



Shenandoah Christian School

Student Handbook

2025 - 2026

"Growing Student's Love Toward God for Service to Others"

ADMINISTRATION CONTACT INFORMATION

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SCHOOL DOGMA

INTRODUCTION

Shenandoah Christian School is a vision and effort of the Shenandoah Mennonite Church to provide a quality, Bible centered education for the benefit of our church families and other interested families. Shenandoah Christian School is governed by Shenandoah Mennonite Church which appoints a board who is responsible for setting policies of the school. The school principal implements these policies in the daily operation of the school.

Our school places a high value on educating the whole student. We select curriculum that supports our goal of having a fully equipped mind and teachers who are committed Christians to model character qualities. We are committed to an Anabaptist worldview that equips the whole student for service. Since the school is an extension of the church, our goal is to prepare students to be active members in the church and community.

EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY

We believe that a high quality, godly education involves the direct interaction between teachers and students. Thus, we hire teachers capable of teaching classes and guiding student learning. We also limit our class size to give every student adequate access to the teacher.

We also select a rigorous curriculum that requires students to receive guidance from their teachers. All classes will be led and monitored by a skilled teacher. Constant review will be a part of every school day to ensure students are mastering the material.

Students learn best from teachers who model a love of learning and demonstrate Christlike character. All our teachers will be adequately trained to teach their classes and will have access to materials to continue their personal growth.

STATEMENT OF BELIEF

We adhere to the 1963 Mennonite Confession of Faith, which can be found online.

ADMISSIONS TUITION

Our school is funded by tuition payments by parents or sponsors.

- One child (Kindergarten Only) \$3,000
- One child \$5,850
- Two children \$7,500
- Three or more children \$8,500
- High School additional \$500 per student

The state program, EITC Scholarship Fund, may cover up to 50% of tuition Cost. Parents must submit tax forms as proof of income. A payment book will be given to each family, consisting of 10 payments (August-May). Payments will be due on the 10th of each month.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

We do not discriminate based on race, color, sex, or national or ethnic origin. We do reserve the right to evaluate students based on academics, attitude, and age.

To apply, follow the steps below:

- Read handbooks and complete the school application.
- Meet with the administrator and principal for an interview.
- Upon acceptance sign a commitment to the school and check the health of your child.

Every child that we enroll will be on a six-week probation. During this time, we will evaluate the student's willingness to cooperate with the teachers and students and his/her academic readiness. If a child happens to fail in one of these criteria, the child will be asked to withdraw from the school.

Because the first four years of a child's education are very foundational, we seek to enroll children before they are past this vital stage; however, potential exceptions will be decided by the board and principal.

DRESS CODE

OVERVIEW

The way students dress affects their performance and attitude. Thus, we require students to dress neatly in school uniform. A consistent uniform allows students to be dressed well and avoids immodest clothing.

Their uniform should be in good condition and cleaned consistently. The primary school colors are black, burgundy, tan, grey, and white in solid colors, not heathered, striped, or patterned. The student must keep his or her uniform in good condition. Students who arrive at school out of uniform must acquire their uniform before being permitted into the classroom. Time spent outside of classroom will be counted as a tardy or absence.

BOYS

Boys shall wear school uniform-style pants with a polo shirt in school colors. Shirts shall be tucked in during the school day.

In observance of 1 Corinthians 11, Boys shall have neat, short haircuts, avoiding gaudy hair styles and dyed hair. Also, men are to remove headwear when entering the school.

GIRLS

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

According to the above scripture we ask that girls dress modestly. This requires dresses that cover the knees whether sitting or standing.

Since 1 Corinthians 11 teaches that a woman's hair is her glory, girls shall have uncut hair, comb hair neatly, avoid gaudy hairstyles and dyed hair. Additionally, a girl should not apply makeup or wear jewelry. Leggings must be solid school colors and either full-length or not seen.

FOOTWEAR

Students should wear shoes that are simple and fit for physical activity. We encourage students to find an athletic shoe with a snug fit and grippy rubber sole to enable participation in recess activities. Shoes must be closed over the toe and on the heel.

JACKETS

Students may wear full-button or full-zip sweaters in the classroom that are in the school colors (black, burgundy, white). These sweaters may not have hoods. Additionally, coats are not allowed to be worn in the classroom.

MATERIAL

Athletic wear is not permitted.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Throughout the school day students are expected to show respect to God, themselves, other students, and school property.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

The classroom is the place to focus on learning and homework. Students must avoid any form of activity that distracts from this goal. The classroom should possess an atmosphere that respects teachers and other students. The classroom conversations must be calm, avoiding rowdy activities. Conversations about movies and video games are not allowed.

RECESS BEHAVIOR

The recess periods allow students to relax and enjoy each other's company. No student is allowed to bully, which is continuing a form of behavior undesirable to another student. Teachers will be present at every recess event to ensure that student interactions are respectful and healthy. Students are expected to play fair and accept the calls of other students and the teacher. Any student that refuses to play fair will skip future recess periods until a change in attitude has occurred.

Recess expectations:

- No bullying
- Fair play
- Willingness to cooperate

LUNCH BEHAVIOR

During lunch students will show respect for school property by picking up all their trash. Lunch conversations will include every student and avoid excessive noise that distracts from healthy conversations. Students will remain seated until permission from the teacher is granted for the student to go to recess.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Students are not allowed to bring to school any items that may be dangerous or unhealthy. Any item that a teacher decides is creating negative outcomes will be asked to be taken home. Teachers possess the authority to search student's spaces, when suspicion arises, and seize any prohibited items.

