RISEN SON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2025/2026 Handbook



"...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles' they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Isaiah 40:31

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Risen Son Southern Baptist Church /// RSSBC Office: (307) 864.4115 342 Amoretti, Thermopolis, WY 82443 /// Office Hours: M-TH, 8 AM - 12 PM

Headmaster: Brian Johnsons (307) 921.4434

Daycare Director: Ciley Andreen (307) 921.1880 candreen78@gmail.com

Board Members: Kurt Shaffer, Bradyn Harvey, Shane Rankin

Please contact your child's teacher and/or the headmaster to resolve questions/conflicts before contacting a board member

Risen Son Christian School: risensonchristian@gmail.com

GENERAL EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Risen Son Christian School is not only committed to a Christ-centered curriculum and excellent academics, but in keeping every student as safe as possible! This is accomplished through planning, training, drills, and tabletop discussions. We strive to be prepared for and appropriately respond to all emergencies and, to the best of our ability, ensure the safety of students, visitors, volunteers, and staff. Due to RSCS's limited resources, along with sharing a building with other ministries, safety and emergency procedures will be implemented as consistently and thoroughly as reasonably possible.

Emergency procedures include (but are not limited to) responses for the following situations: Fire, earthquake, extreme weather, Boysen Dam failure/flash flood, train derailment/chemical spill, active shooter(s), intruder/suspicious person, bomb threat or suspicious package(s). Whether students/staff will shelter-in-place or evacuate will depend on the type of emergency and the most reasonable option presented to the staff member(s) that provides the most protection available at that time.

EMERGENCY (PRIORITY) PHONE NUMBERS:

Police/Fire/Ambulance: 911

Non-Emergency Police/Fire: 307-864-2622 or x3114

Town of Thermopolis: 307-864-9285

Wyoming Gas: 307-347-2416

Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

HSC Hospital: 307-864-3121

Rocky Mountain Power: 307-347-6833

DFS: 307-864-2158

EVACUATION (RALLY) LOCATIONS:

RSCS has three evacuation (rally) points that are utilized at the discretion of the lead staff members and in response to the type of emergency or the immediate circumstances. For security reasons, these locations will not be printed here. Parents will be advised of meeting (reunification) locations by their child's teacher.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSE:

Each teacher, or lead staff member, will have an Emergency Folder with a student checklist, emergency parent/guardian contact numbers, allergies, and necessary medications. It will also contain instructions for how RSCS staff should generally respond to a given emergency situation. All staff members retain the right to use their discretion to protect the students in any given situation, but must consider the chain of command, school policy, Wyoming and/or Federal laws, and the nature of the threat or emergency.

DRILLS:

In accordance with the Wyoming Child Care Licensing Rules (for daycares & preschools) all of RSCS will conduct (and record) a minimum of at least one (1) actual emergency evacuation drill per month. Other drills will be practiced at the discretion of the Administration and may include practical or tabletop scenarios. The purpose of the drills is to test our emergency response knowledge and abilities, as well as identify any areas where improvements on response and/or safety can be made.

*Please contact the headmaster or your child's teacher with any concerns or important information regarding your child that may be important in an emergency. To volunteer your emergency expertise or services, please contact the headmaster.

RSCS PLEDGES:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE BIBLE:

"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, AND I WILL HIDE ITS WORDS IN MY HEART, THAT I MIGHT NOT SIN AGAINST GOD."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE 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."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES 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."

PATRIOTISM:

We strongly teach students/staff to be thankful to God for his provision of freedom in this great country! Such freedom was initially sought to preach the Gospel and worship God without interference from government or overreaching denominational controls. History classes will include the true Christian and secular leaders and heroes who helped to forge the uniqueness of the United States of America. We will say the pledge and show due respect in daily flag raising and lowering. We will honor only American and military holidays (i.e. Veteran's Day) throughout the year as we celebrate patriotism. However, at no time is America or its history to be equal to or greater than the Bible, or the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

RSCS HANDBOOK:

The teachers of Risen Son Christian School realize their solemn responsibility before God in molding the lives and character of their students in order to give a biblical and Christ-centered foundation for each child's future. The administration and staff at Risen Son Christian School demonstrate a loving concern for each child under their care, as we are ministers of the Gospel *first* and foremost!

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of Risen Son Christian School (as a ministry of the Risen Son Southern Baptist Church) is to work <u>alongside the home and church</u> to provide the environment, instruction, and opportunities of service to educate and train leaders for Christ to function faithfully and successfully in today's church and world.

Our purpose is to train students in the knowledge of God and a biblical worldview while providing an excellent education. To accomplish this, Risen Son Christian School strives to foster an environment where each student may develop his/her optimum potential spiritually, mentally, physically, socially, and culturally; moving toward future Christian service and professional vocations.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY & EXPLICIT GOSPEL:

It is our conviction and calling, as Christian educators, to teach students to think, learn, and live (make decisions) from a Biblical worldview, in **the Gospel***. Teaching a Biblical worldview in a scholastic setting begins with dedicated Christian educators. Using a Bible-integrated curriculum, *teachers daily emphasize God's word as the only infallible rule of faith and practice (life choices)*. We strive to eliminate the current worldly confusion about who we (humans) are, and why we are here (our existence), paving the way for a life of understanding and devotion to God. Students learn to think from a Christian worldview largely through Bible reading, writing, and teaching time. Our academic program is committed to an early mastery of strong reading skills. RSCS is dedicated to establishing both an academic and spiritual foundation that fosters a love of learning in an atmosphere where children can express their God-given gifts and talents. Since we believe that responsible and informed people are the strength of any nation, we prepare students to exercise a proper role within their families, in the Body of Christ, and as citizens who can love and follow Jesus Christ in any community context.

*The Gospel is defined as the (exclusive) "good news" of Jesus Christ who, (being God) became flesh in the likeness of man. He lived the perfect life, died the perfect death on a cross, and was raised to new life on the third day according to the Scriptures. Jesus made complete and total payment to God for the sins of humanity, taking in his body God's righteous punishment for man's rebellion (sin), thus reconciling God and man. "Salvation" cannot be earned, but is a free gift of God (by grace through faith, not of works) to those who trust in Christ's work and sacrifice as their only hope of salvation. A new Christian then continues in a life of forsaking sin (repentance) and a desire to grow in Christ as a follower of Jesus, because they are already saved. The "good news" is then applied to every area of life in a constant attitude and ministry of reconciliation to be shared with others, while giving credit and

The philosophy of education at Risen Son Christian School is founded in the Holy Scriptures because God is the creator and source of <u>all knowledge</u>. The Bob Jones University curriculum of Risen Son Christian School was chosen for the purpose of partnering *with* parents, having the goal of revealing to each child their need for salvation in Christ alone, by grace through faith alone. A growing maturity and Christ like character will provide students with a strong foundation and the opportunity for an excellent education. This challenging curriculum has a traditional Biblical philosophy of conduct and a variety of teaching methods (audio, visual, kinesthetic) blended together to prepare students to understand and grow in academics, as well as an understanding of God's purpose for the created world and their lives.

