

Quartzsite Southern Christian Academy



School Handbook

Quartzsite Southern Christian Academy (QSCA)

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WELCOME TO QUARTZSITE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Thank you for considering Quartzsite Southern Christian Academy (QSCA) for your child's education. This Handbook is designed to help answer questions you might have about our school; all the forms that need to be completed to enroll your child are available through our administrative team. We anticipate a great school year and look forward to your involvement as we educate your children.

Our focus is on "Christian" education and our Mission Statement is "Achieving excellence by pursuing Christlikeness." God gave the members of the Quartzsite Southern Baptist Church a vision for Christian education and character-building for young people and the vision has become a reality.

We have a strong staff that loves children, and we are dedicated to serving our students in the best possible manner. We hope that this school year will be fun, uplifting, and challenging for your children.

We will be scheduling several activities throughout the school year that will be recreational, as well as educational. We look forward to field trips and sporting activities that will be planned throughout the school year. Each day we will have Chapel speakers who will be encouraging and uplifting. On occasion, we will have guest speakers who will share with us what God has done in their lives. Of course, we try to make all classwork interesting, inspiring, and challenging while preparing students for a productive future, whether it be college or career.

Clear and effective communication with all our parents throughout the school year is a priority. Please make sure we have your phone number(s) where you can be reached during regular school hours. If you change your phone number, please let us know.

Students: Your attitude towards God, your family, your school, and your work will determine how much you enjoy the school year. Someone once said, "Your attitude determines your altitude." If you come to school complaining about the rules and regulations or murmuring about certain students or teachers, you will struggle. If you come to school determined to get the most out of your education and dedicated to accomplishing great things for God, you will have a great year. We love the attitude Jesus told us to have – "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33) Take a moment daily to get your attitude right before God.

It is our vision that QSCA be an extension of the Christian home, existing primarily to provide a God-centered education and to follow the biblical imperative, "Love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words which I command you this day shall be in thy heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently unto all thy children...." Deuteronomy 6: 5-7

Our students are trained in Christian principles, biblical history, Bible memory, and Christian character qualities, as well as a comprehensive general education. Using the Accelerated Christian Education curriculum, this school accommodates students from kindergarten to twelfth grade and empowers parents with a Christian atmosphere for educating their sons and daughters by reinforcing traditional family values while equipping and challenging them to be the leader(s) of tomorrow.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us.

Sincerely in Christ,

QSCA Staff and School Board

PHILOSOPHY OF QSCA

The **philosophy** of Quartzsite Southern Christian Academy (QSCA) is consistent with that of the Quartzsite Southern Baptist Church in that:

- Christ shall have preeminence.
- The Bible is the inerrant word of God and is the only source for faith and practice.
- Children are a heritage from the Lord and each is precious in His sight.
- Christian principles and precepts are taught by the life of the teacher (supervisor or monitor) as well as by the spoken word.

This school stands without apology for the Christian gospel and the highest standards of morality and behavior. Scripture admonishes us to do all things to please God and not man and to bring glory and honor to Him.

Therefore, we desire to strive for excellence in every area, including character development, academic achievement, intellectual and physical development, and social interaction. The staff is dedicated to serving the Lord with all the expertise and training that God has given. This requires a commitment of our resources of time, finances, and abilities. We expect that parents and students will reciprocate with their commitment to excellence, which includes daily attendance. We also expect students to refrain from the use of illicit drugs and participating in any illegal activity.

The home is the first sphere of authority. God has clearly given parents the responsibility of training and educating their children.

Another sphere of authority is the church, and it has been given the responsibility to display and proclaim the gospel to our students, and to raise them to be those who love Jesus and see how His kindness and grace wonderfully impact everything.

The authority of the government has been given the responsibility to execute wrath on those who do evil and to reward those who do good. The government was not given the responsibility from God for training and educating children.

God has given parents authority over their children. When a child is enrolled at QSCA, parents are delegating some of that authority to the school as a ministry of the church. While students are on school grounds or are involved in school activities, we will exercise the delegated authority given to us by the parents. For the purposes of social propriety and Christian testimony, we urge parents to set high standards of dress and conduct for their children at home, school, and everywhere else.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF QSCA

The Academy's three **goals** for each student are:

1. To receive the necessary training to become a functional, productive, contributing member within the sphere of God's designated authority of the home, the church, and the government by learning and applying biblical principles of life.
2. To know how to live in a right relationship with God, and in a beneficial, supportive relationship with others.
3. To learn the foundational skills of learning, communication, and technology in order to function successfully in today's society.

