



**AGATHOS**  

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**CLASSICAL SCHOOL**

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***Student/Parent  
Handbook***

**2022-2023**



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# I. AN INTRODUCTION TO AGATHOS CLASSICAL SCHOOL

The Lord has been faithful to uphold and establish this work. Great efforts by many people have aided in the founding of Agathos, but ultimately all glory and honor must be given to Christ whose grace will uphold Agathos Classical School.

## ***Our Name:***

Agathos is a Greek word meaning good, that which is beneficial and worth passing on to others.

## ***Our Mission Statement:***

Using the tools of classical education, Agathos Classical School assists Christian parents in teaching and training their children to the glory of God.

## ***Our Logo:***

Each point of the cross signifies God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. When the four ends are multiplied the total is twelve. This is a reminder of the original disciples and how we are called to be disciples as well. On the cross is the Christian warrior's shield of faith representing the continual relationship with God, who provides strength for his Agathos Warriors.

The color is gold and blue. Gold is pure, beautiful, and valuable—a precious gift befitting a king. Just as the wise men presented gold to the Christ Child, we are called in Romans 12:1 to present ourselves “a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God...”. Blue is the color of his royal nature. When our children wear this insignia let us use it as a tool to continue to teach them of God's gift of His Son on the cross and what our response to that gift should be.

## ***Our Motto:***

“Soli Deo Gloria” is Latin for “To the glory of God alone.”



## **II. STATEMENTS**

### ***Statement of Faith***

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, authoritative Word of God. (II Tim. 3:16)
2. We believe that there is one God, creator of all things, who is eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Deut. 6:4; Gen. 1:1; I John 5:7)
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. (John 10:30; Matt. 1:18; Heb. 4:15; John 10:32; Rom. 3:25; Matt. 28:6; Rom. 8:34; Luke 21:27)
4. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful men, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely necessary. (John 3:3-8)
5. We believe salvation to be a gift of God, attained by grace through faith, apart from any works we may offer. (Eph. 2:8-9)
6. We believe that faith without works is dead. (James 2:17)
7. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose power the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. (Gal. 5:16)
8. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: they that are saved to the resurrection of eternal life and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal condemnation. (I Thess. 4:16,17; II Thess. 1:9)
9. We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (John 17:20-23)

These statements form the foundation of beliefs upon which Agathos Classical School has been established. The substance of these statements is considered the primary doctrine of Agathos. When other types of doctrine or issues arise, they will be referred to the family and local churches for final authority.

## ***Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality***

*Adopted by the Agathos Classical School Board of Trustees*

*June 3, 2019*

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Agathos Classical School.

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary sexes together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27.) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen. 2:18-25.) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4.) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10.)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11.)

## *Vision Statement*

That Agathos Classical School will implement a classical approach to education founded on a Christian worldview.

That Agathos will prepare students for a lifetime of learning by equipping them with the basic tools of learning. At the completion of their education at Agathos, we desire our graduates to be young men and women who possess the classical tools that enable them to acquire the facts (grammar), reason clearly (logic), communicate effectively and persuasively (rhetoric), and live life to the glory of God alone (Soli Deo Gloria). They will know *how* to think rather than simply what to think. By God's grace, the educational environment will develop young people who will possess a love of learning, be obedient to the Word of God, and thus serve Him with distinction in society. Our vision is to further the kingdom of God through our students and graduates now and in the future in ways that we cannot imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)

That Agathos students will strive for excellence in all endeavors and achieve to the fullest their intellectual, spiritual, and physical potential. Agathos will seek and emphasize curricula that conform to the school's educational philosophy and meet, exceeds, or sets new standards for academic excellence. Agathos will encourage the full development of the student; that those gifted by God with intellectual talents will be continually challenged; that those gifted with musical, artistic, or other creative abilities will be encouraged and nurtured in those gifts; that those gifted with physical abilities will have opportunity to use and refine them; that our students will "know, love, and practice that which is true, good, and beautiful."

That Agathos will encourage every student to come to a saving knowledge of Christ and to grow in the grace and knowledge of God through Jesus Christ. (John 17:3; 2 Peter 3:18) We will encourage growth in godly character in the students so that they may become mature Christians, equipped to be faithful servants of the Lord in their calling. We desire to see our students develop Christ-like humility and yet be capable of sound, bold, and eloquent apologies. (Ephesians 4:29) We desire to have students that fully possess knowledge, understanding, and wisdom, recognizing the wisdom of man as foolishness before God. (Romans 12:2)

That the faculty, staff, and Board of Trustees of Agathos will seek to reflect the character of Christ in their attitudes and behaviors, and thus provide an example of godliness to the students. Their lives should be a clear model of the biblical Christian life.

That parental involvement will saturate every aspect of Agathos.

That an Agathos graduate will manifest the following:

*Ephesians 4:14-15 “so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.” ESV*

*Galatians 5:22-23a “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” ESV*

*Philippians 4:8 “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” ESV*

*2 Corinthians 10:5 “We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God and take every thought captive to obey Christ.” ESV*

*Colossians 4:6 “Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.” ESV*

Our vision is to function as a Pre-K through 12th grade classical and Christian school with a full complement of academic, extracurricular, and athletic programs. It is our vision that in the end our students, parents, faculty, staff, and board of trustees will be looked upon and each hears, *“Well done, good and faithful servant!”* (Matt 25:23) ESV

***Soli Deo Gloria!***

### **III. EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY**

The educational approach of Agathos Classical School recognizes that an excellent education never takes place in a moral or philosophical vacuum. It is founded upon disciplined, eager attention to learning; that this discipline originates both internally and externally and rests upon the development of the student's moral character; and that this moral character can only be developed through a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. In support of parents' God-given responsibility for educating their children, Agathos Classical School seeks to:

1. Provide a clear and consistent model of Christian life through its staff and board members. (Matthew 22: 37-40)
2. Encourage and assist every student in the development of a relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28:18-20)
3. Present all subjects from a biblical world and life view as parts of an integrated whole with the Scripture at the center. (II Timothy 3:16-17)
4. Provide students a rigorous, classical education, in which grammar (the fundamental facts or particulars of each subject), logic (understanding of the ordered relationship of these particulars), and rhetoric (the effective and persuasive expression in speech and writing of the ideas within a subject) are emphasized in all subject areas. We believe this parallels, in essence, the scriptural call to knowledge, understanding (discernment), and wisdom. (Proverbs 2:6; Exodus 35:31; Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 15:2)
5. Guide all students to develop wisdom, discernment, and a love for learning. Children will be taught how to learn and how to express what they have learned; how to think rather than simply what to think.
6. Teach our students to recognize the truth, goodness, beauty, and interrelatedness of all of God's creation. (Genesis 1:31; Exodus 34:6; Philippians 4:8)

7. Partner with parents in fulfilling the biblical command to educate their children, believing the school to be an extension of instruction that begins and is rooted in the Christian home. The primary responsibility for the education of the child rests on the parents and as such, parents will be expected to “teach them diligently” in subject studies, character development, spiritual maturity, and all areas of biblically based child development. (Ephesians 6:4; Deuteronomy 6:4-9)
8. Provide an orderly, disciplined, and safe atmosphere conducive to attaining these goals.

### ***Student/Family Service Philosophy***

Students and their families, along with other members of the school community are responsible for maintaining and protecting the campus environment. They are expected to lend a hand toward the physical upkeep of the school. This includes cleaning of classrooms and necessary grounds maintenance. The students’ pride in the school, personal satisfaction, and responsibility for a job well done are the ultimate goals of the service program.

## **IV. PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION**

### ***Parental Involvement and Communication***

*“Fathers do not provoke your children to anger but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” Eph. 6:4 ESV*

The family is of primary importance at Agathos since it is the most important human institution ordained by God. No other institution is given the high calling of bringing forth and raising up children. Therefore, Agathos will continually seek ways to constructively involve the parents, grandparents, and siblings of our students in the school’s regular and special programs.

### ***Parent Involvement***

As support and extension of the family unit, Agathos considers the family to be of first importance to a child. God, through His Word, the Bible, indicates that the family is the most important human institution He designed. Agathos strives to support the family and respects parental authority and responsibility in all it does. The educational philosophy of Agathos supports parents as being ultimately responsible for the education of their children. Therefore, Agathos strongly encourages parent, grandparent, and sibling involvement in the school. Below are examples of ways you can become involved at Agathos:

1. Parents are encouraged to visit the school or classroom. Visits to the classroom should be arranged with the classroom teacher.
2. Parents can also provide assistance within the classroom. Arrangements for this should be made with the classroom teacher.
3. Parents can act as chaperones on field trips and other outings.
4. With permission and arrangements with the teacher, present your vocation to the class or invite them to your place of business.
5. Share your experience, trips, or vacations as they may relate to an area of study in a class.
6. Help host class parties in the classroom.
7. Attend all parent-teacher conferences. Informal conferences may be held anytime at the parent’s or teacher’s request.
8. Closely monitor and praise your child’s progress by regularly checking our online student information system and by reading all teacher notes and papers sent home.

