "Please", "Thank You", and "Excuse me" are to be used when appropriate. Basic manners governed by the biblical imperative to love your neighbor as yourself are expected.

Student Withdrawal from a Class

Withdrawing from a class prior to an interim report will be marked as WD. There will be no withdrawal after one week following the issuance of interim grade reports. This period of grace is designed to allow parents and students the opportunity to determine whether or not to continue in a course. It is required that a conference occurs with the teacher/guidance counselor before a final decision is made.

Student Withdrawal from School

The parent of a student withdrawing from school must complete a withdrawal form obtained from the office. Teachers will collect textbooks and other instructional materials loaned to the student. An exit interview will be scheduled with the family by the superintendent or principal before the withdrawal process is complete.

Summer School

Should summer school and/or credit recovery courses be necessary for a student, the family is responsible for the

registration and cost of the course. Please contact the Dean of Pupil Services for credit recovery options.

Tardiness Grades K-12: See Attendance Policy

Telephones

School telephones are for school business only. Students should not be called during school hours except in cases of emergencies. Cell phones are NOT to be used during the school day without a teacher or administrator permission. Students who need to call home must do so from the school office.

Testing

Emmanuel Christian Academy uses a number of testing and assessments throughout the school year in order to assess students' learning levels, prepare students for college entrance exams and admissions, and/or fulfill Ohio graduation requirements.

Textbooks

All basic textbooks are loaned to students for their use during the school year. Textbooks are to be treated well and handled carefully. Students will be required to pay for lost or damaged books.

Transcript Release Policy

1. To release records, the parent must give written consent or the student may, if of legal age.
2. Emmanuel Christian Academy will release a transcript only after first securing permission from the Business Office to ensure the account is clear.
3. If it is, a transcript will be sent.
4. If the account is not paid, transcripts or other written details regarding the student's academic record will not be sent.
5. Emmanuel Christian Academy will release by telephone to a counselor, courses the student has taken for scheduling purposes. We will not release the grades the student has received.

Transportation

Transportation may be provided by some local school districts in accordance with State Transportation Aid for non-public schools; or by private transport. Parents are responsible to contact their local school district to secure transportation or reimbursement, if available.

In order to encourage safe, proper and acceptable student behavior on school buses, students are expected to follow

the Bus Rules and Regulations. In the event a bus infraction occurs, a Discipline Notice will be mailed to the parents stating the infraction and action taken. Misbehavior may result in the loss of bus privileges for a period of time. ECA students are expected to abide by these standards.

Vacation During the School Year

Families wishing to take a vacation during the regular school year must obtain a Pre-Approved Absence form at the school office. This form must be completed and returned for administrative notification at least **seven business days** prior to the expected vacation.

When a student will be out of school for another reason, and the time of the absence is known ahead of time, it is the responsibility of the parents to contact the principal and teachers, and secure the class assignments for that period of time. All coursework and homework assignments are due on the day of return to class. Any make-up tests must be scheduled by the teacher within three (3) school days after the student returns. Failure to meet this requirement will result in an unexcused absence for the days missed. ***Covid-19 Statement: Those students traveling may be asked to quarantine based upon the most current data and recommendation from the ODH and local health department.**

Video/Media Policy

Videos and media are primarily chosen by teachers in order to enhance the educational process in various ways. Teachers will do their **due diligence** to ensure the content of the video is appropriate for their class. Various resources such as pluggedin.com from "Focus on the Family" or christiananswers.net/spotlight (this site reviews most forms of media) may be used to assist the teacher in choosing solid video materials. Teachers will guide and equip students to use a biblical worldview in evaluating all media.

Visitors

Students are welcome to bring visitors but must receive approval from the administration at least one day in advance. All visitors must report to the school office for a Visitor's Pass. Students from neighboring schools must make advance arrangements for visits through the principal or the other school involved, if their school is in session. The student making a visitor's request must acquaint the visitor(s) with the ECA standard of dress and conduct. Student visitors must adhere to modest dress. ECA reserves the right to deny entrance to a visiting student for inappropriate attire. Visiting students should be prospective students, otherwise, they may only visit during lunch. Parents wishing to visit a class must plan with the teacher and/or the administration at least one day in advance and procure a Visitor Pass from the main office.

