



Organized 1998

Our Vision

We envision the Mount Pleasant Christian School as a vibrant, cohesive learning community that fulfills its mission and purpose to develop brilliant spiritually minded students who will influence those around them for the Lord Jesus Christ for a lifetime. We envision a school characterized by visionary planning, financial stability, exemplary leadership, supportive parents, and a compassionate, competent faculty and staff. Our vision is an excellent school with an impeccable public image that exerts a Godly influence upon parents, extended families and the community.

Our Mission

The unalterable mission of the Mount Pleasant Christian School is to educate children in truth and righteousness and, in doing so, to support the Christian family and the local Bible-believing church.

Our Commitment to Excellence

A commitment to excellence glorifies God and our Lord Jesus Christ. We glorify them by faithfully pursuing excellence in all we do. For this reason, the Mount Pleasant Christian School is committed to excellence in all things, both individually and collectively, personally and professionally.

In the beginning...

God gave His Angel, Clifford M. Johnson, Jr., a vision for Mount Pleasant Church and Ministries, then housed at 1801 E. Preston Street. This God-given vision included the plans for an affordable, yet exemplary, private elementary school for Mount Pleasant and her communities. For this cause, Pastor Johnson summoned a cadre of teachers and school administrators from within the congregation. At a preliminary meeting, Pastor Johnson shared the vision and a committee was formed. Roger L. Plunkett was appointed as its leader. With diligence and determination, the committee met regularly for the next 4 years to develop plans for the Mount Pleasant Christian School. Several subcommittees were also formed to carry out critical tasks pertaining to marketing and finance, curriculum development, and state standards and credentialing.

In 1997, Pastor Johnson informed the committee that it was time to implement the plans and actualize the vision. Mount Pleasant Christian School should become a reality in the fall 1998. Bro. Plunkett and his committee escalated the pace and volume of their work. Brenda P. Haynes, who was already collaborating with Mount Pleasant in a precollegiate venture known as Project PRIME, was invited to join the committee. Over the next nine months, the school theme was established, along with colors and uniform; the Extended Day program was crafted; the budget was developed; tuition and fees were set; and the school infrastructure was conceptualized. Teachers and staff were interviewed and hired. And, a temporary school was erected, situated adjacent to the, then, newly completed sanctuary at 6000 Radecke Avenue.

On August 31, 1998, 65 beautiful, wide-eyed children, grades kindergarten through five, arrived for spiritual and intellectual instruction. The teachers who met them were Elsie M. Faconer (kindergarten), Brenda Stevenson (first grade); Angela C. Neff (second grade); Angela Parker (third grade); and Eileen T. Kamel (fourth-fifth grade). Embracing teachers and students were Pastor Clifford M. Johnson, Jr., chief executive officer, Roger L. Plunkett, director, Brenda P. Haynes, advisor; Yolanda Tillett, finance officer; Pauline Saunders, Extended Day coordinator; and Monique Cox, full-time administrative secretary.

In the following year, Mount Pleasant Christian School moved into its current state-of-the-art complex, added a sixth grade class and boosted its enrollment to 110 students. In fall 2000, God gave the increase of a very special group of 4 year olds, the pre-kindergarten class. In fall 2003, the second MPCS director and advisor were appointed, Brenda P. Haynes and Roger L. Plunkett, respectively.

In fall 2003, the computer lab was fully equipped with state-of-the-art technology and formal technology instruction was begun for all students. Spanish instruction was added to the curriculum in the fall of 2004. In summer 2005, the gymnasium was significantly upgraded; a Gerflor-Taraflex Sport floor was installed. In fall 2006, a rendering of the school logo was added to the floor.

Today, Mount Pleasant Christian School represents as an exemplary academic community with wide-ranging spiritual, cultural and academic experiences designed to “awaken the genius in every child through biblical teaching and stellar pedagogical practices.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

This **Statement of Faith** is the Biblical doctrine on which the Mount Pleasant Church and Ministries and the Mount Pleasant Christian School are based. The Statement represents the key elements of Christianity that are taught and modeled without apology throughout the curriculum and environment, at all grade levels.