9. Keep up to date on school events by regularly checking the school's calendar posted under the about tab of our website.
10. Serve on one of the school's committees; come to APC meetings.
11. Participate in fundraising activities and school improvements.
12. Invite a teacher or staff member for dinner and fellowship.
13. Parents who wish to visit their child during lunchtime are welcome. Arrangements with the classroom teacher should be made in advance.

### ***Parent-Teacher Conferences***

A mandatory conference (for PreK-6<sup>th</sup>) will be scheduled with each student's teacher/teachers during the week before the first day of the new school year. Parents or teachers may request additional conferences during the year. If a problem or question regarding a student does arise, parents or teachers shall address those with each other first. If it becomes necessary, concerns can be addressed with the Deans and/or Head of School.

### ***Grievance Policy***

It is our goal to handle all difficulties in a biblical manner. Our grievance policy at Agathos has always been Matthew 18:15-16. "If your brother sins against you, go, and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained a brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses."

With this in mind, we ask that if you have a concern about anything at Agathos, you first go to the person (teacher, et al.) concerned and discuss it with him or her in private. However, if there is not a satisfactory resolution, then the appropriate Deans or Head of School are at your disposal. Please do not hesitate to take any concerns to him.

If, after following this procedure, you have further concerns, please make them known to the Agathos Board of Trustees. You may contact our Board of Trustees through the Agathos website: [www.agathosschool.com](http://www.agathosschool.com); or, you may use the school directory that is given near the beginning of the year. Contact information is held on file in the office. The ACS board, teachers, and staff will address your concerns in a godly manner.

**We appreciate Agathos parents modeling the same to their children by handling conflict appropriately and not participating in gossip.**

## ***V. THE SCHOOL DAY***

### ***Arrival and Dismissal***

The school day begins promptly at 7:59 a.m. Students need to begin the day without the anxiety of being late. Therefore, students should arrive between 7:45 a.m. and 7:55 a.m. so they can be settled in their desks and ready for the day. Students arriving at 8:00 a.m. are considered tardy. They should proceed with their parent to check them in with the office. Remember this: ***Late at 8! Excessive tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful to the class and affects the attendance records of the child.***

The school day ends at ***2:45 p.m. for Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 3:00 for 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade*** (Note: Times may vary). Parents who have children only in grades 6<sup>th</sup> and below are asked to be at the school between 2:40 p.m. and 2:50 p.m. Parents who have children in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and above are asked to be at the school between 2:55 and 3:05 to pick up their children in all grades. Students not picked up by 3:05 will be taken to After School Care where parents will be charged \$5/child per hour. After School Care is available until 5:30 PM. If you only have students in grades 7-12, please do not arrive at school before 2:55.

### ***Substitute Rides Home***

Parents should make sure their child knows who will be picking them up before the day begins. If your child is to ride home with someone other than his or her regularly scheduled driver, please send a note stating the alternative arrangement and notify the usual carpool driver. Your child will not be allowed to leave school with anyone but a parent or carpool driver without a parent's written permission or a verified phone conversation with a school official in the case of last-minute circumstances.

### ***School Cancellations or Delays***

In the event of bad weather, school closings or delays will be announced via school-wide text alert and posted on Channel 4 Snowbird Alert, and Channel 2. ACS will list closings and delays independently of Maury County Schools. We recommend you sign up on these stations for School Closing Text Alerts.

## ***Messages/Deliveries***

To keep the classroom uninterrupted, messages will be delivered to students in the classroom only in the event of an emergency. Please call the office if you need a message delivered to your child. If a parent needs to deliver an item to a child, the parent must check in first with the office.

## ***Morning Flagpole and Chapel***

The initial part of each day is spent around the flagpole where we sing our hymn of the month, say the Pledge of Allegiance, pray together, etc. Once a week, on Thursdays, a separate 20-30-minute chapel assembly is held for Pk-4<sup>th</sup> grade to begin at 8:15 a.m., and 5<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade to begin at 11:30. Students are expected to wear their chapel attire on these days (see the Uniform Guidelines beginning on page 40). Chapel is intended to be an opportunity for the school family to meet all together for announcements, singing, Scripture reading and recitation, and the study of God's Word.

Students are expected to:

- ❖ Enter quietly and be seated promptly.
- ❖ Maintain a reverent and respectful attitude.
- ❖ Realize every speaker is always entitled to courteous attention.
- ❖ Participate in singing, responsive reading, and prayer.

Parents, family members, and guests are always welcome at chapel.

## ***Lunch/Snacks***

Students should bring their lunch to school each day. Family members and visitors are encouraged to join students for lunch after checking with the teacher to make sure it is a good day to visit. Lunchtime visitors must sign in through the office before going to the classroom. A healthy snack from home should be included in the child's lunchbox to be provided to the students at designated times each day.

## Homework

The definition of homework is “all schoolwork that is done at home.” Homework includes all assignments related to specific subjects: spelling, corrections of past papers, research papers, book reports, memorization, reading, and any special projects assigned by the classroom teacher. The purpose of homework is to equip students with the necessary tools for learning, involve parents in the learning process, establish the disciplines and habits that foster responsibility, and reinforce the concepts presented by the curriculum during the school day.

Parents may answer questions and encourage their child to do his or her homework well but should not do the work for the child. A teacher may more successfully teach a student responsibility for these matters if the student is in charge of his or her homework.

With each student and at every grade level the time for homework will vary. The following guidelines are *suggested limits* by grade level that should allow for completion of homework by *most*, but not all students:

- Kindergarten:** 30 minutes: may include math worksheet, phonics review/reader, and occasional special projects. Parent and child read together daily.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** 30-45 minutes: may include math worksheet(s), memorization, phonics/spelling review and reading, and occasional special projects. Parent and child read together daily.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** 30-45 minutes: may include math worksheet(s), memorization, phonics/spelling review and reading, and occasional special projects. Parent and child read together daily.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 45-60 minutes: may include math worksheet(s), memorization, Latin review, spelling/vocabulary review, reading, and occasional special projects.
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 60-75 minutes: may include math, memorization, daily reading, subject-specific assignments, and occasional special projects.
- 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade** 90 minutes: may include math, daily reading, papers, test prep, subject-specific assignments, and special projects.
- 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade** 120-150 minutes: may include math, daily reading, papers, test prep, subject-specific assignments, and special projects.

The objective is for students to complete the assignments within the guidelines. Students are not restricted to these time limits. They are offered to assist parents in controlling the maximum amount of time spent on homework. Parents whose students are having difficulty completing the assignments within these guidelines should let the teacher know. Homework is a requirement, not an option, for all grades at Agathos. If a student or parent is non-compliant, it is considered a breach of the Parent Partnering Agreement and is subject to review by the Board of Trustees.

### ***Why Latin?***

Latin was regularly taught even in American high schools as late as the 1940s. It was considered necessary for a fundamental understanding of English, the history and writings of Western Civilization, and the understanding of Romance languages. Therefore, Agathos Classical School teaches Latin for two major reasons:

1. Latin is not a "dead language", but rather a language that lives on in almost all major western languages, including English. Training in Latin not only gives the student a better understanding of the roots of English vocabulary but also lays the foundation for learning other Latin-based languages.
2. Learning the grammar of Latin reinforces the student's understanding of the reasons for, and the use of, the parts of speech being taught in our traditional English classwork, e.g., plurals, nouns, verbs, prepositions, direct objects, tenses, etc.

### ***Athletic and Extracurricular Philosophy***

The purpose of our athletic program is to complement, not compete, with our academic program. Our goals and vision statement state the educational mission of our school, and we seek to use both academics and athletics as instruments to help us accomplish those goals. Our athletic and physical education activities are considered an important component of our classical and Christian curriculum. We recognize that the training of the body has been part of the classical approach to education from the very beginning. Further, our understanding of the Christian worldview does not permit us artificially to limit a course of training to the mind only. Our goal has always been to educate our students in all aspects of life, with the Scriptures at the center of all things as

the point of integration. We have the same standard for our athletic program and physical education classes and see this point of integration as particularly important. ACS offers opportunities for our students to participate in various team sports. ACS administers all athletic teams and functions, and ACS students who participate in ACS sports must adhere to all rules, guidelines, and procedures as outlined by ACS.

### ***Academic Guidelines for Athletes***

The academic guidelines for athletics are identical to those for all co-curricular activities, as described below:

- a. Athletics/extra-curricular will never take priority over academics.
- b. If a student's average is below a C in any subject on their report card, he/she may be required to sit out for that week's game or extra-curricular activity until further review.

