

Bethany School
3015 Oleander Blvd.
Fort Pierce, FL 34982
(772) 467-1016
Bethanyafirst@aol.com

*"Train up a child in the way he should go and
When he is old, he will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6*

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The Objective of Education

Schools, in which all lessons were at first taught from the Bible are in general institutions that endeavor to teach children how to live in the world and succeed in providing for their daily needs. Unfortunately, accomplishing this task has been marred by all manner of agendas that have created generations of men and women who are not equipped to function in society. Thus, the objective of many schools is being lost to just survive.

Private schools have been growing in number and size over the last 35 years for reasons that range from social agendas to self-preservation. Many parents have sought out the private sector of education to protect their children from an undesirable environment and give them a greater opportunity to function in life and business. In many cases, this has been successful. The appropriate objective of education and preparing children to live in this world must reach a dimension that today is not being allowed, or at least is not considered essential, in an alarming number of schools. This appropriate objective is the training of the whole child. Unless the moral and ethical aspects of a child are properly molded in conjunction with their academic and social training, we can only expect the moral breakdown that we are witnessing in the world today. You cannot remove God from the objective, for in doing so you remove him from the individual and create a society that has little or no respect for authority, much like in our world today.

Proverbs 22:6 teaches, “Train up a child in the way he should go...”, and the first responsibility for training in high standards of conduct lies with the parent. The school should then act as an extension of the home, continuing that which was already properly begun.

One of the main differences between a private and a public school is attendance in a private school is a privilege, not a right. The goal of Bethany School is to train your child in all areas necessary to function acceptably in the world today. To that end, we stress superior moral character, as well as high academic standards. We are not ashamed to insist that our students displayed self-discipline, individual responsibility, personal integrity, and a strong moral determination.

It is our sincere desire to accomplish this lofty objective, and with the cooperation of you, the parents, we believe it is possible.

Accreditation

Accreditation by a state government agency is an administrative mechanism designed as an attempt to attain uniform education for all children and government schools. It was established as a government means of causing local public-school districts to meet what the state educational agencies determined to be minimum academic and facilities standards for all schools. Accreditation teams, investigate and approve or disapprove facilities and curriculum, and educational institutions, according to the criteria developed by secular educational and administrators who may not be Christians.

Accreditation of a private school is not necessary for a graduate of the school to enroll in a college or university. Registrars, of such institutions, are interested in the academic merits of individual students, not in the name of their graduation school. Thus, they evaluate each applicant's academic aptitude through nationally standardized tests. This school does not seek accreditation from any outside educational institution but does endeavor to provide the highest possible academic program.

Why Choose Private School?

In our handbook and in our general relationship with students, the caregiver is considered the same as the parent. We will not make a distinction if the caregiver is assuming legal responsibility or custody of the child, whether related to the student or not. There are many reasons why a parent may desire a private education for their children. One of the foremost is that the child might obtain an education based and grounded on moral principles as found in the Bible. Bethany School uses the Biblically based Accelerated Christian Education, curriculum, which teaches the moral and ethical lessons found in both the Old and New Testament. High standards for character building are incorporated into the daily curriculum, and diagnostic tests ensure that each child starts working at the highest academic level at which he or she can best function. As the students learned the necessary skills to prepare them to succeed as an adult, they will also develop moral character, a sense of accountability, and then integrity to make wise decisions in their lives.

Standard of Conduct

Students at Bethany School are expected to refrain from any actions, in school and out, that are contrary to the high standards that are taught. Fighting, cheating, swearing, smoking, gambling, drinking alcoholic beverages, using illegal drugs, or other illegal activities are only a few of the activities that are opposed to the kind of person we desire to develop. Students who practice or discuss these types of conduct not only harm themselves, but also indirectly affect other students. Any such activities will result in suspension/expulsion of the offending student.

Admission Policy

Bethany school admits students of any race, color, national, and ethical origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities, generally supported, or made available to the students at the school. It does not discriminate based on race, color, or national, and ethical origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletics, and other school-administered administrative programs.

It is understood that attendance is a privilege and not a right. This privilege may be forfeited by any student who does not conform to the standards and regulations of this institution. The school reserves the right to request the withdrawal of any student who, at any time, in the opinion of the school administration, does not follow these guidelines.