- I. We believe that the Bible is the inspired, inerrant, and only infallible, authoritative Word of God. (II Timothy 3:16)
- II. We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (I John 5:5-7)
- III. We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is both God and man in one person. In His virgin birth, in His sinless life, and His miracles, in His bodily resurrection, in His Ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory, He is our Redeemer. (I Corinthians 15:3, I Peter 2:21-24; John 3:16)
- IV. We believe that God created man and all things that are good, visible and invisible, by the power of His Word. (Genesis 1, 2; John 1)
- V. We believe that man, made in the image of God, is responsible to God in all things and has a unique and valuable place in the plan of God and must be highly esteemed and respected. (Colossians 1:15)
- VI. We believe that all people are, in the unnatural state, lost and sinful and in need of regeneration by the Holy Spirit, faith in Jesus Christ and repentance toward God. (Romans 3:21-30; Galatians 4:4-7)
- VII. We believe that the Christian is enabled to live a godly life by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:16, 18, 25)
- VIII. We believe that there is a resurrection of both the saved and the lost: they that are saved, unto the resurrection of life; and they that are lost, unto the resurrection of damnation. (John 5:24, 28, 29)
- IX. We believe that there is a spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (John 17:21-23)

“Train up a child in the way that he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).

PURPOSE OF POLICIES

In order to function in *a more excellent way*, as God desires, the Mount Pleasant Christian School must operate through consistent and coherent guidelines communicated to the total learning community. The MPCS Parent-Student Handbook is the document designed to facilitate the promulgation of these policies and procedures. Adherence to these regulations and guidelines foster a unified spirit and maximize your student's opportunity to utilize the curricula, activities, and relationships available at the Mount Pleasant Christian School.

PEDAGOGICAL AIM

Mount Pleasant Christian School aims to “awaken the God-given genius in every child” through the systematic teaching of God's Word and exemplary pedagogical practices. In addition, the school intends that its students will learn to read, write, and think critically across all curricular areas and will practice a lifestyle based upon the Word of God.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Mount Pleasant Christian School admits students of any race, color, national, or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national, or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, or administered programs.

ADMINISTRATION

The Mount Pleasant Christian School is a ministry of the Mount Pleasant Church and Ministries. Therefore, it is under the direct headship of its visionary, Pastor Clifford M. Johnson, Jr. Day-to-day operations of the school are the responsibility of the school's director along with the advisor. Faculty and staff are responsible to God and to the administration for executing their roles and responsibilities within the MPCS learning community. Faculty and staff are co-laborers with parents and families in rearing students in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

SCHOOL HOURS

For all grades, the school day is 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS

The school office opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 3:45 p.m. During the tuition payment period of time, the office will remain open until 5:45 p.m. Summer hours are 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

ADMISSION/READMISSION

The Mount Pleasant Christian School is designed and led to offer a quality education in a safe and Christian environment. Thus, students are carefully screened and admitted in order to maintain a student body of stellar academic and behavioral caliber.

Acceptance of applicants will be based on results of achievement tests, personal interviews with student and his/her parents, recommendation concerning character and attitude, school records and evidence of promise. In order to be admitted, students must be in good standing with their previous school. MPCS does not have the resources to serve children with extreme emotional or behavioral difficulties or students with significant academic deficiencies.

By choice, the applicant and his/her parents obligate themselves to the standards of the Mount Pleasant Christian School. Admittance reflects the school's faith in the student and his/her family. Enrollment is granted on a year-by-year basis.

Consideration for enrollment or re-enrollment to the Mount Pleasant Christian School is based upon the following requirements.

- A. Applicants must exhibit age appropriate developmental maturity.
- B. Applicants must exhibit a level of emotional stability that enables him/her to function in the school's learning climate.
- C. Kindergarten-4 applicants should reach the age of four year by September 1 of the current calendar year. Individual exceptions may be considered by the administration.
- D. Each applicant must demonstrate age-appropriate achievement on literacy/numeracy tests or reading and math screening tests and behavioral measures.
- E. If the applicant has taken any standardized test, s/he should have earned national scores at the 50th percentile or higher in reading, math and language.
- F. The results of any MPCS testing will be combined with the student's report card and any previous standardized test scores to determine admission eligibility and the most appropriate grade level placement.
- G. The applicant should comprehend that his/her parents have delegated authority to the MPCS School during school hours. Therefore, s/he is subject to the instruction and discipline of the staff, teachers, and administration in their designated capacities at the School.
- H. The MPCS administration may withdraw acceptance at any step during the admission process where it becomes apparent that the Mt. Pleasant Christian School is not a compatible intellectual and spiritual environment for the child and/or his/her family.
- I. The parents of each applicant should demonstrate a clear understanding of MPCS's biblical foundation and administration. This understanding must include a desire (1) to have their child learn and live the school's *Statement of Faith* and (2) to have their child trained according to the full counsel of God's Word.