A Biblical worldview is foundational for providing the correct base-truths, perspectives, and principles for interpreting *all* things we encounter and experience in life; as well as the study of *all* subject matter. We believe the concepts foundational to a Bible Worldview are:

- 1. God is the **only** Creator and Sustainer of all things seen and unseen, and the source of all truth (Gen 1, Col 1, Heb 1, John 1 & 4)
- 2. God maintains sovereign control over His entire creation (the universe). (Psalm 1, 115, |sa 40)
- 3. True meaning and value can be correctly ascertained *only* in the light of His (God's) person, purpose, and work. (John 1, 17, Matt 10)
- 4. Since all truth and knowledge extends from God through and in the person of Jesus Christ, all education, reasoning, and morality must be obtained by starting from a Christ-centered (Gospel) understanding of God Himself.
- 5. Critical thinking skills stemming from biblical principles.

It is the purpose of Risen Son Christian School to provide a solid education that, while upholding a standard of scholastic excellence, has at its *center*—faith in God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ) and God the Holy Spirit (Three in One).

DAYCARE/PRESCHOOL REQUIREMENTS:

Our daycare and preschool students are a special joy and honor to have at RSCS! Along with this age group comes some extra requirements and responsibilities to meet Wyoming State standards for a child-care facility, and a few things we do to accommodate our littlest students. The following is for our preschool program. Please see the daycare handbook for daycare requirements.

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS:

- First Aid and infant/child CPR certification must be completed biennially and kept current at all times.
- 32 hours of continuing education biannually.
- TB risk assessment or current TB test results if applicable.
- A child abuse/neglect Central Registry screen done annually.
- Full fingerprint based national criminal history record background check completed every 5 years.
- National sex offender check results

CHILD RECORDS:

Each child in care shall have the following information on file;

- Completed Child Record
- Current Immunization Record *or* Exemption
- Health Care Plan if necessary
- Written authorization from parent(s) or guardian(s) for the following:
 - o Emergency medical care
 - o Participation in field trips or excursions, whether walking or riding
 - Child to be transported
 - Over the Counter Medication form
 - If applicable, a medication consent form must be completed by the child's parent or legal guardian and include specific instructions for the date and time to be administered and dosage

PRESCHOOL TUITION:

Preschool instruction is for half of the day.

- \$250 a month for 4-5 days a week
- \$200 a month for 1-3 days a week

SIGN-IN/OUT PROCEDURES:

All parents, legal guardians, or person(s) authorized to pick-up/drop-off RSCS preschool and daycare children **MUST sign children both in and out** of the facility on the teachers daily sign-in sheet. This sheet will be located with the supervising teacher on morning duty, but will be verified and followed up on by the head preschool teacher. Students will not be released unless signed out and the RSCS preschool teacher or assistant sees the person picking up the student. Parents or legal guardians are required to keep RSCS staff up to date on those people authorized to pick-up their child(ren) in writing.

TOILET TRAINING:

All students at RSCS (to include 3 & 4 year old preschoolers) are required to be toilet trained **by their first day of school.** This includes being able to *reasonably* take themselves to the restroom, use the facilities as they are, clean themselves, re-dress, and wash their own hands properly. Some minor assistance <u>may</u> be provided by RSCS

staff only as it relates to assisting with difficult clothing and washing of hands. At no time is an RSCS staff member to be alone in a bathroom with a closed door with a student of any gender unless exigent circumstances exist, or unless a medical or specific condition has been disclosed by the parents or guardians and they have requested extra assistance for their child. For reasonable special concerns or needs, parents need to visit with both the teacher and headmaster. If a student needs assistance, a second staff member must be present or the door must remain open enough for another adult to reasonably see while still providing privacy for the child. RSCS is limited in what level of care and assistance may be available and we reserve the right to deny enrollment or one-on-one help if it prohibits the teacher(s) from making progress with the rest of the class, or exceeds the teacher's level of comfort or training. Any questions or concerns that cannot be resolved with the headmaster and the teacher will be brought before the school board.

MANDATORY REPORTING:

All RSCS staff have been educated and trained in the recognition and reporting of Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of children *and* vulnerable adults according to W.S. 4-3-205 and 35-20-103. Staff are aware that a report must be made upon reasonable cause or suspicion of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. RSCS employees have also received information and contact numbers for local law enforcement and the Department of Family Services if the headmaster is unavailable and the need for an immediate investigation exists. Under normal reporting procedures the headmaster will be notified first and will make the appropriate calls to begin an investigation.

DFS: (307) 864-2158

Non-Emergency Police: (307) 864-3114

DISCIPLINE:

Please see page 20 of the RSCS Handbook. All discipline is administered in an age appropriate manner consistent with Biblical principles, school policy, the teacher's style, and at their discretion within legal requirements and school policy.

VISITORS:

Visitors are absolutely welcome in the preschool classes. Parents/guardians and immediate family are welcome to observe and or participate in daily activities, but we request that you please make arrangements with the teacher ahead of time. This will allow the teacher to make sure their curriculum can stay on track and that the visitor will get to enjoy their time. Visitors must follow along with the flow of the class and follow the directions of the head teacher at all times and may also only help in areas approved by the staff. All visitors who wish to make presentations <u>must get approval from the</u> <u>teacher and headmaster ahead of time.</u> If there is any confusion or disagreements about visiting times or who may be involved or to what capacity, the headmaster will help to resolve those issues. Further disagreement will be presented to the RSCS board for a decision.

EMERGENCIES:

RSCS staff participate in emergency training, drills, and evacuations to be prepared to respond to a variety of emergency scenarios. Teachers also have an emergency folder with step by step procedures and generalized response protocols. Please refer to the General Emergency Procedure section of the handbook for further details.