Computer & Internet Acceptable Use Policy (On Campus or Remote)

Emmanuel Christian Academy recognizes the value of computer and other electronic resources to improve student learning and enhance the administration and operation of the school. To this end, the Emmanuel Christian Academy school board encourages the responsible use of computers; computer networks, including the Internet; and other electronic resources in support of the mission and goals of Emmanuel Christian Academy.

The Internet is an unregulated, worldwide vehicle for communication. As such, the information available to staff and students is impossible to fully control. Though Emmanuel Christian Academy is proactive in providing an Internet

filtering system that helps provide security against unwanted/unsolicited materials on the Internet, we recognize that it is impossible to fully protect students one hundred percent of the time.

Therefore, Emmanuel Christian Academy adopts this policy governing the voluntary use of electronic resources and the Internet in order to provide guidance to individuals and groups obtaining access to these resources on Emmanuel Christian Academy and Auxiliary funded equipment or through personal devices used on Emmanuel Christian Academy's network.

Emmanuel Christian Academy Rights and Responsibilities

It is the policy of Emmanuel Christian Academy to maintain an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all online network activities by staff and students. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee, student, or other individual to engage in any activity that does not conform to the established purpose and general rules and policies of the network. Within this general policy, Emmanuel Christian Academy recognizes its legal and ethical obligation to protect the well-being of students in its charge. To this end, Emmanuel Christian Academy retains the following rights and recognizes the following obligations:

- To log network use and to monitor file-server space utilization by users, and assume no responsibility or liability for files deleted due to violation of file-server space allotments.
- To remove a user account on the network.
- To monitor the use of online activities. This may include real-time monitoring of network activity and/or maintaining a log of internet activity for later review.
- To provide internal and external controls as appropriate and feasible. Such controls shall include the right to determine who will have access to Emmanuel Christian Academy-owned equipment and, specifically, to exclude those who do not abide by the Emmanuel Christian Academy's acceptable use policy or other policies governing the use of school facilities, equipment, and materials. Emmanuel Christian Academy reserves the right to restrict online destinations through software or other means.
- To provide guidelines and make reasonable efforts to train staff and students in acceptable use and policies governing online communications.

Staff Responsibilities

- Staff members who supervise students, control electronic equipment, or otherwise have occasion to observe student use of said equipment online shall make reasonable efforts to monitor the use of this equipment to assure that it conforms to the mission and goals of Emmanuel Christian Academy.
- Staff should make reasonable efforts to become familiar with the internet and its use so that effective monitoring, instruction, and assistance may be achieved.

User Responsibilities

- Use of the electronic media provided by Emmanuel Christian Academy is a privilege that offers a wealth of information and resources for research. Where it is available, this resource is offered to staff, students, and other patrons. In order to maintain the privilege, users agree to learn and comply with all of the provisions of

this policy.

Acceptable Use

- All use of the internet must be in support of educational and research objectives consistent with the mission and objectives of Emmanuel Christian Academy.
- Proper codes of conduct in electronic communication must be used. In newsgroups, giving out personal information is inappropriate. When using email, extreme caution must always be taken in revealing any information of a personal nature.
- Network accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose.
- All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.
- Subscriptions to mailing lists and bulletin boards must be reported to the system administrator. Prior approval for such subscriptions is required for students and staff.
- Exhibit exemplary behavior on the network as a representative of your school and community. Be polite!
- From time to time, Emmanuel Christian Academy will make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are consistent with the acceptable use practice.

Unacceptable Use

- Giving out personal information about another person, including home address and phone number, is strictly prohibited.
- Any use of the network for commercial or for-profit purposes is prohibited.
- Excessive use of the network for personal business shall be cause for disciplinary action.
- Any use of the network for product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited.
- Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the network.
- No use of the network shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by others. Hardware and/or software shall not be destroyed, modified, or abused in any way.
- Malicious use of the network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computing system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited.
- Hate mail, chain letters, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial behaviors are prohibited on the network.
- The unauthorized installation of any software, including shareware and freeware, for use on Emmanuel

Christian Academy computers is prohibited.