The parents must be willing to cooperate with all written policies of MPCS. This willingness pertains particularly to the *Code of Behavior*, *Discipline Policy*, and *Dress and Uniform Code*

ARRIVAL

Students may arrive between 7:50-8:00 a.m. Students who arrive before 7:50 a.m. are sent to *BeforeCare*; parents are assessed a fee of \$5.00 for each occurrence.

Teachers meet students in the School Lobby and escort them to the classrooms. Students who arrive after 8:10 a.m. are considered late and need a Late Pass to enter the classroom. Late students will obtain the pass from the secretary and proceed to classrooms via the health suite door. Parents may not escort students to the classroom. When a student requires assistance with school materials, the parent should inform the secretary and leave the items in the School Office.

Three occurrences of lateness within a term will make the student ineligible for the Perfect Attendance Award. When lateness causes the student to miss assignments or class participation in a particular subject, the student must make up the work or the student's grade in that subject may be adversely affected.

LUNCH AND RECESS SCHEDULE

Students eat lunch in the MPCS Dining Room – Room #119. Parents should prepare nutritious, balanced bag lunches for students. Fresh fruits, raw vegetables, and nuts are thought to be great brain foods! Microwaves are available in the Dining Room for heating soups, noodles, and other light foods. Permissible beverages include water, juices and lightly sweetened fruit drinks. **No sodas**, please. Support staff and classroom teachers supervise lunch and recess periods. Recess may occur in the gymnasium, playroom or outdoors.

HOT LUNCH

Nutritious hot lunches are available students on Monday and Friday. These meals are prepared by the Culinary Ministry of the Mount Pleasant Church and served in the Grand Fellowship Hall. While the Friday lunch is free to our students, the Monday hot lunch is available at a low cost (to be paid in one lump sum). Parents and grandparents are invited to assist with Hot Lunch.

DISMISSAL

The School Day ends at 3:00 p.m. At 2:50 p.m. students are led in prayer by the teacher; at 2:55 p.m., students will be escorted to Extended Care or to the Lobby for dismissal.

For safety and security reasons, students will REMAIN IN THE LOBBY under the supervision of teachers until they are picked up. Parents and all other persons who come to pick up MPCS students must park, come into the lobby, and receive student(s) from the classroom teachers. Parents or their designees must refrain from driving up to the school entrance. Double parking is inappropriate because it creates a safety hazard. Students will not be released to go outside to a vehicle. No exceptions.

If someone other than persons identified on the emergency card is assigned to receive a student, the parent must bring or fax **WRITTEN PERMISSION FOR THE RELEASE OF THE STUDENT TO THE PERSON** prior to the dismissal hour. The **authorized person must present a photo ID which will be photocopied by the staff.**

Students who remain in the lobby after 3:10 p.m. are escorted to the Extended Day Program and parents will be assessed a late fee of \$10.00 for the service. This fee is paid to the Extended Day staff when the child is picked-up.

ATTENDANCE

Because punctuality and attendance are related to academic success and consistent with the Word of God, all students are expected to come to school every day, on time. Excessive absences and tardiness are interruptions to the pursuit of academic excellence and will be addressed. Students who are consistently late and/or absence may be administratively withdrawn from the school.

PARENT REQUEST FOR EARLY DISMISSAL

To pick up a student prior to 2:50 p.m., parents must come to the school office and complete an Early Dismissal Form. After the form is completed, the secretary will have the student brought to the parent, in the office. Early dismissal requests should be reserved for and limited to authentic emergencies. Any other situations may serve to trivialize the importance of schooling and personal responsibility. An unexcused early dismissal will count as an occurrence of lateness.