OBTAINING COMPLAINT AND COMPLIANCE HISTORY:

You can obtain this information by visiting https://findchildcarewy.org/maps/

CARE PLANS FOR FOOD AND OTHER ALLERGIES:

Each child with a food allergy or any other allergies is required to have a care plan in place. It will be prepared for use in our daycare and preschool program by the child's primary health care provider and/or parent/guardian to include:

- A written list of the foods and/or items to which the child is allergic
- Instructions for steps that need to be taken to avoid listed foods and/or items
- A detailed treatment plan for addressing an allergic reaction, including the names, doses, and methods of giving any medications. The plan must include specific symptoms that would indicate the need to give one or more medications

CARE PLANS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL CARE NEEDS:

Each child with a special health need is required to have a care plan in place. It will be prepared for use in our facility by the child's primary health care provider and/or parent/guardian, to include:

- A written list of medications with scheduled dosages and possible side effects
- A written list of needed accommodations
- A detailed description of any special needs
- A written list of any instructions for sleeping, toileting, diapering, or feeding
- A written list of any special materials/equipment needed
 - Please note that any special materials/equipment needed must be supplied by the parent/guardian
- A written list of other specialists working with the child

RSCS OVERALL OBJECTIVES:

I. SPIRITUAL

A. To present *the* Gospel to all students

B. To encourage students who have made a valid profession of faith, to live in joyful obedience as our lives are to glorify God (*Eph 2:10, 1 Cor 10:31*) C.

To teach a Biblical worldview; meaning that God is central in all things, and Biblical truths are foundational—being applicable (the filter/grid) for *every* part of daily life.

II. INTELLECTUAL

- A. To challenge students in all areas academically with a supportive, but competitive, learning environment. To develop critical thinking and reasoning in order to understand the "why" behind theology, world systems, and academics.
- B. To teach the knowledge and skills required for future academics and maturity, as well as to prepare good habits aimed at future occupational competence and contributions to society.

III. SOCIAL

- A. To teach students to have a proper respect for and response to authority. (Romans 13)
- B. To train students in acceptable social skills when dealing with others i.e. being prompt, courteous, considerate, cooperative, and to extend grace and forgiveness. (Colossians 3:17)
- C. To teach our American heritage, a love for country, and a respect for other nations/peoples.
- D. To teach about the current problems facing our country and the world, showing students their present civic responsibilities and to prepare them for adult responsibilities as Christian citizens living in our nation (or any nation).

IV. CULTURAL

- A. To help students develop their creative and imaginative skills.
- B. To help children and young people develop an appreciation of the arts. C. To encourage students in understanding common cultural patterns while explaining the Christian's responsibility *within* those settings, both throughout history and today.
- D. To appreciate and understand the good and the bad throughout American history.

V. PHYSICAL

- A. To require at least a minimal degree of physical involvement (participation).
- B. To teach what the Bible says about physical conditioning, and what it means to be good stewards of our bodies as we live for Jesus in all areas.

 (Romans 12:1-2 & 1 Tim 4:8)

Q&A ABOUT THE ENROLLMENT PROCESS:

Thank you for your interest in Risen Son Christian School! We appreciate the confidence and Christian conviction you have expressed by considering our program.

CURRICULUM:

RSCS primarily uses the Bob Jones University curriculum for our elementary. BJU is a Bible based curriculum with content and lessons compounding every year, building on the prior grades' information to progress. BJU material pushes the students to see and understand creation and science more thoroughly while still holding to the truths' of God's Word.

ACCEPTANCE POLICY:

Attendance at Risen Son Christian School is a privilege, not a right. Acceptance will be on the basis of agreement with the Philosophy and Objectives of the school by both the parent(s) and the student. Risen Son Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national, or ethnic origin in admissions or in the administration of any of its policies or programs. (RSCS holds to <u>Biblical definitions</u> of faith, salvation, marriage, and gender as understood by SBC, RSSBC pastor and deacons, and RSCS board and headmaster. See Statement of Faith Article I and following.)

Students forfeit the privilege of attending Risen Son Christian School if they refuse to adhere to the standards and ideals of work and life at RSCS. Any student whose academic and/or conduct record has been, or is, problematic or seriously deficient, may be asked to withdraw, not be allowed to enroll, or not be allowed to re-enroll the following year. These decisions will be made by the school board on a case by case basis.

The heart of this policy is to support the purpose and identify of RSCS primarily as a *Christian educational ministry*. Our budget, resources, and staff limitations do not permit us to operate as an academic or behavioral reform school (though such improvements in students often do occur.) RSCS's verification of each student's acceptable citizenship record of behavior in the home, community, church, and school *must* indicate that RSCS can be *reasonably* sure that a prospective student's behavior record meets and coincides with RSCS standards, so as to offer your student the greatest opportunities for growth and success.

HOW DO I ENROLL MY CHILD AT RSCS?

The process begins by picking up our enrollment packet from the school office. **New** applicants <u>must read the entire handbook and packet</u>. Fill out all registration forms and questionnaires in their entirety, and return them and any other required documents to the school office at 342 Amoretti. Please notify the office with any and all address or phone number changes. A student will not be considered or verified for enrollment until all completed forms and requested documents are turned in. After the required paperwork is completed, the RSCS school board and/or headmaster may interview all new families and students. The school board will determine final eligibility and then make the selections to fill any openings that may be available. Any administrators (to include the headmaster) may be substituted with or for the board if they are unavailable to interview a family.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL BOARD LOOKING FOR?

The RSCS school board looks for a strong commitment from the family to uphold and promote RSCS beliefs and standards. We believe the home, church, and school need to support one another practically and spiritually. When one or more of a child's influences contradicts (or fails to support) the other(s), it is confusing and counterproductive (if not damaging) to the student, staff, and the mission of RSCS. Lastly, the school board is looking for evidence that the prospective student can be successful in our program both academically and behaviorally. RSCS is not equipped with funds, staff, or mission to function as a reform school for students with severe behavioral or academic struggles. Although those issues may be somewhat present in prospective students, with likely improvements being made by the student after attending RSCS, such reforms are not, and cannot be, the primary function or vision of the Risen Son Christian School.

WHAT FORMS AND QUESTIONNAIRES ARE NEEDED TO COMPLETE OUR APPLICATION?

In addition to your signed registration paperwork, we require the following:

- A copy of the last standardized test results, educational records, etc. (if applicable)
- Birth certificates for new Kindergarten students
- Health/immunization records:
 - All students are required to have an up to date copy of all vaccination records OR medical or religious exemption form completed and on hand with RSCS within 30 days of the first day of school
 - o All students are required to have 2 measles shots, & Hepatitis A & B shots on file
- Registration fee (subject to change) based on grade and date of enrollment
- Signed and completed paperwork will be reviewed and an interview *may* be scheduled with parents, student(s), and/or a board member (or other administrator).

We look forward to being an important part of your child's education and a blessing to you and your family.