Re-Enrollment Policy

All students are evaluated each year. No students are guaranteed re-enrollment, and applications for re-enrollment will be largely dependent on the parent/student evaluations done throughout each year. Parents are encouraged to return paperwork as soon as possible as re-enrollment can be closed at any time. The areas covered in the evaluation include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Academic progress
2. Student conduct
3. Attendance and punctuality
4. Attitude towards authority
5. Adherence to uniform standards
6. Parental involvement and support

Admission Procedures

1. Parent brings students' most recent report card and if applicable their IEP's to an interview with an administrator who explains the Learning Center curriculum and procedures then gives them an application and Student Handbook.
2. Parent and student read and acknowledge Student Handbook.
3. Application is submitted accompanied by registration/testing fee and birth certificate. Parent agreement and student registration forms are filled out. Applicant is given Student Record Release form to take to previous school. Certain parts of the Student Handbook will be discussed.
4. Students are given complete diagnostic testing.
5. Medical history forms are submitted, including the State Health Record (a physical report done by a physician) the Florida Certificate of Immunization; Form DH680 with part A-1 and/or A-2 filled in unless evidence of medical or religious exemption is provided. A note from a doctor with confirmation of a Multiple Sclerosis check must be included if student is in 6th grade or above.

Medical Procedures

To assist the School in attending to the health and safety of the Student, Parents must provide the School with a full, complete and up-to-date description of any health condition(s) or medical restriction(s) that the Student may have. The School will make every reasonable attempt to contact the Parents or other designated emergency contact in the event of a medical emergency. **The student application must list a third party name and phone number in case parents cannot be reached.**

School Calendar

Includes all holidays, events and other pertinent information. Please keep up with each day's events as we do not want your child to miss out on scheduled activities such as dress-up days.

Parental Responsibility and Involvement

Parent and staff conferences help to maintain an open dialogue that enables both the parents and staff to resolve problems and answer questions before they can develop into difficulties.

We absolutely must have the support of the parents/guardians regarding their child maintaining satisfactory academic goals and behavior which meet the requirements of Bethany School. If the child's/parent's needs cannot be met they will be asked to withdraw their child and seek an alternate school.

Parent/staff meetings will be scheduled as needed throughout the school year. Meetings will be conducted for general information as well as individual student needs. Parents will be notified in writing of all general meetings and notified in person when the meeting concerns just their child. Parents must let Bethany School know if any address or phone number changes immediately. If parents are going out of town, we must have an alternate contact who will take over the parents' responsibilities.

Listed next are parental responsibilities that must be adhered to

1. Make sure your child has supplies at all times.
2. Make sure your child brings an absentee note upon return to school.
3. Make sure your child is in bed at a reasonable hour so he/she can maintain the academic standards needed.
4. **Make sure your child is at school on time and is absent only when necessary. Excessive absences will greatly affect their academic progress.**
5. **Make sure your child has a note if there is to be any change in transportation needs. It is very important that the bus driver be notified if your child will not need to be picked up.**
6. **Make sure your child is in uniform before leaving home with belt, tucked shirt, bottoms not below waist, no baggy bottoms, socks and clean shaven.**
7. **Make sure your child has a healthy breakfast and lunch.**
8. **Make sure you immediately take care of any issues with your child's behavior with appropriate corrective action.**
9. **Make sure your child does his or her assigned homework correctly and all work is completed and homework slip is signed. If work is not complete, please sign and write "not complete." Please check your child's work and not take their word that it is complete, so you are aware of your child's progress.**
10. **Make sure your child studies for upcoming tests and give help as needed to assure they pass the test.**
11. **Keep current with tuition, fees, and lunch balances.**
12. **Parents' must pay to replace items damaged by their children included but not limited to flags, PACES, desktops, dividers, walls, library books, scoring tables, etc.**
13. **Make sure your child gives cell phone to the bus driver upon entering the bus.**
14. **For the safety of our students and staff all students that are sick should stay home.**
15. **Friday is an important day. There are no breaks, so the students complete a lot of work. Students that stay home because it is a shorter day are missing important school time.**
16. **Make sure students are outside waiting at pickup time!**

School Supplies for All Students

1. Personal Bible (1611 King James Version with large print)
2. Pencils (whole box)
3. Three large erasers
4. Small box for supplies
5. Tissues
6. **No pencil sharpeners.**