### ***Behavioral Guidelines for Athletes***

- a. When ACS students participate in athletics, they should treat coaches and team managers with the same respect they afford to ACS teachers and administrators.
- b. Discipline issues arising during athletic participation will be handled by the ACS coaching staff; very serious offenses, however, such as the use of weapons, drugs, etc., may result in additional disciplinary action, including expulsion, by the ACS Head of School.
- c. The school administration will report to the Athletic Director/Faculty Advisor of ACS the names of students who fall below the ACS behavior standard as listed under good sportsmanship (pg. 17) and *office visits* on pg. 23.

### ***Recess and Physical Education***

Involvement in outdoor and physical activities is an integral part of ACS. On PE days, all Grammar School students will wear their Agathos t-shirts and tennis shoes to school and be expected to participate fully unless they have a signed statement from a parent or physician. All Logic and Rhetoric School students will wear the ACS-designated PE uniform.

Recess will take place each day for grades Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and Agathos students are expected to display team spirit, loyalty, and good sportsmanship at all times.

### ***Good sportsmanship means that students:***

- ❖ Never hiss, boo, or make disparaging remarks about the opposing players, referees, teammates, coaches, or fans
- ❖ Make every effort to win, but never play outside the rules.
- ❖ Never attempt to injure opponents.
- ❖ Acknowledge good play among teammates and the opposing team.
- ❖ Never boast about winning, nor make excuses for losing.
- ❖ Accept responsibility for their own mistakes.
- ❖ Practice safety and follow the instructions of the coach/teacher.

## ***VI. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES***

### ***Learning Differences and Disabilities***

Recognizing that God gives each of us differing strengths and weaknesses, our faculty and staff seek to direct students with compassion, godly counsel, and corrective feedback as they navigate the challenges of learning. Agathos is committed to making every effort within its capacity to support students with diagnosed learning differences and other disabilities within the classroom through reasonable accommodations. However, all such students must first meet our standard admissions requirements.

A learning disability is here defined as any condition in a student which does not require a separate classroom, special program, or specialized staff to provide the education services desired by the parents and meet the regular academic requirements of Agathos. Examples of learning disabilities include but are not limited to hyperactivity, attention deficit disorder, and dyslexia. Agathos is not prepared to serve students with severe learning disabilities. A severe learning disability is here defined as any condition in a student which would require a separate classroom, special program, or specialized staff to provide the educational services desired by the parents. Examples of severe learning disabilities include but are not limited to Down's syndrome, deafness, muteness, and blindness.

Before admission, parents must disclose all specific recommendations that have already been given by therapists, specialists, or other examiners that may be vital to the student's success at Agathos. Once admitted, students must

meet and maintain the same minimal academic and behavioral expectations as all other Agathos students. Agathos will strive to offer reasonable accommodations to students that do not significantly alter school standards or make fundamental alterations to the nature of its programs (e.g., classroom instruction or expectations).

Accommodations allow students to complete the same assignments or tests as other students but with a change in the timing, formatting, setting, scheduling, response, and/or presentation. Classroom accommodations do not significantly alter classroom instruction or expectations. When accommodations are provided regularly for any student, standardized educational assessment and documentation are necessary. If parents believe accommodation is needed that is not being provided, a parent–teacher–administrator conference may be held to discuss the issue. Standardized assessments and documentation of disabilities will be required.

After receiving (from the parents) and considering test results from a licensed and certified educational diagnostician, an administrator in conjunction with the teacher and parents will create an Individual Education Plan (IEP) that expresses in writing those accommodations that Agathos is willing and able to implement. Agathos reserves the right to decline any accommodation recommended to a student by a diagnostician if it deems the accommodation to be a hindrance to the learning experience of other students in the school or if it deems the accommodation may compromise the school’s academic standards.

These policies do not reflect ambivalence on the part of Agathos’ administration or staff toward those parents who seek a Christian education for their special needs child, but rather reflect our current limitations in staffing, training, and classroom facilities. We desire to assist all families with creative solutions for discharging their responsibilities to educate all their children, regardless of abilities, in a Christ-centered and God-honoring manner.

### ***Attendance Requirements***

Students are expected to be present and on time every day school is in session. Excessive absences are considered a breach of the Parent Partnering Agreement and will be subject to review by the Board of Trustees.

### ***Tardiness***

Students are expected to be prompt. Each day school begins at 8:00 a.m. Any student arriving after 7:59 a.m. will be considered tardy and should proceed to the office with their parent to be signed in.

## ***Family Death or Terminal Illness***

In the event there is a death, terminal illness, or a similar traumatic situation in your family that may affect the student's attendance, emotional well-being, and/or level of concentration, please notify the school office.

## ***Appointments***

Whenever possible, appointments with doctors and dentists should be arranged after school hours. Leaving for appointments during the school day is strongly discouraged. If there is no alternative, the student should bring the teacher a note signed by a parent requesting permission for the student to be excused from class. Students must be signed "out" and back "in" with the office whenever they leave campus. Students should be picked up in the office area.

## ***Guidelines for Keeping Sick Children Home***

**Colds:** Please keep your child at home if he has a fever over 99.9 degrees or is experiencing discomfort that would interfere with his ability to perform in school or be a distraction to his/her classmates (i.e., uncontrollable coughing, severe lack of energy).

**Conjunctivitis** (pinkeye): Follow your doctor's advice for returning to school.

**Diarrhea/Vomiting:** A child with diarrhea and/or vomiting should stay at home and return to school only after being symptom-free for 24 hours.

**Fever:** The child should remain at home with a fever greater than 99.9 degrees. The child can return to school after he has been fever free for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medicine such as Tylenol or Motrin)

## ***Absences***

1. **Short-Term Absences:** If a student needs to be absent from school for one to two days, for any reason, the parents should contact the [teacher\(s\) by email](#) if they want to pick up work assignments. Students are generally given a day for makeup for each day missed. Upon returning to school, students must bring a note explaining their absence to the [teacher](#).

2. **Scheduled Absences:** We will cooperate with families taking their children from school for vacations, educational opportunities, etc. However, when extended absences are voluntary (instead of emergency or illness), we require all schoolwork to be completed. We request that prior to a planned, extended absence, the student(s) work ahead when possible. This eliminates a significant amount of make-up work and helps the student keep up with the pace of the class. The Late Work policy will apply to any assignments not completed by the date the student returns to class.
3. **Absences from Field Trips:** Students are expected to participate in field trips except in cases of illness or family emergency. **Any student who does not participate in such a field trip will be given a significant, graded project in place of the field trip.**
4. **Excessive absences:** Parents will be contacted when a student is absent more than 7 days per semester (or in the case of Logic and Rhetoric students, 7 periods per class for 5-day classes and 4 periods for 1-3 day classes) to review the circumstances surrounding the absences. Excessive student absence may warrant consequences or disciplinary action including, but not limited to, withholding of promotion to the next grade level or withholding of graduation credit for the class.

### ***Make-up Work***

When students are absent from school due to illness or emergency, they are not expected to have completed all assignments before returning. Their teachers will consult individually with them when they return to develop means to make up the necessary work. Parents should [email the teacher](#) early in the day to get assignments a student is missing and then pick up needed materials at the end of the day or the following day. Students are generally given a day for makeup for each day missed.

When extended absences are voluntary (vs. emergency or illness), we require all schoolwork to be completed by the date they return to school. We request that before a planned, extended absence, the student(s) work ahead when possible. This helps the student keep up with the pace of the class. The Late Work policy will apply to any assignments not completed by the date the student returns to class.

## ***Late Work Policy***

In 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grades, the student will be required to complete unfinished assignments during the recess period. If the student is not able to complete the late assignment during that time, the student will be required to complete the unfinished assignment at home and return it the next school day. If it is not returned completed the next school day, the student will continue to lose recess until the assignment is complete. No points will be deducted from their grade as a penalty for late work.

In 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades, assignments, and projects that are turned in after the due date will be penalized 10% per day the work is late. After 3 days, a zero will be given.

In 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades, assignments, and projects that are turned in after the due date will be penalized a letter grade per day the work is late. After 3 days, a zero will be given.

## ***Grade Reporting***

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. Teachers are required to notify parents before the end of the grading period if a student is in danger of receiving a failing grade or an unsatisfactory conduct grade for the quarter or semester. Teachers and parents are encouraged to schedule conferences as needed. Annual standardized testing is not considered part of the reporting procedure.

**Kindergarten** at Agathos Classical School will be evaluated in the following manner:

### **Subject Matter**

E – Excels  
S – Successful  
N - Needs improvement  
and/or Time

### **Behavior/Character**

E – Excels  
S – Successful  
N - Needs improvement  
and /or Time

Where appropriate the following grading scale should be used:

E+ 99-100  
E 96-98  
E- 93-95  
S+ 87-9  
S 77-86  
S- 70-76  
N -69

1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade will receive letter grades. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and above will use the corresponding percentage grade:

**Standard Scale**

A 100 – 93  
B 92 – 81  
C 80 – 73  
D 65 – 72  
F 65 – below

**Honors Classes Scale (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)**

A 90 - 100  
B 78 - 89  
C 70 - 77  
D 61 - 69  
F 65 - below

Teachers in grades K through 6 use the acronym **READO** which stands for

**R**espect authority  
**E**steem others  
**A**dmit wrongdoing  
**D**iligence in all things  
**O**bey right away, all the way with a good attitude every day.