MANDATORY EVENTS/HELPS:

RSCS is a donation and fundraiser supported school only. As such, we are incredibly dependent on help from parents. Therefore, it is <u>MANDATORY</u> that all parents are involved. This includes: cleaning, helping with lunch and other school needs, and participating in events and fundraisers. <u>If at least one parent does not comply, the board will reassess all scholarships and benefits you may be receiving and/or enrollment for your student(s).</u>

TUITION RATES:

- Material fee: subject to change
- Daycare: Full time spot rate is \$550 a month (11 days or more); Limited part time spot rate is \$300 a month (10 days or less)
- Preschool: 4-5 days a week is \$250 a month and 1-3 days a week is \$200 a month
- Kindergarten will be half days. Tuition is \$250/month (10 months) or \$2,250 in full by the first day of school.
- Elementary Grades 1st 5th: \$325/month (10 months) or \$2,925 paid in full by the first day of school.
- Middle School: \$325/month (10 months) or \$2,925 paid in full by the first day of school.

Multi-Student Discount Available

We offer a discount for families enrolling multiple students. For details and eligibility, please contact us directly.

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE:

- ACE Scholarship of Wyoming
- Scholarship through RSCS
- Brenna Scholarship (Full Scholarship plus books offered by the Rankin Family)

We want to make your child's education as affordable as possible. If you have questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Failure to adhere to the attendance policy can result in the reevaluation and revocation of scholarships.

PAYMENT PLAN OPTIONS:

First tuition payment is due the 15th of August. Monthly tuition is due by the 15th of each month. If paid in full by the first day of school, you will receive a 10% discount per student.

BOOK FEES:

Material fees are nonrefundable after books are ordered, and nontransferable after the first day of school. RSCS does not stockpile books and has no general funds or fundraisers for student's books. All student materials are purchased yearly for every individual student. Any and all refunds will be reviewed and approved by the school board on a case by case basis.

FINANCIAL POLICIES:

- Books are billed and payments due for the upcoming year to help families budget.
- Statements mailed out the 1st of the month with ALL tuition payments due by the

15th of each month. The first month's tuition is due August 15th. This also helps families with financial planning for the year.

- Late payments of 30+ days will incur an immediate re-evaluation of scholarship benefits.
- Only brothers and sisters may be included in the family rate.
- Students will be withheld from class (without advance notice to parents) when payments become one month in arrears without school board approval.
- Your bill must be current before you can register for the following school year.
- We accept the following for payment: Cash or Check only.
 - We are unable to accept POST-DATED checks or credit cards.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Risen Son Christian School 342 AMoretti Thermopolis, WY 82443

OFFICE HOURS:

The school office is open and staffed as often as possible based on staff availability. Payments and paperwork may be dropped in the mail slot if the office is closed. Emergency or special financial arrangements must be made with the school board. It is our policy to charge \$35.00 on all checks returned to us by your bank, or for online payments reversed for any reason. If two checks are returned, the account will be continued on a "cash only basis". Those accounts will be reviewed for possible suspension or special conditions by the board.

TEXTBOOKS & SUPPLIES:

Student's textbooks and workbooks are to be kept orderly and clean as no extra books are guaranteed to be available. Any and all book replacements must be paid for in full in addition to original book fees. Individual supplies such as paper, pencils, and crayons are not directly furnished by the school. Teachers will provide a supplies list att the beginning of the year and periodically throughout the year as, or if needed. Supply donations are always welcome to help families prepare and last the year!

OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

WHAT ARE THE HOURS SCHOOL IS IN SESSION?

School hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:15 am to 3:15 pm and Friday 8:15 am to 11:30 am. Preschool and Kindergarten end at 11:30 am Monday-Friday. Non-staff related students are **not** allowed to arrive earlier than 7:45 am. Students will remain outside until morning prayer and flag raising—weather permitting. Any student arriving to class at or after 8:20 am is considered to be tardy.

WHAT CURRICULUM(S) DOES RSCS USE?

RSCS uses the *Bob Jones University* curriculums. Some supplemental curriculum, videos, and additional teaching aides may be used to help students learn or emphasize a topic at the teacher's discretion with approval from the headmaster.

DOES RSCS REQUIRE A UNIFORM AND HAVE CLOTHING RESTRICTIONS?

Yes. We have a dress code for all grades. But first, let us share with you our hearts and motives behind the dress codes and grooming standards. We support the Biblical 'principle' in matters of modest dress, hair styles, and good grooming. Such things coincide with basic rules of manners and morals. We desire to be good stewards of what God has given and do all things to the Glory of God, and so use every part of life to encourage the students to think and act as followers of Christ. Dressing uniformly is conducive to good study habits and limits distraction in the classroom. Abnormal styles, tattoos (real or fake), clothing fads, and certain hairstyles etc., are all designed to call attention to the wearer. This is the opposite of self-sacrifice and a servant minded atmosphere. We are *not* saying that such things are always wrong or sinful, nor are we making a moral judgment on your family or child's style or preferences. It's simply that some styles and clothes don't have a reasonably proper place in a private school setting. The world and secular society are all about "ME" and what "I want", but the heart of Jesus was to give, serve, put others first, and honor God the Father. With that said...it is commonly understood that one's personal appearance is evidence of self evaluation and self-respect. We believe, and have seen, that dress codes do: promote unity, school pride, and help remove the student's temptations for unhealthy and self-centered comparisons. Not to mention, it removes the difficulty for the teachers of making a judgment call on appropriate clothes or trying to be consistent with other teachers and classrooms, thus, allowing us to focus on what is most important! Your child's growth in Christ and academics! A uniform promotes professionalism in preparation for adulthood.

DRESS CODE:

All students must wear a school **polo** shirt (long or short sleeve) **daily** with pants of approved colors: **black**, **brown**, **khaki**, **navy blue**, **or gray**. Black jeans are allowed, but **NO blue jeans or warm-up pants** are authorized unless otherwise stated for special events. RSCS Friday Shirts & jeans are allowed on Friday's only.

• Boys:

- Boys may wear shorts of approved solid colors, below finger-tip lengths
- Boys may NOT wear piercings of any kinds to school or events

• Girls:

- Girls may wear skorts, pants, or capris in approved solid colors. Skorts and leggings must be of approved <u>solid</u> colors. Skorts must be past the finger-tips in length.
- Girls are <u>NOT</u> allowed to wear make-up during school hours or to school events such as concerts or field trips.

All Students:

- Tattoos (real or fake), body art, eccentric piercings are not allowed.
- Hair must be kept neat in appearance and out of the student's face and

eyes

• <u>Students should wear weather appropriate footwear and expect to be outside in temperatures above 20° F.</u>

WHAT IS YOUR POLICY REGARDING PHONES, ELECTRONICS, & TECHNOLOGY?