- Use of the network to access or process pornographic material, inappropriate text files (as determined by the system administrator or building administrator), or files dangerous to the integrity of the local area network is prohibited.
- Emmanuel Christian Academy network may not be used for downloading entertainment software or other files not related to the mission and objectives of Emmanuel Christian Academy for transfer to a user's home computer, personal computer, or other media. This prohibition pertains to freeware, shareware, copyrighted commercial and non-commercial software, and all other forms of software and files not directly related to the instructional and administrative purposes of the Emmanuel Christian Academy.
- Downloading, copying, otherwise duplicating, and/or distributing copyrighted materials without the specific written permission of the copyright owner is prohibited, except that duplication and/or distribution of materials for educational purposes is permitted when such duplication and/or distribution would fall within the Fair Use Doctrine of the United States Copyright Law (Title 17, USC).
- Use of the network for any unlawful purpose is prohibited.
- Use of profanity, obscenity, racist terms, or other language that may be offensive to another user is prohibited.
- Playing games is prohibited unless specifically authorized by a teacher for instructional purposes.
- Establishing network or internet connections to live communications, including voice and/or video (relay chat), is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the system administrator.

Disclaimer

- The Emmanuel Christian Academy cannot be held accountable for the information that is retrieved via the network.
- Pursuant to the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (18 USC 2510 et seq.), notice is hereby given that there are no facilities provided by this system for sending or receiving private or confidential electronic communications. System administrators have access to all mail and will monitor messages. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
- Emmanuel Christian Academy will not be responsible for any damages you may suffer, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by our own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained is at your own risk.
- Emmanuel Christian Academy makes no warranties (expressed or implied) with respect to:
 - the content of any advice or information received by a user, or any costs or charges incurred as a result of seeing or accepting any information; and
 - any costs, liability, or damages caused by the way the user chooses to use his or her access to the network.

- Emmanuel Christian Academy reserves the right to change its policies and rules at any time.

ATHLETE HANDBOOK (updated July 27, 2023)

Goal and Philosophy of the ECA Athletic Program

To provide athletic competition for those students who are in grades 7-12. To bring glory to God through our involvement with athletics by giving our best effort in school, during practices and games while upholding our faith and strong testimony in the community.

Minimum Standards

These policies are set as minimum standards for the athletic department of Emmanuel Christian Academy. They are also in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Coaches may set higher standards for their team beyond those set by this department. This Athletic Handbook sets policies that apply to all our student athletes in grades 7-12. Student athletes need to be aware that violations may carry consequences that extend beyond the current school year and into the following one.

Athletic Eligibility:

Academic Eligibility

Athletes must meet the OHSAA requirement to take **and pass at least five (5) one credit classes** (or the equivalency) during the grading period immediately preceding the beginning of the season. Also, athletes must have at least a **2.0 quarterly cumulative grade point average**.

Student Athletic Participation Requirements

- a. No student may participate in a scheduled game unless he/she has submitted a physical exam form. (This form is provided by the OHSAA).
- b. No student may participate in a game until a participation fee has been paid. No student may participate in a practice unless all required paperwork has been received.
- c. Students must maintain a 2.0 for the final grading periods during the season.
- d. The Athletic Director will run a grade report for all students participating in school-sponsored sports at interim, and two weeks thereafter, along with quarter grades. If a student has less than a 70 in any subject, guided study will be required of that student.
- e. Students must make every effort to attend the day after contests. Any student showing a pattern of absence following game days will be subject to discipline.

Athletic Eligibility- Home schooled

Home schooled students must take one course at Emmanuel to be eligible to participate in our athletic program. Regular participation fees for each sport season still apply. In addition, the student must enroll at the beginning of the school year and stay enrolled until the end of the school year. Homeschooled students will also be required to provide quarterly grade updates to the Athletic Director in the classes in which they are taking as a part of their home school curriculum. Please see the OHSAA provision below:

OHSAA Home School Provision

Resources: OHSAA

Bylaw 4-3-1 <http://www.ohsaa.org/general/about/Bylaws.pdf>

All students participating in school-sponsored sport must be enrolled in and attending full-time in accordance with all duly adopted Board of Education or similar governing board policies of that school.