***Most discipline problems are to be dealt with at the classroom level.***

Refractory problems and certain behaviors may require an office visit as outlined below.

- ❖ To maintain consistency, teachers will regularly meet together to discuss biblical standards and school policy concerning discipline.
- ❖ Love and forgiveness will be an integral part of the discipline of a student.

## ***Discipline Policy***

It is our objective at Agathos that discipline occurs in a manner consistent with biblical principles. The guidelines for disciplinary action are as follows:

- ❖ The kind and amount of discipline or punishment will be determined by the teachers, Deans, and if necessary, by the Head of School. Discipline will be administered in the light of the individual student’s problem and attitude.
- ❖ All discipline will be based on biblical principles, i.e. restitution, asking forgiveness (publicly and privately), timely/appropriate punishment, restoration of fellowship, no lingering attitudes, etc.

***Office Visits: There are certain behaviors that, because of their nature to significantly and adversely affect the classroom, cannot be tolerated,*** and hence, will automatically necessitate immediate disciplinary action outside of the classroom (e.g., an office visit). These include, but are not limited to:

1. Flagrant disrespect shown to any staff member. The staff member will be the judge of whether or not disrespect has been shown.
2. Dishonesty in any situation while at school, including lying, cheating, and stealing.
3. Rebellion, i.e., outright disobedience in response to instructions or school policies.
4. Fighting, i.e., striking to harm another student (including bullying, threatening language, and body movement).
5. Obscene, vulgar, or profane language, particularly taking the name of the Lord in vain (any use of the Lord’s name in an irreverent manner).

***In all instances of a disciplinary office visit, the Head of School will be involved in prescribing disciplinary action.*** After notifying of the student’s parent or guardian about the incident, Dean, or the Head of School will determine the nature of any disciplinary action. This may be in the form of restitution, janitorial work, parental attendance during the school day, or any other measures consistent with biblical guidelines that may be appropriate. ***The Head of School reserves the right to send the student home for the day if necessary.*** If for any of the above, or other reasons, a student requires disciplinary action outside of the classroom (an “office visit”), the following accounting will be observed ***for each semester of the school year:***

1. On the first disciplinary office visit, the student’s primary guardian will be contacted to inform them of the incident and the plan of action. The

parents' assistance and support in averting further problems will be sought.

2. Upon the need for a second disciplinary office visit, ***the student's primary guardian will be contacted and asked to come to the school immediately*** to be informed of, and participate in, the plan of action.
3. Should the student require a third disciplinary office visit, ***a sentence up to a two-day, unexcused suspension may be imposed.***
4. If a fourth disciplinary office visit is required, the student and parents ***may be required to attend an expulsion hearing before the Board.***

***Bullying:*** Any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act or threat that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student or staff member that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of:

1. Harming a student or staff member, whether physically or mentally
2. Damaging a student's or staff member's property
3. Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm to the student or staff member
4. Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear or damage to the student's or staff member's property

***Cyberbullying:*** bullying by use of any electronic communication device through means including, but not limited to e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, mobile phones, online games, and websites. Students who fit this profile will be subject to the following: *1st offense* – office visit; *2nd offense* – suspension; and *3rd offense* – expulsion. The Headmaster has the prerogative to expel a student upon a first offense if he deems it severe enough to merit the punishment. Immediate expulsion would require a board vote, affirming the Headmaster's decision.

***Electronic devices*** (including, but not limited to cell phones, I-Pods, smart watches, video games, etc.) are not allowed in the classroom or at school-related events. We strongly discourage students from bringing them to school. If any of these items must be brought to school, then 1) they must be ***off*** 2) they must be kept in the student's backpack 3) they may not be taken out at any time 4) Agathos will not be responsible for their safekeeping. Agathos reserves

the right to confiscate any electronic device if it is distracting the classroom environment.

**Weapons:** Items that could be considered a weapon, i.e., guns, knives, and sharp objects are not allowed on campus or during school-related activities and will result in the weapon being confiscated and may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to suspension or expulsion. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis by the Head of School. (e.g., archery for PE, War Between the States Re-enactors, etc.)

**Drugs:** Students should not bring any prescription or non-prescription drugs to the school. These will be confiscated, and disciplinary action may be taken. If the student must take a dose of prescribed medication during school hours, a note with the specific medication and dosage must be on file in the office.

**Probation Policy:** Students who do not remain in satisfactory academic or behavioral standing will be placed on probation during the remainder of the current progress reporting period and/or the next progress-reporting period. During that time, parents will need to communicate with the teacher on at least a weekly basis to address the improvement needed in the particular area(s). If at the end of the progress-reporting period sufficient progress has not been made, then parent, teacher and the Head of School will meet to discuss the student’s future. The following may take place: (a) Student given a second probation period of two to four weeks then, if no progress is evident, the student may be asked to withdraw; (b) Student asked to withdraw immediately. Tuition will not be refunded.

### **Promotion Policy**

The following minimum criteria are guidelines for student promotion in grades K - 6:

- ❖ Year-end, Math, Language Arts, and Reading Comprehension average of “S” (Kindergarten) or C (1st and above). Improvement should be evident in any single subject where “S” or “C” is not attained.
- ❖ Conduct rating of satisfactory.
- ❖ Teacher’s recommendation based upon projected success in the next grade.

If all criteria are met, the student is promoted to the next grade. If some but not all are met, a designee will review the case and determine whether the student is eligible for promotion. Parents may appeal this decision to the Board.

In the Logic and Rhetoric schools, students must earn a grade of ‘D’ to receive credit for an individual class and promote to the next class in the subject sequence. Additionally, a student must maintain a 2.0 overall GPA to remain enrolled at Agathos. Students with a 2.0 cumulative average (or less) at the end of one quarter will be placed on academic probation for the next quarter. If the GPA of the student fails to improve over the next quarter, the student may be expelled (see also *Probation Policy*).

## ***Dress Code***

Students should be clean, well-groomed, and conservatively dressed on campus and at school functions. Excesses of hairstyle (i.e., unnatural dye colors) and attire are out of place. This includes the length of hair in front of the students’ eyes. The hair should not go past the students’ eyebrows. ***Shoes are required at all times while on campus.*** Students may wear watches that do not have alarm beepers (**no smart watches**). Modest jewelry may be worn. During the school day, students are required to wear the Agathos uniform. For specifics of the uniform dress code see below.

## ***School Uniform***

ACS, in accordance with the school’s guiding principles that call for a tasteful and modest lifestyle, has adopted a specific uniform. The items that are required to have the school logo shall only be purchased through Lands’ End. A portion of your purchases from Lands’ End is given back to Agathos in the form of a cash donation at the end of their fiscal year. Please see the *Uniform Guideline* (pg. 41), posted on the school website, as well as our school uniform page on the Lands’ End website.

All items brought to school and used by students are considered an extension of the Agathos uniform. Parents are encouraged to remain sensitive to the school’s guiding principles that call for a tasteful, modest, and orderly environment that glorifies God alone. When choosing supplies and other school items, please guide your child toward less distracting options. Items such as lunchboxes and backpacks should be plain and without any sort of “character” representations.

Parents of students not wearing the appropriate uniform or those using school items deemed inappropriate or distracting will be issued an infraction the first two times. **Upon the third occurrence, the student’s parent will be called and asked to bring the appropriate article of clothing or supply needed.** Continued disregard of the dress code and uniform is considered a

breach of the Parent Partnering Agreement and will be subject to review by the Board of Trustees.

### ***Food, Chewing Gum, and Drinks***

Students are not allowed to chew gum on campus. Other food and drink may be consumed at a designated lunchtime or at an appropriate snack time identified by the teacher.

### ***Money at School***

Students should not bring large amounts of money to school. Parents may consult the teacher when exceptions need to be made regarding school projects or field trips.

### ***Office/School Equipment***

Since teachers are not able to personally accompany each student to the office, certain guidelines are to be followed to ensure that the students use the office correctly.

- ❖ Phone use: Every student desiring to use the school phone must have a note signed by a teacher to present to the secretary. Calls should be limited to critical needs; casual calls are forbidden. Teachers signing the notes will be responsible for the call(s) made.
- ❖ First Aid: The office contains many first aid materials. Should a student require first aid at any time, a teacher or other adult should accompany the injured student to the office whenever possible. First aid will be administered, and the student will return to class if able.
- ❖ General: Students should not remove items from the office without permission from a staff member. If items are borrowed, it is expected that they are for specific class use and will be returned promptly.