Students are NOT allowed to bring cell phones or electronic devices such as the PSP, Game Boy, iPads, iPods, MP3s, tablets, smart watches, or PDA's to RSCS. Teachers have access to phones for emergencies, and will provide their students' parent(s) with their most appropriate contact number. Students will not be allowed to use the school/teacher phones except in cases of emergency. Please communicate primarily through your child's teacher when possible.

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN THE SCHOOL CLOSES FOR BAD WEATHER?

RSCS reserves the right to decide our bad weather days. But, for the most part, when the public schools are closed for the weather, RSCS usually closes as well. However, we will *rarely* follow the 2 hour delays, as RSCS does not use buses. School **closure** announcements will be made via the Remind app. Please check the Remind app and our Facebook page before contacting your child's teacher. Teachers will make their best effort to contact you with any school delay and closure updates.

Remind App Class Code: @risenso

WHAT PROGRAMS OR ELECTIVES ARE OFFERED?

- Chapel: Wednesdays each week throughout the school year for all students
- Art: Kindergarten and up will have art class twice a week throughout the school year if a teacher is available
- Computers/Typing: At least once a week at teacher's discretion based on students' needs
- Some electives may not be available from year to year depending on need, funds raised, and volunteers.

GRADES & PARENT-TEACHER MEETINGS:

Parent-Teacher Meetings will be held in the student's classroom at the end of the first and third guarters. At least one parent *needs* to attend all parent-teacher meetings.

CHILDREN ARE NOT TO ATTEND During the PTM, the teacher will give report cards to the parents. If a parent is unable to come to the conference, a convenient time will be scheduled between teacher and parent.

"D" & "F" letters will be mailed out halfway into the grading period each quarter to make parents aware of academic struggles. (It is the responsibility of the parents and students to be aware of current grades and seek academic help when needed.)

K5, ELEMENTARY, & SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADING SCALE AND LETTER GRADE:

98-100% = A+ 93-97% = A 90-92% = A

87-89% = B+ 83-86% = B 80-82% = B

77-79% = C+73-76% = C 70-72% = C

67-69% = D+60-66% = D 0-59% = F

Art, music, P.E., computers and all elective classes use the following Grading System: 85-100% = "S" Satisfactory, 75-84% = "N" Needs Improvement, 0-74% = "U" Unsatisfactory

HOMEWORK:

Homework is not only an integral part of the school program, but a required part of the curriculum to help students **advance** in their studies. Therefore, each student is required to complete homework assignments on time. Homework is designed and given...

- **1. For reinforcement:** We believe that most students require adequate review to *master* material taught in class, and that it is essential to the educational process.
- **2. For self-discipline:** Repetition helps to perfect details for memorization, and recall while also stressing dedication, responsibility, and taking pride in one's work
- 3. For remedial activity: As instruction progresses, various weak points with a student's grasp of a subject becomes evident. Homework helps to overcome such difficulties.
- **4. For special projects:** Book reports, compositions, special research assignments and projects are examples. We do request parent's full cooperation in seeing that the assignments are completed. Incomplete or repeatedly late assignments/homework *will* result in discipline or loss of privileges.

ABSENCES:

Risen Son Christian School appreciates the cooperation of the parents in maintaining consistent, daily attendance in school. We recognize that the school does not have the authority to tell parents when and for what reasons they may take their children out of school. At the same time, parents must understand that without consistent attendance a child is deprived of the essential educational building blocks that lead to success in academics, Christian life, and society. Whenever a child is absent, extra burdens are placed on the teacher to identify, prepare, and administer missed class work, assess the

impact of missed work and help the child get caught up. Additionally, we ask parental cooperation with the following procedural items:

- If an absence is planned by the parents ahead of time, <u>please</u> call and let the teacher/headmaster know so that we can plan accordingly.
- Following an unplanned absence, such as a sickness or family emergency, the student must present the teacher with a signed note from parent or guardian; or, the parent/guardian must call the teacher prior to 8:30 am on the day of the absence giving the reason for the absence.
- Parents or legal guardians leaving their student(s) under another adult's supervision while they are out of town MUST inform the teacher who is picking up their child <u>prior</u> to departure.

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

Students who are absent because of planned family activities, personal illness, or death in the immediate family (or emergencies of similar gravity) will receive an "excused" absence and may have full privileges upon returning to school. In general, these absences will be for reasons over which the student and/or parents have no control. Students who are absent 30+ days without excused extenuating circumstances cannot pass the school year.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

This is an absence from school with the knowledge of the parent but *without* having made arrangements with the school in advance of the absence, or not calling-in the day a child is sick etc. If parents/guardians allow a student to stay home or "skip" for no legitimate reason, it will be considered unexcused. The teacher will be under no obligation to assist the student with make-up work. Furthermore, *it is the responsibility of the parent, not* the teacher to seek tutoring and replacement of the knowledge opportunities lost by the student. Excessive unexcused absences may result in dismissal from school. **Students who are absent 30+ days without excused extenuating circumstances** *cannot* pass the school year.

ACCUMULATED ABSENCES:

Any absence involving ten consecutive days in any one semester must have a written statement from a doctor to qualify for an excused absence, or have been subject to other major circumstances beyond their control. If a student is absent for as many as fifteen days in any one semester, his/her record will be reviewed as to whether or not credit will be given for that semester, to include current scholarships. No refunds on tuition are made due to excessive absence. Students who are absent 30+ days without excused extenuating circumstances cannot pass the school year.

PRE-EXCUSED ABSENCES:

If a student knows he/she is going to be absent from classes, he/she must bring a written statement from home stating the reason for the absence. **The note must be turned in to the teacher.** The notification of an absence should be presented far enough in advance of the planned absence so that all make-up work can be

completed/planned prior to the absence. Students who are absent 30+ days without excused extenuating circumstances cannot pass the school year.

MAKE-UP WORK:

A student who is granted an excused absence will be responsible to arrange with teachers to make up his/her work. Students will be given the total number of days to turn in assignments equal to the number of days absent plus one. **Grades are closed at the end of each quarter.** For this reason, tests and projects required must be turned in prior to the student's absence if the absence is at the end of the quarter unless special conditions are made by the teacher or administrator.

TRUANCY (SKIPPING SCHOOL):

Any student absence *without* the knowledge or permission of the parents, and which does not meet the absence definitions outlined above, will be subject to disciplinary action or loss of privileges. Students who are absent 30+ days without excused extenuating circumstances *cannot* pass the school year.