Elementary Department

1. **Crayons (small 16 or 24 colors box) and or colored pencils**

Middle and High School Department

- 1. Colored Pencils**
- 2. Compass**
- 3. Protractor**
- 4. 6th grade and higher need a calculator. The best option is Texas Instrument. School supplies must be kept up throughout the school year.**

Attendance

All states have compulsory attendance laws that affect both public and private schools. In Florida, the law requires all students to be “in regular attendance” at a school during the school term. **A student can have no more than 10 unexcused days in a quarter or 15 unexcused days for the entire school year.** Therefore, parents are expected to help us instill character in their children by eliminating needless absenteeism and tardiness. Excessive absences will necessitate disciplinary action even leading up to your child being asked to leave.

School hours are from 8:15 A.M. to 2:30P.M. Monday-Thursday and 8:15A.M. to 12:00P.M. on Friday. Students are expected to be here NO LATER than 8:15A.M. and must be picked up by 2:30P.M. We do not have after-school childcare facilities, and late pickups create a real hardship for personnel. Continued late pickups will result in a charge of \$10 for each occurrence and a conference with the parent/guardian will be required to discuss the problem.

Absence for reasons other than sickness or emergencies will be excused only if arrangements are made in advance with the supervisor. Doctor, dental, music, and other appointments should be scheduled after school hours. Excessive absences **will inhibit the students’ progress.** If the absences are deemed unnecessary by the administrator, the student will be considered truant. **A written excuse signed by a parent or guardian must be presented to the supervisor when a student returns to school after an absence.**

A student is considered tardy if he/she is not at school by 8:15A.M. Students cannot be dropped off after 9:00A.M. unless they have a doctor’s note or arrangements are made ahead of time.

If a student is habitually late he or she cannot fulfil their responsibilities and is therefore in danger of losing their place at Bethany School. It is important that all students and parents respect this rule.

For the safety of our students’ gates and doors are locked at 8:45A.M. To gain entrance call (772) 467-1016.

Transportation Rules

Transportation is available for most areas of St. Lucie County. Please make sure your child is waiting at the designated pick-up spot at least ten minutes earlier than their scheduled time. If necessary, wait at least fifteen minutes past that time if the bus is late. Transportation cannot wait

and will leave if the student is not at the bus stop on time. When one student is late the whole schedule falls behind and will make everyone tardy. Please call your child's bus driver if your child will not be riding on the bus. We would appreciate your cooperation on this issue. Students are expected to abide by the following rules when being transported to and from school.

1. No loud talking, cheering, sarcasm, or other malicious behavior toward others.
2. No leaning out windows or throwing objects from windows.
3. No making faces or finger signs at others outside the bus.
4. No drinking, eating, or chewing gum.
5. No magazines, personal books, notebooks, radios, phones, or other electronic devices such as games, etc., are permitted on the bus.
6. Only scheduled stops are permitted. Any exceptions must be cleared through the office and require a written permission slip from the parents or guardian. Absolutely, No Exceptions.

If a parent or guardian sends a note informing the school that their child will be picked up from school, he or she must be picked up before the school bus leaves, or the student will have to take the bus.

NOTE: Misbehavior is considered a very serious offense. Many lives can be endangered when the driver's attention is distracted from the road. Discipline for such behavior may include demerits, loss of breaks, a call to the parent(s) or guardian(s) from the driver or an appointment with parents or guardians with the driver. Discipline can also include suspension or expulsion from all transportation privileges. Parents or guardians are expected to go over this list of rules and make students fully aware of them all.

Field Trips

Field trips are privileges that must be earned. All students are required to maintain their academic progress and be in good standing regarding their behavior. Students are expected to maintain good behavior each full nine-week period, not just a few days before a field trip. Students are expected to maintain the same level of discipline away from school as is required at school and will wear their uniforms on all field trips. Students not attending field trips are expected to be in school. If it is an out-of-town field trip students must stay home as all teachers must go on these field trips. Work will be sent home with students.

Homework

The responsibility for scholastic achievement is placed on the students and parents. Most students should not need to take work home. Exceptions are students who are performing below academic level and need to do extra work at home until caught up and students not focused on completing the day's goals. The goals set by the supervisor are no more than the student can complete during the school day. Should the student not meet his or her goals for the day he or she will be required at the discretion of the supervisor to complete the work at home. If the student fails to bring back the PACE the next day or doesn't do the homework, disciplinary action will be taken even to the

extent of suspension if homework issues are a continual problem. No resource books may be taken home.