Exception 6: A student who is homeschooled and is enrolled in a member school in accordance with the partial enrollment policy of a Board of Education or similar governing board may be eligible at the school where the student is enrolled and attending. Such partial enrollment policy requires that at least one of the courses be taken at the school's physical location. Note: A student entering a member school from a home school must do so at the beginning of the school year after having been homeschooled for at least one calendar year. Failure to meet this one-year provision requires the student to be enrolled for a minimum of one grading period before the student can be declared eligible.

Bullying or Harassment Policy

Emmanuel Christian Academy believes that all students have a right to a safe and healthy environment. Our goal is to foster relationships and a Christ-centered learning community that exists to educate students of Christian families and prepare them for God's calling.

Emmanuel Bullying policy states: "Bullying, harassment and intimidation is an intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once. The intentional act also includes violence within a dating relationship. The behavior causes mental or physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student. This behavior is prohibited on school property, on a school bus or at a school-sponsored activity. Students found responsible for harassment, intimidation or bullying by an electronic act may be suspended or expelled."

"Hazing, bullying and/or dating violence can include many different behaviors. Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Physical violence and/or attacks;
- Verbal threats, taunts and intimidation through words and/or gestures;
- Other acts such as: extortion, damage or stealing of money and/or possessions;
- Exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors;
- Repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies and other web-based/online sites (also known as "cyber bullying"), such as the following:
 - A. Posting slurs on websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals;
 - B. Sending abusive or threatening emails, website postings or comments and instant messages;
 - C. Using camera phones to take embarrassing photographs or videos of students and/or distributing or posting the photos or videos online;
 - D. Using websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals, e-mails or instant messages to circulate gossip and rumors to other students.

No parent wants their child to be bullied, and no parent wants to think that their child is a bully. If you believe there has been a bullying incident please:

- 1) Report the incident to your coach/teacher or Athletic Director immediately
- 2) Parents may be asked for a written document containing the facts and information needed
- 3) A conference or meeting with the student and family may be required

- 4) A meeting between the two families and principal may also be warranted.

Community Service/Concession Stand Requirement

School and community service is highly encouraged for ECA sports teams. All sports teams will be required to serve in the concession stand two times for each sport season. Hours served may be used toward the ECA community service requirement. In addition, teams and team members that serve the community in other ways will be permitted to use those service hours toward ECA service requirements.

Injury Protocol & Concussions

Athletes who are injured will be required to meet with our athletic trainer before they are released to return to practice or games. Parents and athletes who refuse to see the trainer must provide a doctor's release before they can return to play. Parents and coaches are not authorized to return an athlete to play without professional medical clearance-i.e.medical doctor or trainer. ECA follows the following concussion regulations and return to play protocol:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/Concussions/ConcussionRegulations.pdf>

Game Day/Practice School Attendance

Any student absent after 11:30 a.m. will not be allowed to participate in after school activities unless his/her absence during the day was prearranged with the administration or administration has excused the absence. (funerals, doctors appointments, other to be determined by administration)

Guided Study Policies

Non Mandatory: Athletes who are participating in a practice or game after school are not permitted to be without supervision. Athletes may use the "guided study" area until 15 minutes before their scheduled practice or team event start.

Mandatory: After Interim, if a student has less than a 70 in any subject, guided study will be required of that student athlete until the grade is brought up.

*Guided Study Discount for Athletes "in season" is \$15 for the entire season.

Guided Study Procedures

Procedures:

- Students or student athletes who are using ECA Guided Study must be checked in no later than 10 minutes after the end of school
 - If a student comes in after that time, please mark what time they arrived
 - Students who continue to arrive late will face disciplinary action
- Students must ask permission before they leave the library.
- Students are not permitted to roam the hallways or building
- Students must work on homework or stay busy and are not permitted to be on their cell phone without permission from the Guided Study instructor
 - The Guided Study Instructor may collect phones as needed.

- Students will clean up the area they are working in before leaving.
- Student athletes may leave at 15 minutes before their scheduled practice or team event and report to the guided study instructor when leaving. (*Students will not be permitted to return once they leave for practice unless directed by their coach and agreed upon by the Guided Study Instructor.)
- Students may drink water in the library and may be given permission to eat in the hallway as determined by the Guided Study Instructor.