CHAPEL

Chapel occurs each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the 30-minute chapel experience is praise, worship, and spiritual development through songs, psalms, child evangelism and the preached Word of God. Parents are invited to attend without prior notice.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS

During the school year, the following special classes may be offered to students. Special subject offerings are contingent upon the needs of students, teaching priorities and time constraints within the school schedule.

Computer Technology. All students receive age-appropriate technology instruction in the computer lab on a weekly basis. Students use on-line resources to perform research, as well as develop graphic design, spreadsheet, and word processing skills to enhance their classroom presentations. The grading scale for Computer is unsatisfactory, satisfactory, or outstanding.

Instrumental Music. Instrumental music is an optional, intellectually enriching, extracurricular, fee-based activity that is available to students of varying grade levels. Parents pay for lessons and instruments.

Library. Students have one required library period per week. During the library period, students will engage in free reading, research and other activities, as assigned by the classroom teacher. Books and materials remain on site.

Physical Fitness. Students will have a weekly 30-minute physical fitness period that includes developmentally appropriate activities one a week. Physical education uniforms are worn to school on the designated day. Physical education uniforms are worn with PLAIN tennis shoes.

Spanish. Students engage in two instructional periods per week. Spanish is taught by the language teacher in the Spanish Classroom. The grading scale for Spanish is unsatisfactory, satisfactory, or outstanding.

Music. On a weekly basis, students receive music instruction from a qualified music teacher. The curriculum includes elements of Christian, classical, jazz, traditional and contemporary music.

MEDICATION POLICY

Upon completion of the request process, medications may be administered to students by MPCS certified medication assistants. MPCS students may not possess or self administer any medications. To request that MPCS administer medication to your child, the following procedures must be enacted:

1. The medication is supplied by the parents in a container labeled by the pharmacist or physician with (a) the name of the child; (b) the name of the physician; (c) the name of the medication; (d) the dosage, route, and time; (e) conditions for proper storage; and (f) prescription date and expiration date.
2. The *Covenant Not to Sue and Indemnification Agreement* is signed by both parents and guardians.

ANAPHYLAXIS

In the event that a student experiences a severe allergic reaction, 911 will be called and parents will be notified. MPCS administrators should be informed in writing of any child with life-threatening allergies so that an emergency care plan can be developed.

HANDLING INJURIES

All instances of student accident or injury will be handled with the utmost care and skill, as delineated in the MPCS *Handling Student Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Situations* policy statement (see Appendix A). In cases of head injury and life threatening injuries, parents will be notified immediately.

CHANGES IN INFORMATION

Parents SHOULD provide written notification of any changes in student's personal and contact information, including changes in name, address, telephone number, parental emergency numbers or family status. In cases of emergency and disaster, accurate, readily available current contact and medical information is of paramount importance.

PARENTAL CLASS VISITATIONS

Custodial parents and legal guardians are encouraged to actively participate in all aspects of children's schooling. However, all classroom observations must be scheduled. Parents should call the school the day before they wish to observe to schedule the visit. If tests or other sensitive instructional activities are planned for the desired day, parents will be informed and asked to select another time and/or date. In order to meet the needs of all students and to maximize instructional time, teachers will not conference during visitations. Parents are not to pose questions or express concerns to teachers while teachers are engaged in teaching activities. Parents will also refrain from engaging in conversations with children in the classroom.

COMMUNICATION

The MPCS is deeply committed to God and His ways; therefore, MPCS is deeply committed to its students and their families and to the creation of a loving school environment that is deeply rooted in scripture. When a parent or a student has a concern relative to instruction, discipline or homework, the parent should first seek to address the concern with the classroom teacher. If the concern is not addressed satisfactorily, then the parent/student should contact the Administrators.

If there is a concern or need that extends beyond the classroom and the teacher, such as, concerns about another student or parent, administrators should be contacted. As members of the Body of Christ and members of a learning community, we should always be mindful that we are to emulate the mind and Spirit of Christ, even in times of disagreement.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Christian education promotes a higher standard of personal behavior, academic scholarship, responsible participation in school life, and a developing ability to attain competent self-direction in preparation for adult life. This includes learning respect for and obedience to rightful authority and the development of a strong sense of individual responsibility.