Homework is for the student's benefit and is considered a vital part of the student's individual education. If homework is not completed in a timely manner or someone else is doing their work for them, Bethany School will not be held responsible for the students' lower rate of advancement. Continued lack of respect for rules regarding homework could result in a student losing his or her place at Bethany School. Parents and guardians please supervise your child's work and make sure it is completed and returned the next school day.

If a field trip is coming up and your child is below the number of PACE'S required to go he/she may bring work home to catch up.

Suspension

Suspension will be required for students after all in class disciplinary options have failed to produce needed improvement. If a student receives suspension he/she will be required to complete schoolwork at home during time suspended.

Weekly Reports

Weekly Reports are given to some students. These reports will help parents stay informed of their child's weekly work progress, whether homework was done or completed, if an absentee note is needed, lunch balances, upcoming events, behavior issues needing to be addressed and other pertinent information. If there is something important or last minute an email and text message will be sent. All reports MUST be signed and returned immediately. We appreciate your attention and time as it is an important tool to better your child's educational needs.

Discipline

This is not a corrective institution; consequently, we ask that a child not be enrolled with the idea that he/she will be reformed. We are here to work with the home, but not to take the place of parents who have had trouble in fulfilling their roles. **All students are admitted on a probationary period for the first six weeks.** The student must always conduct him/herself in a manner, becoming a lady or gentleman. If your child comes home complaining about a policy or discipline, please follow this procedure:

1. Give the staff the benefit of the doubt.
2. Realize that your child's reporting is emotionally biased and may not include all information.
3. Realize that the school has reasons for all the rules and they are enforced without partiality.
4. Support the administration and call the school for all the facts.

When a child's attitude and behavior is not in accord with school policies or principles, the child will be placed on probation/suspension, and parent(s) will be called for a conference. If the administration feels that the situation has not changed within a designated time, parents will be

asked to withdraw the child. While we encourage parent/teacher communication, disciplinary measures are decided by the school and are not negotiable.

High school students have a huge influence on younger children thus are trained to adhere to the school's philosophy and Biblically based program. Such adherence includes abstinence from smoking, use of alcoholic beverages, use of narcotics, fighting, swearing, viewing or discussing pornographic items, writing about or making sexual remarks about the opposite sex, bullying, and other questionable practices.

This school is dedicated to the training of children in a program of study, activity, and living that is Bible-centered. We believe that "all things should be done decently and in order" and that our students should be taught to accept responsibility to "walk honorably before all men."

Discipline maintained here is firm, consistent, fair, and tempered with love. Our staff maintains standards of behavior in the Learning Center through kindness, love, and a genuine regard for the student. However, when disciplinary action becomes necessary, it is firmly carried out, tempered by good judgment and understanding.

Students are reminded that God expects us to be disciplined in all areas of life as follows:

- "Children, obey your parents..." Colossians 3:20
- "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers..." Romans 13:1
- "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves..." Hebrews 13:17

The paramount rule is, "do right; do not disturb."

Conferences with the supervisor, principal, and parent(s) or guardian(s) are sometimes necessary to ensure this growth.

Minor Infractions

Failure to obey rules and procedures - Being disruptive - Improper use of materials - Unbiblical conduct - Threats, harassment, intimidation, name calling, bullying - Provoking others in anger - Complaining or griping about standards or discipline - Inappropriate behavior or gestures - Vulgarity, profanity, obscenity - Dishonesty (lying, stealing, cheating) - Damage to school property (flags, desk, dividers, materials) - Homework infraction (not completed, not signed by parent) - Uniform infraction - Habitual tardiness - Possession or use of any inappropriate and/or prohibited objects or materials - Leaving classroom without permission and not accompanied by a teacher - Food or garbage left in lockers - Passing notes - Bringing electronic items (games, tablets, etc.) - Chewing gum or bringing gum to school or on the bus - Disrespect for God, country, teachers or other students - Running in school - Using God's name in vain - Leaving school grounds without permission - Touching other students' desks, person or property - Turning sideways in desk - Leaving office without permission - Tipping chairs - Sleeping or giving appearance of sleeping - Checkups done without being signed - Sharing food - begging others to buy them food - Talking in classroom, line, chapel or at scoring table - Weekly planner not returned or signed - Throwing items - Drawing at desk - Writing on your person