Disciplinary action:

- Students should be respectful to the Guided Study Instructor as well as other adults.
- Students who abuse the Guided Study procedures will be written up.
- Students may be “suspended” from Guided Study and may not be permitted to return to Guided Study for continued disruptive behavior or discipline issues.

Media Coverage

The ECA athletic department works hard to promote our program and our athletes by reporting scores, sending special stories, sharing pictures in media and social networking sites including the ECA website, local newspapers and TV, the OHSAA website, the MBC website, Facebook and Twitter. If a parent or guardian does not wish to have their athlete's photo, accomplishments or name released, a written request through email or letter must be provided to their coach and Athletic Director.

OHSAA eligibility

Please read the OHSAA brochure and checklist for athletic eligibility. **We are not members of the OHSAA for junior high level teams.** <http://www.ohsaa.org/eligibility/EligibilityGuideHS.pdf>

Non-Interscholastic Participation

A student that is on an athletic team shall not participate in that same sport during the same season for another organization. A student's obligation shall be to the school team while in season. Participation on a non-interscholastic team during the same season is a violation of OHSAA regulations and ECA policy.

Participation Fees

Each sport offered by ECA carries a \$125 participation fee. The fee helps to cover the cost of the athletic department operating budget. Paying a fee does not guarantee a minimum playing time. In addition to the participation fee, specific sports may carry additional fees which cover the cost of uniform items that the athlete retains at the end of the season.

***Important note on sports fees:** *The ever changing environment of interscholastic sports at this time does not permit us to “guarantee” a number of games or competitions. It is our desire and intent to offer practices, team events, and competitions to the greatest extent possible. Sport fees cover equipment, coaches salaries, field and gym maintenance as well as other expenses. As long as our athletes are permitted to practice and participate in activities with their team, the sports fee will not be refunded regardless of how many “contests” are completed. If, in the event there is a complete shutdown, we will work with families for an appropriate and equitable refund.*

Participation Registration:

***All ECA Athletes must register online thru FamilyID**

1) OHSAA Physical Form must be uploaded to the online registration

***Physicals are good for one year**

- 2) *An athlete will NOT be permitted to practice until approved by the Athletic Secretary.
- 3) *Home School Athletes will NOT be permitted to practice until the PACL fee has been paid and all required documents have been submitted.
- 3) Participation fees are due by the end of the first week of practice.

Practice

Practice is considered mandatory for all sports. Junior high teams will typically practice 4-5 times a week before games begin and 3-4 times per week once games begin. High school teams will practice 5-6 times per week before games begin and 4-5 times a week once games begin. Practices are closed to parents unless the coach provides an exception.

Snow Days

If a "snow day" or emergency day is called on the day of an athletic contest or practice, a decision on practice or a contest will be decided by 1:00 pm. by the AD and Building Principal and communicate via One Call and or email.

Student Section (Emmanuel Students seating)

The Emmanuel student fan section in the gym is for current Emmanuel students. Priority seating is based upon class with seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen having the option to sit in the bleacher section. On nights where the bleacher student section is packed, underclassmen may have to sit in a designated location. Non ECA students may sit in the ECA student section with a friend but may be asked to move if the section becomes crowded. ECA students have priority seating.

Sports Season

Once a student has participated in a practice, a scrimmage, or a contest, he or she is considered an athlete of Emmanuel Christian Academy. This designation shall continue until the season's last game.

Tryouts/Cuts

Tryouts may be necessary for team sports for 7-12 grade athletes. Our junior and high school athletes participate in interscholastic competition. Each program has as its goal being competitive while teaching our athletes about the sport in which they are participating. The maximum number of players will be decided on by the coach and the Athletic Director for each season as well as each sport.

Every sport, with the exception of cheerleading, will hold tryouts on the first day of practice. No tryouts will be held before the first day of practice so that each student has the opportunity to participate. Tryouts will be administered by the coaching staff and the Athletic Director.

Cuts for teams will be determined by the coaching staff and athletic director as needed.

Cheerleading tryouts

Cheerleading tryouts will typically be offered in the spring for the following year. In the event that tryouts are not offered in the spring, they will be conducted at the beginning of the school year. Junior high and high school teams will accept a maximum of eight students. Each squad will be composed of five to eight students. The tryouts will begin with several clinics or practices concluded by a final day of tryouts in which all interested students are expected to attend. Final teams will be decided by the head coach.