TARDINESS:

If a student arrives to class after 8:20 am, it will be recorded as tardy. Every three (3) unexcused tardies will result in an unexcused absence. If a student comes to school after 11:00 am, it will be recorded as a half day's absence. Excused tardies will be subject to the same qualifiers as excused absences and require a signed note or phone call from a parent or guardian. All other tardiness will be unexcused unless prior arrangements have been made with your child's teacher.

WITHDRAWALS:

Any and all voluntary withdrawals (by parent decision) must be communicated to and through the school board. Upon exit from RSCS, parents may receive an "exit survey" to help RSCS staff better assess themselves and the ministry that is provided here.

ILLNESS:

For the welfare of your child and others in the school, children who are ill MUST remain at home. RSCS cannot allow attendance of a child who has any of the illnesses/symptoms of illness specified below or other obvious or serious medical issues until symptoms clear, or with written permission from a physician:

- Diarrhea, when it is:
 - Due to disease spread by fecal contamination as determined by a physician;
 - Occurring more than once in a few hour period or accompanied by evidence of dehydration or fluid loss, identified by sunken eyes or poor skin elasticity;
 - Accompanied by abnormal stools with blood or mucous;
 - Accompanied by recent history of poor fluid intake or unusual drowsiness;
 - Continued beyond four (4) days unless a physician provides written documentation that it is safe to readmit the child for school.

- Severe pain or physical discomfort;
- Two (2) or more episodes of acute vomiting within a twenty-four (24) hour period;
- Difficulty or rapid breathing;
- Yellowing eyes or skin;
- Sore throat prohibiting eating and drinking, or with a fever over 101° F +/depending on thermometer;
- Severe or persistent coughing;
- Current untreated head lice or nits;
- Untreated scabies:
- Children suspected of being in contagious stages of chickenpox, hepatitis A, pertussis (whooping cough), pink eye, measles, mumps, rubella or diphtheria; or skin rashes lasting more than one (1) day or that cover a large percentage of the body;
- Swollen joints or visibly enlarged lymph nodes;
- Elevated Oral/Tympanic temperature of 101° F +; Rectal = 100-102° F + Forehead = 99-100° F
- Blood in urine:
- Obvious and abnormal lethargy or skin color;
- RSCS will not require a medical device to be mandatory for attendance.
- Vaccines, while highly recommended, are not a requirement for students or Parents/Guardians to attend class. However, we do need to have any exemption forms on file.

Other conditions may be determined by a health consultant/provider on an individual basis. Students may only return once they are able to participate in normal daily activities, including outdoor recess. **Students may NOT self-medicate or receive prescribed medications while at RSCS without a valid physician's prescription in the student's name.** Further, all medications *must* be turned over along with instructions to the teacher from the parent and/or physician with how/when such medications are to be administered.

DISCIPLINE-PARENTS, WE NEED YOU!:

The Bible clearly explains that *all* humanity is born with a rebellious (sin) nature. Everyone wants to be autonomous, or, their own "god". (See Statement of Faith Article VI). This includes children! We are not surprised when people/children sin, or rebel, as we understand the fallen nature of all mankind, but we cannot and will not call it okay, cute, good, innocent, or excuse it on the basis of age. Every act of rebellion and disobedience is to be corrected patiently, lovingly, and according to God's Word, whether a person is 2 or 77 years old. *Please* do not undermine the blessing and tutor of good discipline (*Hebrews 12:3-11*) by excusing disrespectful behaviors or attitudes from children, nor undermine the staff by excusing bad behavior behind teachers' backs. We are on one team! Bring any questions or concerns you may have to your teacher directly, and remember the teacher's love for your child along with our mission and the big picture of RSCS, not just the circumstances of the infraction or discipline given.

BASIC BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS:

IMMEDIATE OBEDIENCE:

Respond positively to any instructions given by those in authority.

"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you." - Hebrews 13:17 ESV

"Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man." -Ephesians 6:5-7 ESV

HONOR AUTHORITY:

Give Honor to all those in authority in both attitude and actions.

"Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world." —Philippians 2:14-15 ESV

"Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment." –Romans 13:1-2 ESV

ABSOLUTE HONESTY:

Never lie, deceive, mislead, or fail to tell the truth.

"Lying lips are an abomination of the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight." -Proverbs 12:22

ESB "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all." -Romans

12:17 ESV

CHRIST-LIKE BEHAVIOR:

Live according to Biblical principles and values in all attitudes and actions.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." –Ephesians 2:10 ESV

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children." – Ephesians 5:1 ESV

DEPENDABILITY:

Keep your word and accept the necessary responsibilities or consequences.

"If a man vows a vow to the Lord, or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth." -Numbers 30:2 ESV

"Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil." -Matthew 5:37 ESV

Risen Son Christian School expects **full** cooperation from **both students and parents** in the education of the student. We believe that discipline is necessary for the welfare of the student and a healthy school environment. Each teacher is given **some** liberty in making and enforcing classroom regulations to create what he/she feels in accordance with **Biblical** Christian principles, their teaching style, discipline as set forth in the Scriptures, and in submission to school policy.

Risen Son Christian School supports the Biblical concept of corporal discipline. However, NO staff member will administer corporal discipline. If a student does not respond to the discipline tools used at RSCS, the parents are contacted to

administer discipline they deem (legally) necessary to correct the student's behavior. If the parents are unsuccessful in their attempts, the student will be sent home for the day/event/week, and possibly reviewed by the board for expulsion from RSCS. At any time, the school feels that cooperation from the parents and/or student is lacking, or in unresolved conflict with RSCS, the parents may be asked to withdraw their child if interventions are unsuccessful. If the behavior of a student indicates a persistently uncooperative or rebellious spirit, he/she may be required to withdraw at the school board's discretion.

Preschool through 2nd Grade classrooms will use a color system (green, yellow, and red) to administer discipline for student's actions. All students will begin each day "in the green", this identifies the good behavior that is expected in our classrooms. If a student fails to display the proper respect for their teacher, the classroom, its contents, or other students, teachers can proceed to move the student to yellow. The criteria for moving to yellow will be at the teacher's discretion, but within the school standards. Should a student commit an offense against the teacher, classroom, property, or others that requires stronger discipline, or *continues* the inappropriate or defiant behavior after moving to yellow, that student will move to red (at teacher discretion). Moving to red will result in a phone call to a parent or guardian and the student will have to leave school for the remainder of the school day. Grades preschool through 2nd will use classroom and age specific consequences for yellow and red offenses at the teacher's discretion. However, receiving a yellow will require the parents to visit with the teacher face to face on the day of the offense or as soon as is reasonable.