### ***Expenditure Reimbursement***

Donations of supplies and equipment are gratefully appreciated. Parents who desire to be reimbursed for expenses must obtain written approval with a purchase order before expending the funds. Expenses incurred without prior written approval will be considered donations, and there is no guarantee they will be reimbursed.

## ***Fire/Tornado Drills***

The procedures are to be followed as closely as possible. The step-by-step procedure for leaving the building will be explained to each class by the classroom teacher at the beginning of the school year. The teacher will review it periodically.

- ❖ Fire Drill Occurrence – A Fire Drill will be held within the first 48 hours of each new school year and at least once per month thereafter. The teachers will not be notified as to the specific time a fire drill is to be held. The students will be notified only before the first drill of the school year. The administrator is solely responsible for the direction and execution of the drills. That person is also responsible for ensuring that all students have left the building.
- ❖ Fire Drill Procedures – When a fire drill is held, or in the event of an actual fire, each classroom teacher is expected to ensure that all students have left the classroom and are present at the designated meeting area on campus as outlined in the Fire Marshall approved emergency escape route. Administration will then give the teachers the “all clear” signal, and they will return the students to their classes. In no event should a teacher or student re-enter the building until the “all clear” signal has been given.
- ❖ Tornado Drill – This will be conducted each spring.

## ***Field Trips***

All learning does not take place in the classroom. Field trips are an important part of our educational program; they not only enrich our curriculum but also involve parents in the teaching and learning process beyond our campus. Each class will participate in several field trips each year. Faculty members and parent volunteers supervise these excursions; parents in private cars provide transportation. Appropriate attire is required on all field trips. A form will be sent home for each specific field trip scheduled.

Parental involvement and participation are needed to make these experiences possible and successful. The teachers need parents to assist as chaperones, drivers, facilitators, etc., to provide these experiences in the safest, most affordable, and enriching manner possible.

**Important guidelines that relate to the planning and participation:**

1. All students are expected to participate in field trips except in cases of illness or family emergency. Any student who does not participate in such a field trip will be given a **significant**, graded project in place of the field trip.
2. Younger siblings are permitted on school-sponsored trips (if administration or teacher deems it appropriate) provided the parent or guardian is one of the chaperones.
3. Volunteer drivers and their cars will be used unless the school has arranged special group transportation.
4. The Student Activities Fee will cover admission fees only and not any cost for lunch or refreshments unless otherwise noted on the permission form. Admissions and parking fees for drivers are included in the Student Activities Fees. Fees for chaperones will be covered by each chaperone unless other notification is given.
5. The leader of each field trip is the teacher. The teacher will determine all final decisions as to itinerary, agenda, logistics, and so forth. The teacher may delegate matters to a parent chaperone, but in case of conflicting opinions, the teacher has the final word. The teacher has the sole responsibility for the educational aspect of the trip.
6. The role of the parent chaperone is critical to the success of the field trip. Parent chaperones have the primary responsibility for the children assigned to them by the teacher. Normally, a parent chaperone is responsible for those children in the parent's car, or parents should assist the teacher to ensure that all students are chaperoned at all times during the trip.
7. Students are held to a high standard of behavior on field trips. Students are expected to listen attentively to presentations, speak and act respectfully to each other and adults, and obey instructions of the teacher, parent chaperones, and tour leaders promptly and without question. Parent chaperones are requested to assist the teacher in holding students to this standard of behavior. Failure of a student to conform to the expected behavior may result in such discipline as may be necessary upon the student's return to school following the trip.
8. Unless otherwise instructed by the teacher, students are to always remain together during the field trip. This is extremely important because students who become separated from the group pose a threat to their safety, as well as cause the rest of the group to miss scheduled events.
9. Parents must refrain from smoking on campus or during field trips while in the presence or view of students.

10. Videos (played to entertain students) and cell phones (used by students) are not allowed in cars on the way to or from a field trip.
11. In summary, students, parents, and teachers are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that brings credit to the school and glory to God.

### ***Birthdays/In-class Entertainment Guidelines***

Recognizing the fact that teachers and students will want to have, from time to time, a party or other form of entertainment in the classroom; these guidelines present standards that should provide consistency in the allowance of entertainment.

- ❖ Birthday Parties: A meaningful way to celebrate a child's birthday is to donate a book to the school library in honor of the child or the child's name. Also, you may want to join the child for lunch on his or her birthday and read to the class from the donated book.
- ❖ Parents are asked to notify the teacher if they wish to bring cupcakes or cookies to the student's class during snack/lunch time on the student's birthday. Please ***do not bring candles*** due to fire hazards. Where applicable, the party may be in honor of several students, possibly by the week.
- ❖ Holiday Parties should not exceed 45 minutes in length unless it is coupled with lunch, in which case only 45 minutes of class time may be used. If a video is used in conjunction with a party, it must fit within these time limits.

Aside from birthday and holiday (Christmas, etc.) parties, there should be no more than three parties per year. Preferably, parties should be used as rewards for good conduct. The teacher is responsible for all activities related to an in-class party, even if the students do the planning. This will most likely be coordinated with a room parent.

### ***Party Invitations***

Invitations to parties **may not** be distributed at school. These detract from the educational process.

### ***Holiday Observance Policy***

Observances of holidays at Agathos shall be conducted according to the

following guidelines:

Agathos recognizes the necessity of joy and thankfulness in the Christian life. The school will seek to provide students with opportunities for celebration and thankful recognition of God’s blessing in their individual lives (e.g., birthdays and personal accomplishments) and in history (Columbus Day and Memorial Day).

- ❖ The school will emphasize the scriptural and spiritual elements of holidays such as Easter (the cross and resurrection) and Christmas (the incarnation of Christ).
- ❖ Other holidays (Columbus Day, President’s Day, Valentine’s Day, etc.) shall be observed when their recognition is deemed spiritually and/or academically beneficial to the students and consistent with the Agathos Philosophy of Education.
- ❖ Prayerful interpretation and application of these holiday observance guidelines shall be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees and designees of the Board, including teachers and staff.

## ***ACS Library***

### ***Goal***

The goal of the Agathos Classical School Library Media Center is to make available to the students and faculty a collection of materials to enrich instruction, cultivate lifelong learning and encourage critical thinking.

### ***Objectives***

1. Library materials will be selected to equip our students with the basic tools of learning by supporting individual learning needs, abilities, and learning styles to foster a lifelong love of learning through the written word.
2. High-quality library materials will be sought to enhance the classical pursuit of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty as well as instilling the importance of accessing facts, thinking critically, reasoning clearly, and communicating effectively and persuasively.
3. The library will serve to “inspire young men and women to live wisely, virtuously, and nobly in this present age-” Titus 2:12

## ***Responsibility for Selection***

The Agathos Classical School Library Media Specialist shall be responsible for selecting and reviewing all print and nonprint materials entered into the library collection. This faculty member shall discharge this obligation consistent with the Agathos Classical School Policy Manual.

### ***Criteria***

Materials for inclusion will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Educational significance referencing the classical Christian virtues
- Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources (3 – 5 positive reviews)
- Favorable recommendations based on preview and examination of materials by professional personnel.
- Appropriateness for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning style, and social development of students for whom the materials are intended.
- Contribution the material makes to breadth of representative viewpoints.
- Supportive of Christian values
- High artistic quality and/or literary style
- Quality and variety of format
- Timeliness
- Integrity of information
- Degree of potential user appeal

### ***Procedures for Selection***

- A. Library materials selection will be carried out by the professional library staff with due regard to suggestions from the administration.
- B. Professionally recognized reviewing periodicals, standard catalogs, and other selection aids will be employed by the library professional. (Titlewave)
- C. Fully processed, library-bound books will hold priority for any materials acquired to establish and maintain an enduring collection. (Follett and PermaBound)

- D. When selecting materials, the library personnel will evaluate available resources and curriculum needs to determine the significance of need.
- E. A balanced collection will be the standard by which the library collection will be evaluated.
- F. Weeding will be at the sole discretion of the professional library staff with consultation with the school administration. Books considered for weeding will meet one or more of the following conditions: books with out-of-date or currently inaccurate information; books in poor physical condition; and books not checked out over an extended time.
- G. Donated books will be accepted after a review by the Library Media Specialist that will follow the same criteria as books for purchase. If books are not entered into the collection, they will first be offered to teachers and then any remaining books will be donated to a non-profit agency.

### ***Lost and Found***

Articles found on campus should be turned in to the office. Please check the office periodically for any missing items. Remember to mark all school supplies, personal belongings, lunch boxes, backpacks, etc. Because students wear identical uniforms, it is advised to individually label ALL articles of clothing, including but not limited to, shirts, pants, jackets, vests, sweaters, socks, and shoes. On the last day of each quarter, the Lost and Found boxes will be emptied, and all items will be donated.

### ***Textbooks and Supplies***

Textbooks and resource books are issued at the beginning of the school year and at other times during the year as requested by the teacher. Students are asked to replace or pay for any permanent textbooks, library books, and supplies given them if they are damaged or lost.