Transportation

We rely heavily on parent transportation for traveling to our opponents. Students who plan to ride home from an athletic event or practice with another parent may do so with written approval from their parents and given to the head coach. Students may not ride with other student drivers.

Uniforms

It is the responsibility of the student athlete to turn in their uniform to their coach or AD after the season. Athletes who do not turn in their uniform will have a charge placed on their school account and billed for the uniform.

Weightroom

Only students entering grades 7-12 are able to use the weight room under supervision. Only ECA students or alumni are permitted to use the weightroom. All those using the weight room must have a "waiver" on file with the athletic office and assume all risks as associated with the use of the weight room. The weight room is primarily for Emmanuel students who are in season first, followed by those who are training for sports out of season second. Emmanuel students who are not involved with a sport must receive special permission for use.

Athletic Awards

Varsity Letter: (Big E) To earn a Varsity Letter in any sport, the athlete must have abided by the Athlete Code of Conduct.

Baseball: Averages two innings per game or 2 plate appearances per game.

Basketball: Plays at or above 50% of the eligible quarters for the season. Any entry into a quarter counts as a full quarter.

Bowling: Must participate in 50% of the scheduled matches

Cheerleading: Participate in 90% of the varsity games and demonstrate teamwork, leadership, and school spirit.

Cross Country: Participates in 75% of the XC events and meets a goal for personal best time at any one of those meets as pre-determined by the athlete and their coach.

Golf: Must participate in 50% of the scheduled matches.

Soccer: Must participate in 50% of the halves involved for each game.

Softball: Averages two innings per game or 2 plate appearances per game.

Swimming: Places in at least one event.

Tennis: Participates in 90% of the matches for the season in singles or doubles play.

Track: Earns at least 15 points for the season and participates in 90% of the meets for the season.

Volleyball: Must have played in over 50% of the matches scheduled for the season.

Wrestling: The athlete "places" in at least one tournament and participates in 75% of the tournaments.

*The coach of any sport may recommend an athlete be considered for a letter to the Athletic Director with supportive documentation if the athlete fails to meet the criteria for lettering.

Varsity Numerals: Varsity numerals will be given by request only

Varsity Bar: Second Year participation in a varsity sport.

Varsity 4 year recognition: Small E and or recognition for four years of participation in the same sport.

Special Awards- Each sport season

Coaches Award: A coach may give 1-3 of these awards based upon team size each season to recognize the athletes that they feel need to be honored.

Coaches Award (Most Improved Player): Voted on by the coaching staff. The athlete that has shown the most improvement from the start of the season until the end of the season.

“Hannah C. Young” Most Inspirational Player: Voted on by the team- Teammates will vote on who they feel inspires them as a team member.

The Lionheart Award: Voted on by the coaching staff and team. Viewed as the best example of what a teammate should be.

Special Awards- End of the year only

Scholar Athlete: Scholar Athlete Certificates will be given out at the end of the year only at the end of the school awards ceremony. These will be given to all athletes grades 7-12 who have obtained a GPA of 3.5 or better during the season in which they participated.

Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award: The Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award is an award from the OHSAA that is to be given to one male and one female student who demonstrates outstanding traits of sportsmanship. The students are selected by the local schools with the certificates presented as a part of the school’s recognition programs. Teachers, coaches, administration and the Athletic Director will decide on the recipients.

OHSAA Scholar Athlete: One male and one female- Requirements below:(Must be a graduating senior)

- Minimum grade point average – 3.25 on a 4.0 scale upon completion of the seventh semester. Note: GPAs must be converted to a 4.0 scale
- Must have taken either the ACT or SAT national tests (test scores will be required)
- Must have received a minimum of three varsity letters in one OHSAA sanctioned sport or four varsity letters in a combination of any two or more OHSAA sanctioned sports
- RECIPIENTS OF ANY ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS (FULL OR PARTIAL) IN NCAA DIVISION I OR II INSTITUTIONS OR APPOINTEES TO MILITARY ACADEMIES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

“Hall of Fame” At the end of each school year, coaches will nominate athletes who they feel have reached a distinguished level in their sport or sports to the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will then form a committee of coaches and or parents to finalize nominations for consideration. Awardees will be honored during the following school year.