The development of our well-rounded curriculum maintains focus on the following growth **objectives** which are in line with striving for excellence in every aspect of the student's life.

MENTAL: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." **Philippians 2:5**

- *To develop a Christlikeness reaction to life*
- *To discover and develop individual aptitudes.*
- *To attain a command of common knowledge and skills*
- *To cultivate critical thinking skills*

SPIRITUAL: "Let the Word of God dwell in you richly." **Colossians 3:16**

- *To encourage personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour*
- *To enrich a child's devotional life*
- *To develop a well-balanced and Christ-like personality*
- *To inspire knowledge, love and understanding of the Bible*
- *To instill a sense of concern for the lost*
- *To encourage those who know Christ to share the gospel*

SOCIAL: "No man liveth unto himself." **Romans 14:7**

- *To always instill loyalty to Jesus Christ in all things and*
- *To develop a sympathetic understanding and helpful participation within the family unit*
- *To help the child share his Christian responsibility as a citizen*
- *To awaken and foster missionary responsibilities at home and in foreign fields*
- *To develop an agape love for all while knowing the sinfulness of sin*

PHYSICAL: "Present your bodies a living sacrifice ... unto God." **Romans 12:1**

- *To develop a respect for the body as the temple of the Holy Spirit*
- *To teach intelligent care of the body*
- *To encourage the yielding of the body as an instrument for God's use*

EMOTIONAL: "Be strong in the Lord and in the Power of His might." **Ephesians 6:10**

- *To establish an emotional balance*
- *To build a Spirit-controlled personality*
- *To adjust easily to situations*
- *To develop healthy interests and abilities*

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Attendance at QSCA is a privilege and not a right. The goal of this school is not to reform but to train the youth in every ability in the highest principles of Christian leadership, self-discipline, individual responsibility, personal integrity and good citizenship.

Students who are tardy more than seven times in a quarter will be placed on probation. If they are late more than nine days in a quarter, they will be given an in-school suspension, and if more than twelve days, they will be expelled.

Students who are absent from school more than seven days in a quarter will be placed on probation. If students are absent for nine days they will be given in-school suspension, and if they are absent more than twelve days they will be expelled.

Our **dress code** includes but is not limited to, the following guidelines: Neat, Conservative, and Modest.

- By neat, we mean clothing should be clean and pressed if needed. Hair should be brushed and combed. Young men's hair should not be below their ears.
- By conservative, we mean casual attire. Baggy pants, form-fitting tops, or torn clothing are some examples of what goes against the casual dress guidelines. This will be monitored by the supervisors and monitors.
- By modest, we mean that clothing should draw attention to our faces, rather than our bodies. Low-cut or sleeveless tops must not be worn at school.

If students are not properly dressed, their parents will be called to bring them a change of clothes.

We believe that the best way to meet these goals is having school uniforms. Every student **MUST** wear his or her school uniform each day unless specified by the school. If a student is out of uniform, he or she will be asked to return home to change and return to school.

NOTE: Students, supervisors, and monitors **NEED** IDs with a lanyard. [See section on Quarterly Awards.]

School hours are 8:00 a.m. each morning, Monday – Thursday. Class dismisses each afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

We will follow the LaPaz School District Schedule, modified to meet the scheduling needs of the church and school.

Campus rules include:

- We have a closed campus policy.
- Visitors are to check in with the office before going to a school building or classroom.
- We have trained personnel who carry a weapon for the protection of our students and staff.
- No student is allowed to leave the classroom without clearance from his/her supervisor or monitor.
- If a student needs to leave early, a parent must notify the school via text or handwritten note, signed and dated, stating with whom the student will be going home.
- Students are allowed to walk, ride bikes, or drive to school. However, they **WILL NOT** be allowed to access bikes or cars until after school.
- **DO NOT BRING** iPods, compact discs, radios, electronic games, laptops, trading cards, or magazines to school unless you have the teacher's or principal's permission to bring them to class. **NO** vaping pens, **NO** tobacco of any kind, **NO** alcohol, and **NO** weapons are allowed.
- Cellular phones may be brought to school, but they **must be turned in** to the supervisor at the beginning of class and may be returned only after school.
- **Parents may NOT call their children on cell phones during school hours.** PLEASE use the office phone to contact your child if you have an emergency.

Report Cards:

After the end of each quarter (nine weeks), we will send home a **report card** that must be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to school within a week. **Progress reports** will also be sent out every three weeks and they must be signed and returned within a week.

