

STUDENT HANDBOOK



MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Fannin CLC is to teach the Bible to students of Fannin County, to be relevant, authentic and the standard for life.

CORE VALUES

1. Because the Bible is God's Word – inspired, infallible, authoritative, and a perfect revelation of Himself, and thus relevant to all people every day, we will teach our students to look to the Bible for answers for daily concerns.
2. Because God desires a personal relationship with us individually, we will lead our students in daily relationship with God by instructing them in prayer and how to study the Bible for themselves.
3. Because God has created each of us as unique individuals, we will teach our classes with variety to give attention to the different needs and learning styles of our students.
4. Because teaching God's Word is a privilege and "released time" is a legal way to teach His Word to public school and home school students, we will strive to be in harmony with the Fannin County High School system/parents and the community of Fannin County.
5. Because teaching others carries great responsibility, the FCLC staff will maintain a mutual accountability to communicate with respect, openness, integrity, accuracy, and clarity.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. There is one God of this world and universe; He is the Creator and Sustainer of all things which exist.
2. He is manifested in three ways: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3. He has chosen to reveal Himself to man through His Word, the Bible.
4. He created man for fellowship and relationship.
5. Through man's choice to disobey God's Word, sin broke the relationship.
6. Jesus, the only Son of God, became the way by which the relationship could be restored.
7. Jesus became the perfect sacrifice to mend the broken relationship, canceling sin and restoring man to a redeemed condition of fellowship with God.
8. Redemption comes by believing that Christ is God's Son and by His perfect sacrifice of His life for our sin, we are forgiven of our sin and we are restored to a relationship with God for an eternal life with Him.
9. All men have sinned and there is no other way of restoration to God except through Jesus Christ.

10. God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one man and one woman, and that intimate sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union.
11. All human life is sacred and created by God in His Image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Psalm 139)
12. The statement of faith does not exhaust the extents of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of the Fannin Christian Learning Center's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Board of Directors is the FCLC's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

RELEASED-TIME PROGRAM

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that religious released time programs are legal. The requirements for a religious release time program are as follows:

1. The program must meet off school property.
2. The program must not receive local, state, or federal funds.
3. The program must be voluntarily registered for by the student.

BRIEF HISTORY

The Fannin Christian Learning Center, Inc. opened for operation the calendar year 2000-01. During the first year, the FCLC employed the Director and one Teacher with both teaching classes, volunteers provided clerical work. As office needs increased, a full-time secretary was added to the staff (4/20/2001). Student enrollment averaged 150 per year during the first five years but increased to more than 200 in the sixth year which necessitated the addition of a part-time teacher. The total numbers of FCHS students taking classes exceeded 1000 during the seventh year. In anticipation of an enrollment of more than 200 students for the eighth year – 2007/08 - the part-time teacher position was upgraded to full-time, bringing full-time staff total to four. Financial support from churches, organizations, businesses and individuals in the area has continued to be strong throughout the years with 20 or more churches contributing regularly. Banks, businesses, organizations, individuals give on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis. As a result, FCLC is free of debt. As one Board member has often said: "The FCLC was God's plan, we were just the feet, arms and hands that made it happen!" To God be the glory!

The FCLC works in cooperation with the Fannin County High School. The FCLC desires to see FCHS excel in all areas; thus, we support the school's activities, and we will follow its policies as much as possible in our setting.

GOVERNING BODY

The FCLC is governed by a Board of Directors. This governing body makes all decisions pertaining to the philosophy and direction of the FCLC. An Advisory Board has been created for ideas and independent counsel for the Board of Directors. The Executive Director runs the day to day operations of the center. The Teaching Staff and the Office Manager report directly to the Executive Director while carrying out their duties. Any information regarding the FCLC, its staff, or its governing body is available in the center's office and is available to the public.

NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

The Fannin Christian Learning Center is a private non-profit religious institution designed to teach Bible history and Christian Life Principles, on a voluntary basis, free of charge, to high-school age students in Fannin County. The FCLC admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the center.

ADMISSION POLICY

In order for a student to attend the FCLC, he must voluntarily register for the course, read the Student Handbook, and sign a statement stating the Student Handbook has been read and the policies found therein will be followed. The Parental/Legal Guardian must also sign the release form.

There is no cost for the course to the student or his/her legal guardian. Any activity outside the classroom which may involve cost is strictly optional for each student. All costs and fees are clearly explained to the student and his/her guardian.

GRADING/COURSE CREDIT

The FCLC follows the grading scale of the Fannin County High School. Upon successful completion of the course, grades will be transferred promptly to FCHS for recording and a credit will be received on the student's transcript. The FCLC course grade is a Social Studies elective and thus counts in the overall GPA.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The Fannin Christian Learning Center (FCLC) is a private educational institution, financially supported by donations and not by the Fannin County School System. However, it is our goal to adhere as much as possible to the policies of Fannin County High School.