Parent/Athletic Communication Guide

PREFACE

We are very pleased that your son/daughter has chosen to participate in the interscholastic athletic program of Emmanuel Christian Academy. It is our objective to provide our athletes with the best environment in which their sport experiences may be as rewarding as possible. Through sports we believe that every athlete will be challenged physically as well as spiritually. We believe that this goal may not be realized without appropriate lines of communication available to all parties involved. This "Communication Guide" has been developed to help coaches, parents, administrators and athletes communicate more effectively.

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR COACH

- School Athletic and Spiritual philosophy
- Spiritual focus throughout the season
- Expectations the coach may have for your child and the team
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements such as fees, special equipment, attendance, eligibility, off-season conditioning, etc.
- Procedure to follow should your child become injured during participation
- Athletic Code of Behavior policy and any additional rules that may affect your child's participation
- Requirements to earn a letter
- Disposition of lost/outstanding equipment at the end of the season

COMMUNICATION THE COACH EXPECTS FROM PARENTS AND ATHLETES

- Open line of communication between the athlete and the coach
- Parents encouraging their child to communicate with his or her coach when there is a problem
- When a child believes they cannot effectively communicate with the coach regarding a problem, a parent expresses their concerns in a private setting
- Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance of the conflict
- Special needs of the athlete regarding physical limitations, or other concerns

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH

- The positive treatment of your child mentally and physically
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's behavior

As your child becomes involved in the various athletic programs of Emmanuel Christian Academy, it is our desire that they will experience spiritual, physical, and academic growth. We would like this to be a rewarding experience for them which will help shape the rest of their life. It is important to understand that things may not always go as you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach may be desirable (and encouraged) to clear any unresolved issues and to avoid further misunderstandings.

AREAS NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH THE COACH

- Playing Time
- Team Strategy/Play Calling
- Matters concerning other student athletes

Many aspects of the highly emotional and dynamic setting of interscholastic athletics are often questioned. These may include decisions by the coaches, administration, officials, athletes, parents and fans. As you have seen from the previous list, certain concerns can and should be discussed with your child's coach. They make judgment decisions based upon what they believe to be best for all students involved under the circumstances.

PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH THE COACH

There are situations that may require a conference between a coach and a parent. Such a meeting is encouraged when necessary. It is important that both parties have a clear understanding of the other person's position. Each should be willing to listen. The following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue.

- Have your child try to resolve the issue with the coach first
- If your child does not reach a resolution, contact the coach to arrange an appointment
- If the coach cannot be reached after a reasonable period of time, contact the athletic department and they will arrange an appointment for you
- **Please do not confront a coach before or after a game.** These are emotional times for players, parents and coaches
- **Please do not confront a coach during practice.** Coaches have specific plans for each practice and should not be interrupted. A coach may be able to meet with you in a private setting after practice

THE NEXT STEP

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution? Although total agreement may not always be reached, most often such a meeting does afford the opportunity for productive discussion and a better understanding. If the parent desires further communication, please call the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. The appropriate next step will be determined.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

Emmanuel Christian Academy in conjunction with its' Department of Athletics follows the chain of command as listed below. We ask that you observe the order of this line of communication if you elect to pursue any concern you may have with regard to the athletic program.

Head Coach → Athletic Director → Principal / Superintendent

At each level, the person in the chain of command will be asked if you have followed the sequence of communication as listed in this guide. Please help us in making each season a rewarding and valuable time for everyone who is involved.

ECA Athlete Expectations and Code of Conduct

Requirements

- Must be an enrolled student to participate on an athletic team
- Must meet academic requirement and OHSAA Eligibility requirements
- Must be in good standing regarding school attendance
- Must show satisfactory attitude and conduct in and out of school
- Must be ready to fulfill the necessary financial responsibilities
- Home School students must be enrolled in at least one course to participate in ECA sports.