***Minor infractions will become major if repetitive**

Major Infractions

Fighting – Bullying – Possession of narcotics or alcohol – Possession of weapons of any kind – Immoral behavior or talk – Criminal offence

The cooperation of both the students and parents is necessary for Bethany School to operate effectively. Proper behavior is expected from our students in and out of school. If this cooperation is not forthcoming, the student will be withdrawn or expelled. **Bethany staff has the right to confiscate student cell phones.**

Online Posting

Students who place information on sites that are out of harmony with Bethany School's policies, values or rules may be asked to seek another educational environment. All public posting must reflect the same morals and values as carried out in school.

Dress Code Requirements

Students are required to adhere to school dress code during the school day and/or school sponsored activities, unless otherwise indicated by school administration. The use of student dress code has been approved to promote student responsibility, equity, and to assist in setting the foundation of appropriateness and formality for our future generations of professional adults.

School uniforms are to be worn Monday-Thursday. Fridays are our casual free dress days. Students can wear T-shirts on Fridays.

Free-Dress Days will be approved by school administration depending on all merits. These days will be communicated to families as they are scheduled.

Free-Dress Day - students are allowed to dress out of uniform on scheduled free dress days as long as they follow the general dress code, including the following restrictions:

- No offensive images or messages
- No excessively baggy pants/shorts

Polo shirts and blouses.

- Shirts must be polo style, collared or blouse
- Approved Colors - All Colors
- Shirts must not be overly large or small
- Shirts MUST extend below the waist with no undershirt hanging out
- Shirts and blouses can be in any color, or brand. Any shirt or blouse should cover the back, top of shoulders, and stomach. Halter-tops, spaghetti strap shirts, (accept on swim days when worn as bathing suit with water shorts) low cut tops or tops that expose the midriff or undergarments are not permitted.

Uniform Bottoms (Pants, Shorts, Skirts, Skorts, Dress Jumper, *Leggings, Jeans)

- Approved colors – all colors approved.
- Shorts/Skirts/Skorts/Shorts/Dresses should be no shorter than 6” above the knee
- Tights or leggings must be worn with a shirt, blouse, or tunic that is long enough to cover one’s behind
- Styles: Jeans, shorts, pants, skirts, shorts, skorts, *leggings, *tights, uniform/jumpsuit dresses
- All dresses and skirts must be worn with leggings, tights, or shorts under at all times
- No excessively baggy pants or shorts (General Guideline – Pants/shorts must stay up without a belt)
- Uniform dresses must have a school polo shirt under it if sleeves are showing

Outerwear (Jackets, Coats, Hoodies, Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Flannels)

- All colors allowed
- Logos allowed but must not be offensive or against stated guidelines

Shoes

- Shoes should provide adequate support and safety
- No heels or platforms more than an inch in height
- No open-toe or open-heel shoes, slippers, or sandals
- Tennis Shoes, Running Shoes, Sneakers, Boots
- Crocs with heel strap and no inappropriate Croc charms

Accessories

- **Belts – Solid buckle no inappropriate signs or symbols**
- Hats - Caps, beanies for outside activities only
- Backpacks, Lunch boxes, Messenger Bags, Computer Bags, and Purses must be left in the lunchroom in your locker. They are not permitted in the classroom.

PE Clothes

- T-shirt
- Sweatpants
- Sweat shorts
- Athletic shorts
- Biker Shorts no shorter than 3” above the knee top must cover student’s buttocks
- Leggings/Tights top must cover student’s buttocks

Note: ALL CLOTHING MUST BE FREE OF ANY OFFENSIVE IMAGES, LANGUAGE, OR MESSAGES. CLOTHING OR PERSONAL ITEMS THAT ARE RACIST, SEXIST, PROMOTE DRUGS/ALCOHOL/TOBACCO, OR VULGAR IN INTERPRETATION ARE NOT ALLOWED. GARMENTS MAY NOT EXPOSE UNDERCLOTHING POCKETS OR

PANTS MUST BE WORN ON THE BUTTOCKS. LOW-RIDING PANTS OF ANY KIND ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. ALL BOTTOMS MUST BE WORN NO LOWER THAN THE HIPS, NO SAGGING OR UNDERGARMENTS SHOWING.