### ***Computers in the Classrooms***

Computers are in the classrooms for use by the teachers for communication and reporting purposes. Student use for educational purposes only, is by permission of the Head of School.

## *Internet Guidelines*

Students are not permitted to be online while at school unless under direct, adult supervision, and then only for purposes related to a class. The Wi-Fi password will not be given out under any circumstances.

## *ACS House System*

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:30-31

**Description and Purpose:** The House System at Agathos comprises six Houses - Mattaeus, Marcus, Lucas, Johannes, Petrus, and Paulus - representing six of the New Testament writers. Upon entry into the 7th-12th grades by either promotion or enrollment, students are sorted into a House that they will remain in throughout their time at ACS. Each House is overseen by an ACS Faculty Advisor and led by an upperclassman House Captain. The purpose of the House System is to provide opportunities for students in 7th-12th grade to work together in community service, academic disciplines, athletic competitions, and spiritual formation. Through the ACS House System, students will practice skills in teamwork and leadership, develop a peer group beyond their grade, and plan and carry out service projects.

**Events:** There are five annual all-House gatherings: 1) the House Sorting following Opening Chapel, 2) the Fall Retreat in August/September, 3) the Fall Games in November/December, 4) the Warrior Games during the final week of school, and 5) the Passing of the Captaincy and Warrior Cup presentation held during Final Chapel. In addition to these major events, Houses will gather throughout the year to participate in service projects and a variety of athletic and academic competitions.

**The Warrior Cup:** The Warrior Cup will be awarded during the Final Chapel to the House that has accumulated the most points during the academic year. Points are awarded for the various academic and athletic competitions held throughout the year according to the following tier: 1st place = 100 points, 2nd place = 90 points, 3rd place = 80 points, 4th place = 70 points, 5th place = 60 points, and 6th place = 50 points.

**For more information on the ACS House System please see *The Shorter Enchiridion*.**

**MISSION:** At ACS we desire to be a *community* that promotes spiritual growth through engaging the heart, mind, soul, and strength. We want to see hearts *changed* through the relationships built between peers as well as with faculty in a mentoring/discipling capacity. We long for souls to be *cultivated* through the development of the individual *character* of each of our students as evidenced through their service to others. We desire minds to be *challenged* by promoting thinking throughout our community as an act of worship. We seek for our students' strength to be *demonstrated* through *courage* as they face a culture which rejects truth and that which is good. Within this scope, we want to create *thoughtful traditions*. As a part of this overall picture, we believe that a community structure, which is called the House System, will be of great benefit to ACS's students in personal development. It creates a venue for *every* student to be a part of something *together*.

**PURPOSE:** The House System is a time-honored tradition used with great success in British schools since the 1850s and growing in popularity in American private schools. The ACS House System is designed to connect students both within and across grades seven through twelve via a common identity, cause, and activity. Houses provide not only an increased feeling of identity and belonging, they also provide students a sense of tradition with abundant leadership opportunities. Students in grades seven through twelve are brought together in competition and work, enabling them to know one another in all types of situations. Because younger students often admire older students, the opportunities for leadership and discipleship are greatly increased. Houses offer students and teachers the opportunity to work with one another outside of the academic arena, and through various competitions that promote a healthy sense of school spirit, students establish connections that transcend classrooms and grade levels. Houses also provide older students with leadership opportunities through positions on a House Council and the organization of House activities. Houses should create an atmosphere conducive to positive role models and peer pressure. As houses compete for the Warrior Cup, the students are motivated to encourage one another to follow the rules, study hard, and seek out service opportunities. As students incorporate the school rules into their lives, teachers can focus less on discipline and more on academics.

**ORGANIZATION:** The ACS House system is divided into six houses: Matteaus, Marcus, Lucas, Johannes, Petrus, and Paulus representing the four Gospels and the two chief apostles. ACS students are initiated into the House

process during the formal House Sorting Ceremony when they enter 7<sup>th</sup> grade or when they first enroll as a new student. Students remain in their initiated Houses for their entire tenure.

## *The House Council*

Each House is assigned a Faculty Advisor who is responsible for supervising the House activities, encouraging the officers to complete their duties, and modeling a Christian walk before the students. Faculty Advisors, in counsel with the Head of School, choose the student in their House most qualified to serve as Head of House each year. Preference is given to upper classmen, while character and leadership skills are also considered. The Faculty Advisor hosts House meetings in his/her classroom, also known as the House “Common Room” where House relics are stored, and announcements and schedules of events are posted on a House Bulletin Board.

The Faculty Advisor makes sure House members use the time wisely to work on House projects, preparations for upcoming competitions, prayer, or other useful activities. This is a good time to get to know the members of the House. Faculty Advisors are the personal point of contact for the students in the House and the main source of encouragement for their success at school. They should be encouraging the upper classmen to edify and teach the younger students and urging the younger students to imitate the right attitudes and behaviors they see in the older students.

The Head of House is chosen by the Faculty Advisor, in counsel with the Head of School, based on the level of maturity and responsibility each has displayed. He or she presides at House meetings and reports directly to the faculty.

The House Parliamentarian guides the House in achieving maximum efficiency in the implementation of its mission and guards the integrity of House meetings through structured and organized guidance ensuring procedures are followed properly. He or she is elected by the general members of the House at the first House meeting of each year.

The House Scribe is the purveyor of clear communication between the House Leadership and the House Membership, other Houses, and the student body by taking thorough minutes at all House meetings. He or she is elected by the general members of the House at the first House meeting of each year.

The House Steward is the guardian of historical facts and relics and the chief promoter of House traditions. He or she keeps a record of all events, activities, and memorable moments throughout the life of the House. He or she also ensures any physical artifacts are stored or displayed properly. He or she is elected by the general members of the House at the first House meeting of each year.

The House Chaplain assists his or her House in preparing short devotionals for House meetings, leading in prayer, and any other service meant to promote the spiritual growth of the House. He or she is elected by the general members of the House at the first House meeting of each year.

**ACTIVITIES/COMPETITION:** All Houses will have dedicated times for gathering which will be scheduled mostly during the school day. In addition, Houses will have the option to schedule other meeting times as decided on by the House Council. The purpose of these regular meetings is to fellowship, plan, collaborate and establish traditions and protocols. House activities may include meetings, competitions, lunches, parties, service projects, social gatherings, etc.

The feature of the Houses most popular with students is the competitions. Through competition, Houses earn points throughout the year in hopes of being awarded the Warrior Cup.

At ACS, House points are awarded based on the following five categories: academics, athletics, the arts, community service, and spirit. Academic competition is based on GPA as well as House Debates, Literary Contest, Disputatio, and Speech Meet. Athletic competition includes Intramural Sports, the annual Warrior Games as well as individual participation in sports outside the school.

The Arts include participation in musical, artistic, or theatrical endeavors. Community service points are based on member participation in service projects as a House or as individuals. Each House should plan a minimum of one service project per year. Spirit is defined as eagerly participating in school events and extracurricular activities with a kind and helpful attitude as well as displaying pride in their house through their attire when appropriate. The House system exists to provide a healthy level of competition and camaraderie among students.

### ***General Schedule of Activities***

House Sorting Ceremony – Following Opening Chapel

House Meetings – When possible

Spirit Week: January/February

House Lunches – When possible

Warrior Games – Last week of school

## ***Social Events***

Throughout the school year, social events will be held for Logic and/or Rhetoric school students. Students should conduct themselves in a God-honoring manner at these events; following the guidelines, including specific dress codes, provided for them for each event. Failure to do so may result in the student losing the privilege of attending a subsequent event(s). Discipline issues that occur at these events may result in office visits as warranted by the offense or loss of the privilege of attending a subsequent event(s). During all social events, administration will seek to have at least one adult for every twelve students.

## ***Student Relationships***

At ACS, students' actions toward all students should be kind, friendly, and respectful. In keeping with these expectations, ACS desires to cultivate a culture of friendship among all on campus, teachers, and students, tall and small, older and younger, male and female. Therefore, ACS desires that students who may develop a romantic relationship (i.e., "couples") refrain from displaying romantic affection (e.g., holding hands, embracing, sitting intimately close to one another, etc.) while at ACS or ACS-sponsored activities. Students who do hold a romantic affection for one another shall not "pair off" or be alone anywhere on campus without direct staff supervision. Failure to heed these guidelines will result in the application of the school discipline policy.

## ***Travel Opportunities with ACS***

1. ACS will facilitate travel opportunities for specific groups of students.
2. These students should be in good academic standing and, according to their teachers, must have demonstrated a pattern of general obedience, maturity, responsibility, and appropriate response to correction to be eligible to attend the trip.
3. 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students will travel to Washington D.C...
4. Every other year, the Junior and Senior classes will travel overseas.
5. The overseas tours will be contracted between the individual students and/or parents attending and the third-party travel company (e.g., Worldstrides).