Quarterly Awards:

The lanyard, which is part of the dress code is where award pins are to be displayed.

- Pastor's Choice
- Honor Roll A & B
- Perfect Attendance
- Weekly Awards
- Cleanest Office (Roadrunner Trophy)

State Accreditation:

Accreditation of a private Christian School is not required for a graduate of that school to enroll in a college or university. Registrars of such institutions are interested in the academic merits of individual students, not in the name of their school of graduation. They evaluate each applicant's academic aptitude through national standardized tests. QSCA does not seek accreditation by any outside educational institution, but it does endeavor to provide the highest possible academic program.

GRADE LEVEL GUIDELINES OF QSCA

KINDERGARTEN

The curriculum used is Kindergarten with Accelerated Christian Education (ACE). This curriculum is taught in a traditional style classroom setting and offers a strong auditory base for “learning to read.” It also offers an excellent writing and numbers foundation. Each student is graded on the same material and level as the rest of the class. This curriculum is Bible-based with an emphasis on *character development*.

Discipline:

Students may be disciplined for disobedience or misbehavior. Students may be sent to the Principal’s Office for serious or repeated misbehavior. A parent conference may be necessary.

Field Trips:

Students will go on periodic field trips throughout the year. The dress code for the field trips will be school attire unless a notice is sent home to let parents know of a change.

Breaks:

Students will have at least two (2) breaks each day. They may bring a healthy snack for break, but **PLEASE do not bring toys this includes Pokemon cards.**

FIRST GRADE – HIGH SCHOOL

The curriculum used for First Grade through High School is Accelerated Christian Education (ACE). It is a self-paced, individualized, Bible-based curriculum. Lessons are divided into packets (called PACES) in such a way that 12 PACES comprise a year’s work in each subject. Students are required each quarter of school (nine weeks) to complete three PACES in each subject. Most students will have SIX core subjects (Math, English, Word Building, Literature & Creative Writing, Science and Social Studies). Students who maintain a 90% grade point average will be placed on the A Honor Roll. Students who maintain an 80%- 89% will be placed on the B Honor Roll. Pastor’s choice will be for the students who have shown the most growth educationally as well as personally.

A PACE is passed only if the student scores 80% or higher. If a student scores below the minimum, he/she will be assigned a repeat PACE of the same number. The student will work the PACE again and be tested again until the PACE is passed. All scores on the Report Card represent only the PACES passed.

STUDENT GUIDELINES OF QSCA

GOAL SETTING

Each morning before you begin your ACE work, you must set *your goals*. You will write down on your Goal Card the subjects that you have and the page numbers you plan to complete that day. You are required to set a minimum number of pages each day with supervisor guidance.

HOMEWORK

Homework is for students who do not complete their goals for the day during class time. Whatever you didn't finish in class is what you must finish for homework. Each day your teacher (supervisor or monitor) will check to make sure your goals are set reasonably and that you completed the previous day's goals.

SCORING

Scoring is a very important part of the learning process. Improper scoring usually results in failed tests. The score keys are color-coded to match your PACEs. When you come to a score strip in your PACE, you are to get permission to go to the score table to check your work. If an answer is not correct, you must place a red X on the number of that problem. If there are NO mistakes on the page, circle the page number with red ink and proceed to the next page. After all the pages have been scored, put a red X in the first box of the score strip. If you have corrected any incorrect answers, get permission to re-score. If the answers are correct, circle the red Xs and if all the answers on the page are correct, circle the page number. When all the pages in that section are correct, put a red X in the last box of the score strip.

TESTING

Testing is our tool for measuring mastery of concepts. You must score at least 80% on every test. When you complete a PACE, you must take notes from the vocabulary, the check-ups, and the self-test. Then you must turn in the completed PACE and take the test the following class day. Minimize PACE failures by taking good notes, studying on your own the night before the test, and asking your parents to quiz you over your notes. If you fail your PACE test, parents are responsible for purchasing a new PACE for \$25.00.

THE LEARNING CENTER

The Learning Center is strictly a place to work. We have breaks for the running, talking, and visiting you might want to do. We want to maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to your Christian learning experience. Therefore, we want you always to keep your offices neat and tidy. The only things that should be pinned up in your offices are your star charts, goals cards, and anything your supervisor gives you to pin up.

BREAKS

Breaks are the time to get a drink of water and go to the restroom. If you need to leave the class for these purposes beyond the appointed times, it may be at the teacher's discretion.