You may buy School Uniforms/Dress Code approved items anywhere if they meet dress code guidelines and requirements.

General Dress Rules

Students must stay in uniform until they get off school property (including the bus) unless given special permission. Bethany School is not responsible for any misplaced items. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to see that their child maintains this dress code. If a student is out of uniform the bus driver has the authority to not allow admission on the bus. If the code is not met the student will be issued a violation slip and the parent(s) or guardian(s) will be called to bring the proper clothing to school. The student will not be allowed to work in the Learning Center until they are in uniform.

Bethany School greatly appreciates the cooperation of every student, parent and guardian concerning all dress code issues.

Learning Center Procedures

Parents arriving at school early **MUST** remain with their child until a teacher unlocks the side door to allow children to come in at 8:00A.M. Students will put up lunches, jackets, etc.,

8:15A.M. School begins

8:15A.M. Chapel on Wednesday

10:00A.M. K -3rd grade students go on play break

11:30A.M. All students go on lunch break

12:00P.M. Friday only noon dismissal

1:00P.M. P.E.

2:30P.M. School dismissal

Student Offices

Offices must be kept neat.

- Keep only one PACE on the desk at a time – others are kept on student's clipboard.
- When leaving your office at the end of the day, clear the desk of pencils and erasers.
- Pick up trash, paper, erasers, pencils, etc., from the floor of your office.
- Keep three pencils sharpened in your office.

- Do not drum your fingers, tap your pencil on your desk, crack your knuckles or make any noises that disturb others.
- Actions not related to prescribed materials are not to be conducted in your office without teacher's permission such as drawing or coloring.
- Background material such as pictures for your office must be approved by the teacher.
- Goal cards are placed on the lower right side of the bulletin board of the office. When goals are completed, including scoring, the student crosses off the page numbers in pencil. When complete they must have a supervisor check their completed goals for the day.
- The progress card is placed on the upper left-hand corner of the bulletin board. The student is given a star for each complete PACE. No marks are to be made on this card by the student nor is it to be moved.

The American flag should be raised for guidance in academic problems and reading. A supervisor will call on the student. The Christian Flag should be raised for permission to score, have checkups or self-tests signed and to do Word Building tests. Use your solid-colored flag for permission to use the restroom.

Daily Pace Work

Students must complete 15 PACEs per quarter in their primary subjects to complete a full grade level within the school year. If they do not, they are considered retained. This does not mean they cannot catch up the next year.

All work is done in pencil except when coloring is required. Do not deface PACE pages by doodling, etc.,

When beginning a new PACE students must read the first page to the teacher or monitor. This page explains what the PACE will teach the students. New vocabulary and definitions may be introduced. Any new vocabulary, definitions, etc., throughout a PACE must be read to the teacher or monitor whether directed to do so or not.

Cartoon strips occur throughout most PACE's and should be read for enjoyment and to help learn Godly principles of living.

Read instructions carefully – do not assume you already know what to do and end up having to erase everything.

If a PACE says "Learn" or "Memorize", do so

- The quality of your future work will depend on how well you learn these rules, etc.
- Many of these sections must be said orally to the teacher or monitor.

Each PACE has a Memory Verse to be learned and said orally to the teacher or monitor at the end of the PACE. It must also be written as part of the PACE test or students will write it 20 times.

PACE's can be worked in any order unless instructed otherwise by teachers.

Lunchroom Rules

Students may bring bag lunches or meals that may be heated in the microwave (frozen meals require additional time and may not allow the student time for all lunch activities). Lunch and break food can be purchased. Parent's may send money to place on the students account for purchases. Parents will be notified of the student's lunch balance. There is a \$20 credit limit so the balance must be paid before any more charges can be made.

Students are to eat at their assigned places and keep their area clean. There is to be no horsing around, throwing, giving away, trading food, or begging others to buy food for them.

Standards of Ethical Conduct

Adapted from the Code of Ethics of the Education Profession in Florida and Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida.

Bethany School values the worth and dignity of every person, the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, acquisition of knowledge, and the nurture of democratic citizenship. Essential to the achievement of these standards are the freedom to learn and to teach and the guarantee of equal opportunity for all.

Our primary concern is the students and the development of their potential. Employees will strive for professional growth and will seek to exercise the best professional judgment and integrity.