We do not allow:

- Intoxicating Drugs and Alcohol
- Weapons
- Electronic Media
- Electronic Devices
- Pornography

SCHOOL WORK

Students must complete their work at school. Any work not completed at school will be sent home as homework. Students in the lower grades will have small amounts of homework if they manage to stay focused at school. Because the work of high schoolers is more complicated, most of them will have an hour or two of homework a day. Teachers in the lower grades will take most of the responsibility for the performance of the students. If a student is struggling, the teacher is responsible for communicating with the principal to find a path of remediation.

SCHOOL POLICIES

DISCIPLINE

When a problem is discovered with a student, the teacher will address the problem in private. The student may be asked to serve detentions for the error with the hope that the problem will be resolved. After three detentions, a student will be required to serve an after-school detention. If three after school detentions are served, the student will be placed on probation. School detentions will be given out for minor offenses including late assignments, tardies, and slight violations at school. Major offenses may immediately place a student on probation, such as prohibited materials, disrespect for teachers or God, unwillingness to cooperate with school. When a decision is made, parents are expected to support the decision of the teacher and principal. Remember that students often do not accurately represent the problem.

This is not a corrective institution. Consequently, we ask that a child not be enrolled with the idea that we will reform him. We are here to work together with the Church and home but not to take the place of parents who are experiencing difficulty in fulfilling their roles. The student must at all times conduct himself in a manner becoming to a Christian.

PROBATION

Every student is expected to respect God, teachers, peers, themselves and school materials. Any student who possesses an attitude of disrespect and acts out of disrespect will be disciplined. Disrespect will not be tolerated, because it will slowly affect the other students in the school. The discipline will begin with detentions and parental involvement. If a resolution for the student's problem cannot be achieved. The student will be placed on probation. If the student still fails to submit to the expectations of the school, the student will be suspended for a period of time chosen by the principal and administrator. If disrespect continues after the suspension with no effort to change, the student will be expelled from the school until a satisfactory level of heart change is reached.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips will be minimal but educational. Students are expected to abide by classroom expectations. Students must always be in the view of the teacher.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

EMERGENCY SITUATION

In case of emergency, students will assemble in the church parking lot with their teachers.

SCHOOL DELAYS

When inclement weather occurs, the administrator will correspond with a board member to make the calls. Delays will be communicated to parents and teachers through our school WhatsApp group.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to arrive at school between 8:15 and 8:25 and dismissed from 2:55-3:05 p.m. School is in session from 8:15 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. Students are expected to go home after dismissal, and the school is not responsible for students before or after school is in session.

Absences will be considered when parents submit an excuse card from the doctor or dentist.

Absences will be considered for death or severe illness in the family or illness of the student. Students are expected to catch up on all work after the same number of days missed they are in school.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be administered every quarter by the teacher. The report cards will display the academic performance and character of each student. Parents are expected to meet with students to make a plan to improve or continue high achievement. Every 1st and 3rd quarters will have Parent-Teacher Conference, and every 2nd quarter will have a Parent-Teacher Fellowship.

MEDICAL SUPPORT

School staff should be notified of any medical issue that a student has before being enrolled. A medical information/release card should be filled out and given to the principal before the beginning of every school year. No teacher will provide medication of any type without express consent from parents.

FIRE DRILL

Fire drills will be held once a month. When a fire drill is performed, students will meet in the church parking lot to be accounted for by their teacher.

LIABILITY

Shenandoah Christian School will not be held responsible for any injury that takes place at school.

PROPERTY

Students are expected respect and take care of all school property. Having school supplies available is a gift and should be used gratefully. Also, students perform better when the school is neat and kept in good condition.

ACADEMICS

We carefully select school curriculum that will promote an appreciation for God and His world. Our curriculum will also be structured for large amounts of teacher-to-student interaction. Our teachers will be equipped to guide the education of the students.

We have decided to use primarily the CLE curriculum. The CLE curriculum is designed for Conservative Anabaptists that desire a quality education. The CLE curriculum provides teacher guidebooks that are full of suggestions to new teachers to help them understand the education process. Our teachers will be familiar with the guidebooks and will diligently work with our students to ensure they are learning.

For our history classes in grades one through six, we use the Threads and Weavings History curriculums developed by Faith Builders. These curriculums provide a rich history of the world and a strong Anabaptist perspective.

GRADING SCALE

- A — 94-100%
- B — 86-93%
- C — 77-85%
- D — 70-76%
- F — below 70%

For any student in grades one through four to advance to the next grade, he/she must receive grades higher than 80%. Students in the lower grades should be receiving grades above 90-95% to be performing well.

For any student in grades five through twelve to advance to the next grade, he/she must receive grades higher than 70%, but remedial work will be done with grade below 80%.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Bible - 4 credits
- Math - 4 credits
- English - 4 credits
- History - 4 credits
- Science - 3 credits
- Music - 1 credits
- Foreign Language - 1 credit
- Physical Education - 1 credit
- Keyboarding - 1 credit
- Elective - 1 credits
- Total: 24 credits

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

HOME ENVIRONMENT

Parents are expected to provide a stable environment for students to live in. When the home is disordered, students will struggle at school. We believe a good education begins with the parents' involvement in a child's life. We encourage parents to show love to their children by making the home a safe place for the children to express themselves.

ACADEMIC INVOLVEMENT

Parents are expected to be directly involved in their child's education. We expect parents to attend every Parent-Teacher Conference and Parent-Teacher Fellowship. A student may be asked to withdraw from school if the staff finds a lack of ambition on the part of the parents. Also, parents are responsible for the academic performance of young children. If they cannot complete their assignments, parents may be asked to meet with the principal to find a solution to the problem. Again, if a solution cannot be found, the child may be asked to withdraw from school.