6. All monies paid for these trips will be paid to the travel company. The travel company will assume all liabilities for the trip. Students are not required to attend these trips, though they are strongly encouraged to make every effort go. Especially the Junior/Senior trip as it represents a culmination of much of the Latin, history, Bible, and literature they have studied throughout school.
7. ACS reserves the right to refuse a student's ability to travel based on weak references or to request that a parent accompany a student whose references demonstrate the need behaviorally or otherwise.
8. Should an ACS student who is already signed up for a trip need to leave the school due to job loss, move, etc., then that student may still attend the trip as long as the student is still in good academic and behavioral standing in his/her new school.
9. Students who are signed up for a trip who are expelled from ACS may not attend the trip and will assume any financial loss incurred in the cancellation for their trip.
10. Fund raising efforts will be made throughout the year. All funds raised will go toward the student's trip. All parents traveling will do so at their own expense. Funds raised will be divided among those participating in the fund-raising efforts.

# Graduation Requirements

## Graduation Requirements

### English - 4 Credits

- (1) Ancient Literature
- (1) Medieval Literature
- (1) Early Modern Literature
- (1) Modern (US) Literature

### Science - 3 Credits

- (1) Acc. Physics & Chemistry
- (1) Advanced Chemistry
- (1) Advanced Biology
- (1) Physics

### Fine Arts - 1.5 Credits\*

- (.5) Sketching/Drawing/Painting
- (.5) General Music
- (.5) Other art and music opportunities

\*Students will have an art and music class each year and are required to take the classes offered to their grade level and will likely graduate with more than the required credits in this category.

### Math - 4 Credits

- (1) Algebra I (if taken as a Freshman)
- (1) Geometry
- (1) Algebra II
- (1) Pre-Calculus
- (1) Calculus

### Foreign Language - 2 Credits\*

- (2) credits must be earned in the same language) or
- (2) Latin A and B or
- (2) Latin Translation I and II or
- (2) Spanish I and II

\*To qualify for an ACS diploma, all students must have taken and passed 2 years of Latin in either their Logic or Rhetoric School years.

### History - 4 Credits

- (1) Ancient World History
- (1) Medieval World History
- (1) Early Modern World History
- (1) Modern (US) History & Govt.

### Theology - 2 Credits\*

- (.5) Hist. Biblical Interpretation I
- (.5) Hist. Biblical Interpretation II
- (.5) Ethics
- (.5) Apologetics

\*A theology course is mandatory for each year of Rhetoric School.

### Rhetoric - 2 Credits\*

- (.5) Rhetoric I
- (.5) Rhetoric II
- (.5) Rhetoric III (Junior Thesis)
- (.5) Rhetoric IV (Senior Thesis)

\*A rhetoric course is mandatory for each year of Rhetoric School.

### Personal Finance - .5 Credit

- (.5) Personal Finance/Economics

### P.E./Wellness - 1.5 Credits\*

- (1) In School PE

- (.5) 2 Seasons of a team sport

\*A P.E. course is mandatory for each year of Rhetoric School.

Required courses are in bold.  
24.5 Credits are required for an ACS diploma.

ACS graduation requirements meet and exceed the TN Graduation Requirements.



# Agathos Classical School Uniforms 2022-23

\* Bold items MUST be purchased from Land's End.\*

	REGULAR	CHAPEL	FOOTWEAR	WARMTH	PE
Grammar (PreK-6)	Boys Navy/white polo, khaki pants/shorts	White polo & navy vest with logo (PreK-4) or white oxford & plaid tie (5-6), khaki pants/shorts	Brown All-Weather Mocs**, white or black socks	Only ACS outerwear allowed. Fleece, sweater, sweatshirt, jacket or vest ACS logo, navy puffy coat (no fur).	ACS navy T-shirt, khaki pants or shorts (boys) or skort (girls), (5th & 6th girls) khaki shorts, athletic shoes with white or black socks (worn all day) <b>NO BELT NECESSARY</b>
	Girls Navy/white polo, peter pan shirt, khaki skort, 5th & 6th khaki shorts (or pants Dec-Mar only), or polo dress	White polo or peter pan shirt, plaid jumper (PreK-4) or plaid skirt (5-6)	Black Mary Janes**, white socks or white/navy/black tights or leggings		
Logic (7-8)	Men Navy/white polo, khaki pants/shorts	White oxford, khaki pants (no shorts), plaid tie	Brown Moc, Sperry, or Oxford shoes, white or black socks		Change from regular uniform into ACS PE Uniform (gray shirt, navy shorts) athletic shoes, socks
	Ladies Navy/white polo, khaki skort/shorts (or pants Dec-Mar only), or plaid skirt	White polo, plaid skirt	Black Mary Janes or business casual shoes, white socks, white/navy/black tights or leggings	Only ACS outerwear allowed. Fleece, sweater, sweatshirt, jacket or vest with ACS logo, navy puffy coat (no fur).	
Rhetoric (9-12)	Men Navy/white polo or white oxford, khaki pants	White oxford, navy blazer, striped navy/gold tie or bowtie, khaki pants	Brown or black Moc, Sperry, or Oxford shoes, dark socks		
	Ladies Navy/white polo or white oxford, khaki skirt (or pants Dec-Mar only), or plaid skirt.	White oxford, navy blazer, khaki skirt	Brown or black business casual shoes, conservative socks or hosiery		Not Applicable

\*\* like those offered by Lands End.

**CLARIFICATIONS:**

- Khaki pants and skirt color **MUST** be like those from Land's End; NO brown/stone/other colors.
- Brown slip-on shoes (PreK-6 boys) **EXCLUDE** laces, boots, sandals, athletic shoes, and the color tan.
- Brown or black business casual shoes **INCLUDE** low-or-flat-heels, closed toes, loafer or lace-up or ballet flat styles. They **EXCLUDE** boots, sandals, athletic shoes and the color tan.
- PreK-8 socks should be solid black or white, ankle length or longer. Socks are mandatory (unless wearing tights.)
- Skirts and shorts should be worn at the waist, hem within a few inches of the kneecap. **Shorts must be longer, Bermuda style like the ones available on Lands' End.** Grammar girls must wear black or navy biker shorts under any skirt or dress without built-in shorts.
- Pant length should reach the shoe, but not drag on the ground. Leggings should reach the ankle (no capri-length.)
- **A dark belt must be worn with any garment having belt loops.** PK may wear elastic waisted pants or shorts. K and up must have belt loops with a belt worn through the loops.
- Shirts may be short or long sleeved & must be tucked in - except for t-shirts (PE, last Friday, spirit days.)
- Avoid cartoons/characters on athletic shoes, outerwear, backpacks, & lunch boxes.
- Modest hair accessories that match uniforms are permitted.
- Exclusions: cargo/jogger style pants or shorts, patch pockets, corduroy, capris, denim, canvas, sandals, clogs, embroidery (other than ACS logo from Land's End), scarves, bandanas or distracting styles, unkempt hair, no-show/low-cut or colored socks, torn or soiled clothes, overdone makeup or jewelry, tattoos, immodesty, visible undergarments, oversized or undersized clothing.

**Order Lands Ends items at [landsend.com](http://landsend.com) or 1-800-963-4816.** Use "Preferred School Program" code #900089251 and create a student profile to see all items approved and with required logos for his or her grade.

## ***Part-Time/Full-Time Student Policy***

### ***Purpose***

As the mission for ACS states, we exist to provide a framework to assist parents “in teaching and training their children to the glory of God.” While we feel that being fully engaged in the educational offerings at ACS is ideal for accomplishing the goal of a classical Christian education, we do understand that there are circumstances that may lead a family to choose an alternative path for their student(s). To facilitate a seamless and efficient process for coordinating with families, below are guidelines for differentiating between a Part-Time and a Full-Time Student:

### ***Part-Time Student\*\****

1. Any 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> student not completing all courses required as outlined in the ACS Graduation Requirements will be considered a part-time student, and as such, will not receive an Agathos diploma. Part-time students will be enrolled at the grade level they qualify for according to the ACS credit structure.
2. Part-time students must be enrolled by their parents in a homeschool umbrella.
3. Tuition will be billed on a per class enrolled basis.
4. Part-time students may participate in extracurricular activities and graduation ceremonies as long as the Student Activities Fee is paid, tuition is current, and all homeschool umbrella requirements are met. Part time students choosing to graduate with ACS will not be eligible for Valedictorian, awards, honors, or an ACS diploma.
5. Part time students are not required to be on campus except during the times and/or classes for which they are enrolled. Part-time students must sign in and out of the office each time they arrive and leave the school grounds. Part-time students may remain on campus during times they are not scheduled for a class if space and staff oversight is available, AND it is pre-approved by administration. Due to the integrated nature of the subjects, History and Literature must be taken concurrently by part-time students.
6. Parents are responsible for reporting grades from ACS to the homeschool umbrella program.
7. Part-time students will be held to all other grading, attendance, ***uniform***, and discipline policies outlined in **The Standard**. Failure to

follow the policies may lead to expulsion as a part-time student with no refund of tuition or fees.