3rd grade students and up who receive a yellow card will receive appropriate discipline as determined by the teacher and have a conference with the headmaster. If a student receives a red card, a parent will be called and the student will have to leave school for the remainder of the school day. If a student receives 2 red cards in a five day period, a parent will be called and the student will leave school for the remainder of the school day and the next full day of school. All missed work must be completed and returned on the day the student returns to school. Any further issues will be discussed and handled by the school board.

SUSPENSION/EXPULSION POLICY:

Occasionally a situation may arise when a child is having difficulty adjusting to the day to day life in child care. This can lead to having a child removed from the facility. Our facility works diligently to avoid these circumstances. However, if a situation should arise with your child, here is the procedure our facility will follow.

In order to prevent a suspension/expulsion from happening, our staff is committed to the following:

- Creating a positive environment to nurture self expression and opportune learning.
- Modeling positive behaviors to ensure children are treated with respect and kindness.
- Be consistent and clear with expectations and rules of the classroom.
- Use redirection and positive guidance and praise appropriate behaviors.

If a child is having a difficult time maintaining appropriate behaviors in the classroom the following steps will be taken:

- An account of the child and staff's actions will be documented and shared with the parent/guardian.
- Parent/Guardian will be notified of disruptive behaviors and a conference will be scheduled to discuss improving behaviors.
- Staff and parent(s)/guardian(s) will develop a plan of improvement to help improve child's behaviors.

If there is no improvement in the child's behavior after these steps have been taken:

- Parent/guardian will be advised in writing about the parent or child's behavior warranting an expulsion.
- Length of expulsion will be provided.
- Expected behavior changes required in order for the child to return to the facility will be discussed, documented, and shared with parent/guardian.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

SAFETY PROCEDURES FOR TRANSPORTATION OF CHILDREN:

- 1. Vehicles used to transport children shall be maintained in safe condition and comply with applicable motor vehicle laws.
- 2. Operators of vehicles used to transport children shall have the appropriate type of driver's license and be at least 18 years of age.
- 3. The number of persons in a vehicle used to transport children shall not exceed the manufacturer's recommended capacity nor the number of seat belts installed when the vehicle was manufactured.
- 4. Each child who is a passenger shall be properly secured in a child safety restraint system or seat belt as required by law. The child safety restraint system shall conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards for child restraint systems.
- 5. When children are taken off site, there shall be:
 - a. A first aid kit;
 - b. Emergency medical release forms on all children;
 - c. A current and updated attendance record (which documents periodic counts of children to include when getting on and off the mode of transportation);
 - d. Direct staff supervision at all times, with a written plan for supervision maintenance at all times; and
 - e. Physical boundaries identified for children.
- 6. Staff Child ratios must be maintained at all times.
- 7. Children will not be left unattended in the vehicle or at the site of care.
- 8. Guns. ammunition, alcohol or illegal substances, or hazardous materials shall not be transported in a vehicle transporting children.

SPECIFIC RSCS REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES:

RESTRICTION ON CHILD PICK UP:

RSCS will endeavor to release your child ONLY to you and those persons listed on the enrollment sheet, or otherwise authorized by you. Identification **will be checked** if the pick-up person is unknown to the staff. RSCS will maintain custody/protection of students until the parent/guardians are contacted if a suspicious, unknown, or unauthorized person attempts to pick-up your child.

COURT ORDERED CUSTODY:

Protection of students is an absolute top priority. RSCS *will only* honor signed and verified court orders *issued in the state of Wyoming* regarding all child custody issues in cases regarding separated, divorced, legal guardian, temporary custody, or step parents. All such situations need to be discussed with the headmaster and a copy of court orders should be in our files. We will **NOT** <u>enforce</u> "verbal agreements" made between parents/guardians, nor will we take sides in disagreements that have not been resolved in court. By law, RSCS cannot deny a biological parent their right to pick-up or have contact with their child without a valid court order, or an obvious, immanent safety issue.

BIBLE:

Bible study is recognized as the fundamental cornerstone of this school and is a required subject. It augments the study of all scholastic subjects. Without a basic knowledge of Biblical truth, a student cannot be considered "educated". The Bible gives us the only correct understanding of creation, this life, and the *only hope* for the life to come. No other book can so enrich the hearts, minds, and souls of mankind as "The Book of Books". Knowledge of the Bible is one of the greatest educational assets any human can have, and creates moral and spiritual values *resulting* from the study. Character development is one of the most important goals of our school. No other course offered in the school affords the great opportunities for laying the foundation of a Christ filled life, leading to genuine Christian character.

CHAPEL:

Chapel services are held every Wednesday and are compulsory for all students and staff. Speakers will include the Headmaster, Pastor, RSCS staff and possible guest speakers.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

We strongly believe and teach that being active in a local body of like-minded believers

is essential to a Christian's health and is expected and taught in the scriptures for all followers of Jesus. We will be encouraging all students to routinely attend and be involved in weekly church services. We also *highly* recommend that parents and family attend church services together routinely, reinforcing our mission statement to *come alongside the parents/family* and to teach students in Christ, in both faith and practice. The truths and principles taught at RSCS are difficult to teach and enforce if they are not supported and encouraged in the home environment. Thank you for your support!! (Proverbs 27:17, 1 Corinthians 12:4-31, Galatians 6:1-2, Hebrews 10:25)

LUNCHROOM:

All students must bring a packed lunch Monday-Thursday. Microwaveable meals cannot have more than a 3 minute cook time. Planning for allergies and special diets is the responsibility of the parents. But, please make your child's teacher(s) aware of important allergies/medical issues (start/end dates for hot lunch may vary year to year depending on schedules, supplies, & funds). RSCS offers optional hot lunches when available, depending on schedules, supplies, & funds. The cost of meals will be communicated if the hot lunch program is an option. If you choose not to participate in the hot lunch program when available, students must bring a packed lunch daily.

PLAYGROUND/RECESS:

Outside recess is a part of our daily activities! We will be outside when the temperature is 20° Fahrenheit and above if the weather isn't inclement or extreme. On cold or severe weather days, recess will be held in the gym. Alternative recess options (indoor activities) may or may not be available depending on staff. *All students are required to be dressed appropriately for the weather daily.* All clothing or personal belongings need to be marked with sufficient identifications. (RSCS is *NOT* responsible for lost or stolen items). Students MUST stay with their class unless a physician's note is provided to the teacher stating otherwise. The playground is off limits to non-students when school is in session unless they receive permission from the headmaster, pastor, or are participating in other ministries. All RSCS students must be under adult/staff supervision on the playground at all times during school hours.