Concern for the student requires that our instructional personnel:

- Shall make reasonable efforts to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning and/or safety.
- Shall not unreasonably restrain a student from independent action in pursuit of learning.
- Shall not unreasonably deny a student access to diverse points of view.
- Shall not intentionally suppress or distort subject matter relevant to a student's academic program.
- Shall not intentionally expose a student to unnecessary embarrassment or disparagement.
- Shall not intentionally violate or deny a student's legal rights.
- Shall not harass or discriminate against any student based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, marital status, handicap condition, sexual orientation, or social and family background and shall make reasonable effort to assure each student is protected from harassment or discrimination.
- Shall not exploit a relationship with a student for personal gain or advancement.
- Shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law.
- Aware of the importance of maintaining the respect and confidence of colleagues, students, parents, and the community, employees will display the highest degree of ethical conduct.

Training Requirements – All instructional personnel and administrators are required as a condition of employment to complete training on these standards of ethical conduct.

Reporting Misconduct by Instructional Personnel and Administrators – All employees and administrators have an obligation to report misconduct by instructional personnel and school administrators which affects the health, safety, and welfare of a student. Examples of misconduct include obscene language, drug and alcohol use, disparaging comments, prejudice or bigotry, sexual innuendo, cheating or testing violations, physical aggression, and accepting or offering favors. Reports on misconduct of employees should be made to Bethany School Administration or designated board. Reports of misconduct committed by administrators should be made to the oversight committee. Legally sufficient allegations of misconduct by Florida certified educators will be reported to the Office of Professional Practices Services. Policies and procedures for reporting misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators which affect the health, safety, or welfare of a student are posted on the Learning Center wall and on our Web site at bethany-school.us

Reporting Child Abuse, Abandonment or Neglect – All employees and agents have an affirmative duty to report all actual or suspected cases of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect. Call 1-800-96-ABUSE or report online at: <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/abuse/report/>.

Signs of Physical Abuse: The Child may have unexplained bruises, welts, cuts, or other injuries; seem afraid to go home or may run away, shy away from physical contact, is aggressive, or wear inappropriate clothing to hide injuries.

Signs of Sexual Abuse: The child may have torn, stained or bloody underwear, trouble walking or sitting, pain or itching in genital area, or sexually transmitted disease. A child experiencing sexual abuse may have unusual knowledge of sex or act seductively, fear a particular person, seem withdrawn or depressed, gain or lose weight suddenly, shy away from physical contact or run away from home.

Patterns of Abuse: Serious abuse usually involves a combination of factors. While a single sign may not be significant, a pattern of physical or behavioral signs is a serious indicator and should be reported.

Liability Protection: Any person, official, or institution participating in good faith in any act authorized or required by law or reporting in good faith any instance of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect to the department or any law enforcement agency, shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability which might otherwise result by reason of such action. (F.S. 39.203)

An employee who discloses information about a former or current employee to a prospective employer of the former or current employee upon request of the prospective employer or of the former or current employee is immune from civil liability for such disclosure or its consequences unless it is shown by clear and convincing evidence that the information disclosed by the former or current employer was knowingly false or violated any civil right of the former or current employee protected under F.S. Chapter 760. (F.S. 768.095)

Graduation Requirements

A prescribed course of study to meet graduation requirements will be determined through a conference among the staff, parents, and students. A minimum of twenty-four credit is required in the general course of study.

Transfer students must complete at least sixty PACES in this school before receiving a diploma.

Sample General Course of Study

The following course of study is adequate to prepare most students for college studies.

Required = (R) Optional = (O) Elective = (E)

MATH - Algebra I (R) Algebra II (R) Geometry (R) Business Math (R)	4 CREDITS
ENGLISH - English I (R) English II (R) English III (R) English IV (R)	4 CREDITS
SOCIAL STUDIES - World Geography (O) World History (R)	
American History (R) U.S. Civics (R) (1/2 Credit) Economics (R) (1/2 Credit)	3 CREDITS
SCIENCE - Biology (R) Physical Science (R) Chemistry (O) Physics (O)	3 CREDITS
ELECTIVES - Etymology (R) Health (R) Computer Literacy (R) Speech (R)	7 ½ CREDITS
PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY (R)	1 CREDIT
FINE ARTS (R)	1 CREDIT
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (R)	½ CREDIT