ABUSE, ASSAULT, OR BATTERY

A student shall not make verbal contact of a threatening or provoking nature with a FCLC employee or toward another student. This includes, but is not limited to, use of profanity, ethnic, racial, sexual, religious slur or harassment. A student shall not cause or attempt to cause physical injury or behave in such a way that could reasonably cause physical injury or make physical contact of a threatening or provoking nature to a FCLC employee or to another student. A student shall not engage in any behavior that threatens the safety or well-being of another person or has the likelihood of provoking a fight. This includes, but is not limited to, gesturing, posturing, or fighting, insults, use or profanity, or ethnic, racial, sexual, or religious slurs.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

As a Christian institution the FCLC is committed to personal integrity, which includes academic honesty. All work submitted for a grade (tests, homework, projects, term papers, etc.) must be the independent work of the student or students whose names appear on the work. Any student who copies another student's work or receives answers from another student or uses any other unauthorized sources is in violation of this policy and is subject to disciplinary action. Any student who knowingly assists another student in violating this policy is subject to the same disciplinary action.

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

A student shall not, while under the responsibility of the FCLC, possess, sell, use, transmit, transfer, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, depressant, stimulant, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind. A student shall not possess, sell, use transmit, or transfer a drug classified as a dangerous drug or controlled substance, nor any substance under the pretense that it is, in fact, a prohibited substance as described in this rule. A student is in possession of a drug or alcoholic beverage if that item is in or on his/her person, personal effects (e.g., pocketbook, book bag, etc.), or vehicle.

ATTENDANCE

Fannin County High School emails the daily announcements to the FCLC which includes absences and early dismissals. If there is any discrepancy of attendance, the FCLC notifies the FCHS and the student's parent.

Make-up work is the responsibility of the student. If a student is absent the day of a unit test and was present for the review, the student will take the test upon returning to school. Missed memory verse tests will be taken the first day of the student's return. **A ten-point reduction will be taken for each day the test is not taken.**

Due to the participatory nature of the courses, class attendance is crucial to the overall learning at the FCLC. Students are expected to be in class every meeting. Absences should not exceed 10 total days per semester. Credit will not be issued for any student exceeding 10 absences regardless of the grade average.

Appeals will be taken before the Attendance Committee which consists of the Executive Director, teachers, and curriculum committee of the Board of Directors.

ELECTRONICS

Students are not allowed to have any electronic devices in class. Any such device should be turned off and out of sight. Such items will be taken and returned only to the parent or guardian.

DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to FCLC property or alter/misuse school technological equipment. A student shall not steal or attempt to steal FCLC property. A student shall not possess, sell, use, buy or transmit stolen school property. A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to private property or steal or attempt to steal private property either on the FCLC grounds or during a FCLC activity, function, or event off school grounds. A student shall not possess, sell, use, buy or transmit stolen private property on FCLC grounds. Further, off FCLC grounds, a student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to private property belonging to a FCLC employee where such theft or damage is on account of that employee's performance of his/her official duties.

DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Students are expected to exhibit good moral behavior at all times. Public display of affection is inappropriate in the FCLC and will not be permitted. Students shall have no physical contact with others that is considered inappropriate or sexually suggestive.

DISRUPTION

No student shall in any manner, by the use of violence, noise, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, insult, or other conduct, intentionally or unintentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, including the teacher's ability to conduct his/her class, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing the disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function.

DRESS

The FCLC abides by the Fannin County High School dress code for students. Also, while respecting the value of student self-expression, the FCLC cannot allow the wearing of anti-Christian symbols or statements. Inappropriate dress including, but not limited to, inappropriate writing for immodesty must be dealt with by having the student remedy the situation (i.e. turning the shirt inside out, wearing a jacket, or an oversized t-shirt provided by the FCLC). If he/she refuses to or cannot do so, he/she must be sent back to FCHS. Continual dress code violations will result in the student's parent being notified and possible removal from the FCLC.

GUNS AND WEAPONS

A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, threaten with, or discharge/use any object that can reasonably be considered, or converted to an/or used as, a weapon such as, but not limited to, knives, guns, pellet guns, brass knuckles, fireworks, lighters, explosives; bats (other than for athletics), clubs, sticks, or other instruments of a bludgeoning type, throwing stars, razors, projectiles and the like.

PROFANITY AND OBSCENE LANGUAGE

A student shall not use profane and/or obscene language, actions, or gestures in the presence of any teacher, employee, or student. A student shall not wear attire that refers to profane or obscene language, actions, or gestures.

SKIPPING CLASS

Any student that "skips" or "cuts" class will be dismissed from our program immediately. The FCLC cannot be liable for any student that does not come directly to us from FCHS. It will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to make arrangements for the supervision of the student. No credit will be received for the course.

SNACKS

Food or drink from outside the FCLC is not permitted. Snacks may be purchased from the FCLC and enjoyed during class time under the discretion of the teacher. The student is responsible for keeping the facility clean and the trash picked up. Loss of this privilege may occur if it is abused.

TOBACCO USE

Tobacco use is not allowed in the FCLC building, nor is it permitted anywhere on the property for current FCLC students.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Students will be expected to abide by Fannin County High School policies at the FCLC, in areas including but not limited to dress, substance abuse, and behavior.

Due to the nature of the legal separation between the FCLC and the public high school, FCLC staff cannot ask FCHS personnel to handle FCLC discipline problems. Every step must be taken to deal with any problem internally. Should it become apparent that the remedies will not work, and the student's continual presence will be a detriment to the FCLC environment, it may be necessary to return the student to FCHS. In some cases, it may be necessary to remove the student from the FCLC course completely and have him/her enroll in a course at the high school. No credit will be received for a student who is removed from the FCLC program completely. This must be avoided if possible, partly because of the stress it would place on the FCHS scheduling system and personnel.

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