LOST AND FOUND:

Although RSCS is not responsible for lost and found articles, every possible effort will be made to help you locate lost or misplaced items! Coats, gloves, boots, caps, etc., need to be clearly marked for identification. Any lost or unmarked items that are found will be placed in the little closet next to the pastor's office. If a lost item isn't immediately needed for health/warmth, students may be required to "earn it back" with a task, loss of privilege(s), or time consequence to help reinforce their need for responsibility. (Lost and found items will be disposed of at the end of each quarter or donated to Messiah's Mall). Any lost, unmarked, or unclaimed school uniforms will be placed in school storage and re-issued as necessary or needed.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY:

Since we are guests, and a ministry of the Risen Son Southern Baptist Church, students and staff must take extra care not to damage or abuse the building or property. All RSSBC facilities will be appreciated and respected! Students who negligently or deliberately deface or destroy school or church property will be eligible for suspension, expulsion, and liable for

restitution.

WEAPONS:

There are no firearms, ammunition, knives, archery equipment, explosives, or any type of weapon allowed on the premises.

STATEMENT OF FAITH:

I. THE WORD OF GOD

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it is complete, cannot be added to, subtracted from, and it has *supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct*. This includes issues of doctrine, belief, liturgy, gender, marriage, sexuality, and all similar or related matters. The Risen Son SBC Pastor & deacons along with the School board and Headmaster have authority in this context regarding interpretation, teaching, and expected standards of behavior. (1 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21, Mark 13:31, John 8:31-32, John 20:31, and Acts 20:32, Genesis 2:18-25 & 5:2, Matt 19:2- 6, Eph 5:21-33, Romans 1:24-32, 1Cor 5:9-11, 1 Tim 1:8-11, and Revelation 22:18-21).

II. THE TRINITY

We believe that there is <u>ONE</u> living and true God, eternally existing in three persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption. (Genesis 1:1& 26, John 1:1-3, Matthew 28:19, John 4:24, Romans 1:19-20, and Ephesians 4:5-6).

III. GOD THE FATHER

We believe in the deity of God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He infallibly foreknows all that shall come to pass, that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer according to his will and purposes, and that He saves mankind from sin and death if they come to Him through Jesus Christ.

(Luke 10:21-22, Matthew 23:9, John 3:16 & 6:27, Romans 1:7, 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 2:25-6, 1 Peter 1:3, John 14:6, Acts 4:12, and Revelation 1:6).

IV. JESUS CHRIST

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We Believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual (unassisted) intercession for His people and personal visible return to earth. (Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:26, John 1:1 & 20:28, Romans 9:5 & 8:46, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:21-23, John 20:30-31, Matthew 20:28, Ephesians 1:4, Acts 1:11, Romans 5:6-8 & 6:9-10, Hebrews 7:25 & 9:28, and 1 Timothy 3:16).

V. THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the deity of the Holy Spirit, sent by the Father and Son, in the name of Jesus Christ to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide. (John 14:16-17, 26 & 15:26-27, John 16:9-14, Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 3:16 & 6:19, and Galatians 5:22-26).

VI. REGENERATION

We believe that man was created by God in His own image; that man sinned (rebelled) and thereby incurred physical, spiritual, and eternal death- defined as separation from

God; as a consequence, **all** human beings are conceived in sin, born with a sinful nature and are sinners by choice and therefore under condemnation. We believe that those who trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, leading to repentance and forsaking of sin, are regenerated by the Holy Spirit and become new creatures, delivered from condemnation, and receive eternal life. (Genesis 1:26, 5:2, & and 3, Genesis 2:17 & 3:19, Ecclesiastes 2:11, John 3:14, 5:24, John 5:30, 7:13, 8:12, 10:26, Romans 9:22, 2 Thessalonians 1:9, Revelation 19:3 & 20, 20:10, 14, 15, & 21:18, Psalm 51:7, Jeremiah 17:9, James 1:14, Romans 3:19 & 5:19, Proverbs 28:13, 1 John 1:9, John 3:16, John 1:13, 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Romans 8:1).

VII. THE CHURCH

We believe in the universal church that functions as a <u>spiritual</u> living (analogous) body, of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are equal members. We believe in the *local church*, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized with a *credible* profession of faith, that associate for worship, work, and fellowship under the leadership of a local pastor and/or elder board. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world. No one person on earth, or in any denomination, solely represents "the church" or is the head other than Jesus Christ Himself. Membership in a local church, though commanded in Scripture, does not change a person's righteousness or improve their standing or acceptance with God. (*Ephesians 2:19-22, Acts 1:8, Ephesians' 5:19-21, Acts 2:42 and Hebrews 10:23-25, 1 Timothy 2:5, Matthew 23:9*).

VIII. CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

We believe that all Christians should strive to <u>live for the glory of God and the well-being of our fellow man</u>; that our conduct aims to be blameless before the world; that we should be faithful stewards of our possessions; and that we should seek to realize (grow into) for ourselves and others that the **full** stature of maturity in Christ as we constantly mature as Christians. (1 Corinthians 10:31, Romans 12:1-3, Hebrews 12:1-2, John 14:15 & 23-24, 1 John 2:3-6, 2 Corinthians 9:6-9, 1 Corinthians 4:2 and Colossians 1:9-10).

IX. THE ORDINANCES

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church; believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper (Communion). We believe that Christian baptism is the literal immersion of the believer under water in the name of the only triune God in a personal and public response to the Gospel. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for the commemoration of His death on the Cross. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. While these ordinances do not ever bestow salvation or increase a believer's righteousness or acceptance before God, they do reflect a heart of desire of the believer for obedience to our Savior and King. (Matthew 28:18-20, Romans 6:3-5, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

X. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY & CHURCH COOPERATION Under the Authority of Jesus Christ, we believe in the autonomy of the local Church, and are still free to participate and partner with other local, national, and international church bodies and ministries of like-minded faith and doctrine. A Personal believer's liberty is referenced back to section VIII under Christian Conduct. (1 Timothy 2:5, Romans 14:7-9 and 12).

XI. THE LAST THINGS

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal bliss of the righteous in Christ and the endless suffering of the

Wicked. (Matthew 16:27, Mark 14:62, John 14:3, Acts 1:11 Philippians 3:20, 1 Thessalonians 4:15, 2 Timothy 4:1, Titus 2:13, 1 Corinthians 4:5, 1 Corinthians 15, 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10, and Revelation 20:4-6 & 11-15).