### ***Full-Time Student***

1. Any student completing all courses required as outlined in the ACS Graduation Requirements.
2. Full-time students must remain on campus for a full day except when enrolled in Dual Enrollment, Work Study or an Internship if eligible (see eligibility requirements for each program).
3. Full-time students may take online courses to satisfy certain graduation requirements if a comparable and sufficient course is not being offered and if it is approved by a three-person administrative committee. The online course must be pre-approved, and the grade received must be provided by the online course administrator to be included on the ACS transcript. Parents are responsible for all costs associated with the online course.

**\*\*Appeals may be made to the Administration and will be reviewed and approved by a three-person administrative committee.**

### ***Dual Enrollment Policy***

#### ***Purpose***

Dual Enrollment is a program that allows eligible high school seniors to begin earning college credit while they are still in high school. It provides an opportunity to explore subjects not offered through our program and enables students to begin transitioning to collegiate-level scholarships. Dual Enrollment advising begins and ends under the guidance of our teachers and administrators.

#### ***Eligibility Requirements***

1. Only seniors may apply for Dual Enrollment.
2. Full-time students must have and maintain a 3.0 GPA at ACS.
3. Courses taken at CSCC will be considered elective courses and cannot substitute for a class that is required for graduation unless there are

extenuating circumstances and approval is granted by a three-person administrative committee (HOS, Dean of L&R, and/or Registrar.)

4. A pass/fail grade will be given on the transcript for any classes taken via the Dual Enrollment program.
5. On days students are not in a Dual Enrollment class during the hours of 8-3, they must be on campus. Typically, classes at CSCC are M/W or T/Th for a 1.5-hour block.
6. ACS will determine the hours students can take Dual Enrollment courses based on the daily school schedule.
7. Students may only take one Dual Enrollment course per semester.
8. It is up to the parents and their students to initiate and complete the enrollment process and provide for transportation and any out-of-pocket expenses.
9. No tuition credit will be given to students who Dual Enroll.

## ***Work Study Program Policy***

### ***Purpose***

The Work Study Program allows eligible seniors to use a specified number of school hours to work at a job while they are still in high school. It provides them an opportunity to explore different careers and earn an income. The program also provides documentation that supports verification and accountability. Work Study enrollment advising begins and ends under the guidance of our teachers and administrators.

### ***Eligibility Requirements***

1. Only seniors may apply for Work Study.
2. Full-time students must have and maintain a 3.0 GPA at ACS.
3. Students may only use up to one hour a day for Work Study (maximum of 5 hours per week).
4. During unscheduled work hours between 8 am-3 pm, students must be on campus.
5. ACS will determine the hours students can schedule work based on the daily school schedule.
7. It is up to the parents and their student to initiate and complete the enrollment process and provide for any transportation and out-of-pocket expenses.
8. No tuition credit will be given to students in the Work Study program.

## ***Internship Program Policy***

### ***Purpose***

The Internship Program allows eligible seniors to apply for unpaid internships to explore career possibilities, prepare for the world of work, earn volunteer or community service hours AND earn high school elective credit. The program also provides documentation that supports verification and accountability. Internship Program enrollment advising begins and ends under the guidance of our teachers and administrators.

### ***Eligibility Requirements***

1. Only seniors may apply for the Internship Program.
2. Full-time students must have and maintain a 3.0 GPA at ACS.
3. Students may only use up to one hour a day for Internship Study (maximum of 5 hours per week).
4. During unscheduled work hours between 8 am-3 pm, students must be on campus.
5. ACS will determine the hours students can schedule Internships based on the daily school schedule.
6. It is up to the parents and their student to initiate and complete the enrollment process and provide for any transportation and out-of-pocket expenses.
7. No tuition credit will be given to students in the Internship program.

## ***Valedictorian Policy***

### ***Purpose***

To honor the student with the highest academic integrity and achievement throughout his/her Rhetoric School attendance and to select the speaker for the graduation ceremony.

## *Eligibility Requirements*

1. Only Seniors are eligible.
2. The Valedictory candidate must exemplify what is True, Beautiful, and Good through his/her achievement and character throughout his/her Rhetoric School career. Specific criteria for nomination:
  - Love and practice Truth
  - Models a pursuit of and devotion to Glorifying God (beauty)
  - Lives out goodness in community
  - Integrity in academic work
  - Demonstrable oratory skills
  - Held in high esteem by mentors and peers
3. There will only be one Valedictorian per year.
4. Candidates for Valedictorian and Salutatorian must have a minimum 3.75 GPA.
5. Candidates for Valedictorian will be nominated by the faculty and selected by a three-person committee made up of administrators and faculty. The runner-up will be named the Salutatorian.
6. A student must have attended an approved classical school for a minimum of 75% of their High School education (exceptions may be made upon appeal).
7. A student nominated for Valedictorian may choose to withdraw his/her name for consideration.
8. The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be honored with embroidered stoles for the graduation ceremony. All students with a 4.0 GPA will be honored with cords for the graduation ceremony.

## *Senior Off-Campus Lunch (SOC Lunch) Guidelines*

- Seniors who maintain a 2.5 GPA during their 12<sup>th</sup>-grade year are eligible for SOC Lunch privileges once a month throughout their senior year.
- Ideally, SOC Lunch will be scheduled to overlap with a 4<sup>th</sup>-period class or 5<sup>th</sup>-period class given that it takes additional travel time for this privilege. Administration shall work with 12<sup>th</sup>-grade teachers to facilitate the timing.
- SOC Lunch is to be conducted with parent approval; therefore, a permission slip will be necessary to have signed by parents and then filed in the student's file.
- SOC Lunch is specifically designed for students to go enjoy a sit-down meal together, not to allow for time to shop or conduct any other activities while off-campus.
- Any Senior who is reported to have conducted himself or herself improperly (either by violating Agathos principles listed in The Standard or other related principles such as, but not limited to reckless driving, speeding, law-breaking, etc.) will lose his or her SOC Lunch privileges for the remainder of the year.
- Student drivers for SOC lunch must have a valid TN Driver's license and fill out the appropriate form in the school office listing his or her Auto Insurance information.
- One hour shall be granted for the SOC Lunch. Seniors shall sign out and in via the office logbooks and return with, at the least, by 5 minutes before their first class after lunch begins. Failure to follow this procedure will result in a student losing his or her privilege for the following month. Upon a second failure to follow this procedure, he or she shall lose his or her SOC Lunch privilege for the entire semester.

## *Student Drivers*

- Students will be allowed to drive to school and park in the designated student parking area (to be determined later).
- Any student who wishes to have a vehicle on campus must provide a copy of their driver's license and current insurance information to the office.
- Students wishing to drive to school must produce a written statement from his or her parent giving the student permission to drive to school and to transport siblings where appropriate.
- Students may not return to nor move their vehicles at any time during the school day without administrative permission.
- Student drivers can face disciplinary consequences for allowing fellow students to be unauthorized passengers in their vehicles.

These rules are designed to ensure the safety of students, faculty, and staff and to reduce congestion on campus. Student drivers who do not abide by the rules, are tardy or absent without permission, or have discipline referrals can lose the privilege of driving and parking at ACS.



## **VII. AFFILIATIONS**

Agathos Classical School is a member of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS). Though not currently accredited, Agathos commits to pursuing such accreditation when requirements have been reached. Because our goals and philosophy are inherently different from government schools, Agathos will not pursue state accreditation.

## **VIII. SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION**

### ***Agathos Classical School***

1201 Mapleash Avenue  
Phone: (931) 388-0556  
Columbia, Tennessee 38401  
Fax: (931) 388-0538  
[www.agathosschool.com](http://www.agathosschool.com)

### ***Board of Trustees***

Please see our website above for information about our Board of Trustees.

### ***Head of School***

**Ted Trainor**  
ted.trainor@agathosschool.com

### ***Dean: Logic and Rhetoric School***

**Grant Kelley**  
grant.kelley@agathosschool.com

### ***Dean: Grammar School***

**Kirsten Powers**  
kirsten.powers@agathosschool.com

### ***Office Manager/Registrar***

**Laura Powers**  
laura.powers@agathosschool.com

### ***Director of Development***

**Sharon Babcock**  
sharon.babcock@agathosschool.com

### ***Athletic Director***

**Ron Kellner**  
ron.kellner@agathosschool.com

### ***Administrative Assistants***

**Faira Oliver**  
faira.oliver@agathosschool.com  
**Colleen Franklin**  
colleen.franklin@agathosschool.com

*Notes:*

*Notes:*

***Notes:***

# *The Standard*

## **Parent/Student Sign-off**

We have read the 2022-2023 Agathos Classical School Standard and agree that our child/children as well as we, the parents, will abide by **The Standard**.

Parent Signatures

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Student Signatures

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please tear out and send signed copy to the office.*