Responsibilities-Season

- Complete online registration, including uploading a current physical, by the first day of practice
- Participates in athletic fundraisers (mandatory)
- Consider himself or herself a member of a team and maintains a team focus
- Keep all problems within the team and report problems to the coach
- Stay committed to the team for the duration of the season. Any athlete who fails to stay committed will be ineligible to participate as determined by the AD

Responsibilities- Participation/Practice

- Attend all games whether injured or cleared to play with no exception to playing status
- Participate in team building activities such as working concessions or group outings
- Attend all practices set by the coach (All practices are mandatory)
- An athlete may not participate in a practice or game event on any day in which they are absent more than half the school day. School Administration may make exceptions to this rule
- Inform the coach of an unusual circumstance ahead of time where he/she would have to miss a practice. Unexcused absences for missed practices or games may lead to immediate dismissal from a team or other corrective action such as missed game time. Absences beyond five missed practices for any reason with the exception of an injury, may lead to immediate dismissal or other remedial action. All athletes should expect “make up” activities if a practice is missed

Athlete Behavior

- The athlete’s conduct is always a reflection upon the school whether at a game, practice or outside of school parameters. The code of conduct signed by all ECA students applies at all times and places
- Athletes are expected to follow all the OHSAA rules and will sign the OHSAA authorization form
- The athlete recognizes the coach is their immediate authority and abides by the rules set forth from the coach as well as the guidelines of the athletic department. Parents are to come alongside and help support the policies, procedures and rules that the coach and AD has set forth for the sports program
- Any athlete receiving an ISS may result in loss of practice and or game time
- Any athlete receiving an OSS will be suspended from athletic activities for an amount of time to be determined by the AD
- Athletes will not be involved in any kind of “hazing” as defined in the athlete handbook
- Athletes should abstain from immoral behavior or from behavior that would have a bad reflection on the school
- The athlete does not use alcohol, tobacco, drugs or attend parties that would have these items present.

Hazing

Hazing occurs when an act is committed against a student or a student is coerced into committing an act that creates a substantial risk of harm or embarrassment to the student or a third party. Hazing includes but is not limited to:

- Any activity involving an unreasonable risk of physical harm, including paddling, beating, whipping, branding, electric shock, sleep deprivation, exposure to weather, placement of harmful substances on the body, and participation in physically dangerous activities
- Any activity involving the consumption of alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, or any other food, liquid, or any other substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of physical harm
- Any activity involving actions of a sexual nature or the simulation of actions of a sexual nature
- Any activity that subjects a student to an extreme and unreasonable level of embarrassment, shame, or humiliation or which creates a hostile, abusive, or intimidating environment
- Any activity involving any violation of federal, state or local law or any violation of school district policies and regulations

Any student that experiences any type of hazing is encouraged to immediately talk to a member of the coaching staff or administration. Hazing will not be permitted and will result in a serious consequence.

Emmanuel Christian Academy Spectator/Fan Code Of Conduct

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in athletics are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and while understanding Emmanuel's athletic mission: ***To bring glory to God through our involvement with athletics by giving our best effort in school, during practices and games while upholding our faith and strong testimony in the community.***

Therefore I/we agree that we will (and any guest we bring):

- Refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices.
- Respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field; I will take time to speak to coaches at an agreed-upon time and place.
- Remember that student-athletes participate to have fun and glorify God.
- Teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or by his or her performance.
- Demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect, regardless of race, creed, color, or ability.
- Promote the emotional and physical well-being of the student-athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
- Not encourage behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the student-athletes.
- Be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all coaches, officials, and spectators at every game, practice, or sporting event.
- Not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent, such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
- Understand that any violation of this code of conduct will be cause for dismissal, suspension, or permanent expulsion from future athletic contests.
 - First offense: Site management will approach with a warning flier/card
 - Second offense: (same event or other) Site management will approach and ask the person to leave. Automatic suspension for 2 games home and away.
 - Third offense: will be escorted out of the building and will be suspended from all ECA athletic events (home/away) for the remainder of the year. A police report will be filed.
 - Fans ejected from a game by an official will receive a two game suspension
 - If a fan is ejected from a game by an official a second time they are suspended for the rest of the year from all athletic events.
 - This will apply during all seasons throughout the year.
 - The administration reserves the right to amend the suspension if they feel it is necessary.

I have read, understand, and agree to the parent's code of conduct at Emmanuel Christian Academy sporting events.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