The basic concept of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION at the Mount Pleasant Christian School includes a genuine interest in the total life of each student as an individual person. MPCS earnestly cares about what each student attending this community thinks, believes, and does.

Christian Education as practiced here is dedicated to placing in the hearts, minds, and lives of children all that God has revealed in the Bible and the very best that man has learned, discovered and experienced during his existence on this earth.

To fulfill its mission to develop and nurture the genius in every child, the Mount Pleasant Christian School has developed a **BIBLICAL CODE OF BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE POLICY**. This **Biblical Code of Conduct will be** learned and practiced by all members of the Mount Pleasant Christian School Learning Community.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Code 1: Students will respect and obey the Word of God. [Ps. 19:7-11; II Tim. 3:16-17]

Code 2: Students will speak only kind and Godly words and thoughts to all classmates, teachers and adults. [Eph. 4:29-32]

Code 3: Students will pay attention during instructional activities and respond immediately to the teacher's directions. [Prov. 12:1; Heb. 13:1]

Code 4: Students will ask and receive permission to move from assigned seats or tasks. [Heb. 13:17]

Code 5: Students will speak only when given permission to do so during formal instructional settings. [Eccl. 3:1]

Code 6: Students will keep their hands and feet to themselves; students will keep hands and feet from the person of all classmates and schoolmates and refrain from touching, tapping, and fighting at all times. [Cor. 13:8a; Zech. 8:16-17]

Code 7: Students will come to school in uniform, on time and in readiness to work all day. [Heb. 13:17]

Code 8: Students will follow the instructions and leadership of the Extended Day Program, cafeteria, recess, and volunteer staffs. [Heb. 13:17; Prov. 22:6]

Code 9: Students will walk and speak in a quiet voice when moving from place to place around the school and church. [Thess. 4:11]

Code 10: Students will bring to school only those educational and curricular material items required or requested by the teachers. Therefore, toys, guns, compact discs, compact disc players, and pornographic literature are prohibited. [Heb. 13:17]

DISCIPLINE POLICY

The classroom teacher will manage most day-to-day discipline. And, discipline is administered in light of the student's problem and attitude. Moreover, all discipline is based upon biblical principles and is designed to bring about restoration, healing and spiritual growth. Any behavior

or act that violates the MPCS Code of Behavior is considered inappropriate and will result in immediate and consistent consequences.

These consequences may include:

1. Prayer and Verbal Warning and Restitution
2. Loss of Full Recess Period
3. Parental/Guardian Notification
4. Lunch/Recess Detention
5. Loss of Special Events and Field Trip Privileges
6. Permanent Loss of Forbidden Items (e.g. guns, CD Players, toys)

Major Infractions→Suspension/Expulsion

Certain major infractions and behaviors will be handled by the Administration and will result in immediate parental notification and/or suspension. There are six such categories of behaviors.

1. Stealing, cheating and lying.
2. Fighting and other physically, aggressive behavior.
3. Using foul language or gestures.
4. Possessing guns, pornographic materials, “PG” rated rap or adult CDs.
5. Dishonoring the Word of God.
6. Rebellion, i.e. outright disobedience in response to instructions, including repeated failure to follow teacher directions or to complete assigned tasks.

The Mount Pleasant Christian School values obedience and expects its students to obey the Word of God and the school’s faculty and staff. Students who do not respond to the teacher’s voice at all times may be suspended from school. MPCS fully expects its students to be exceptionally well-behaved and well-spoken, at school and at home.

Suspension

When expectations are not met, the Administration will adhere to the procedures indicated below when handling suspensions. Moreover, where there is evidence that the student is repentant, exceptions are possible. These exceptions will be made by the Administration.

First Offense – Warning, restitution, apologies, and/or in-school suspension for one school day and a parent-teacher conference. In all instances, students must fulfill all academic responsibilities.

Second Offense – Warning, restitution, apologies, two-day suspension and parent-administrator conference. Missed work must be turned in when student returns to school.

Third Offense – Restitution, apologies, five day suspension, and required external student-parent counseling/consultation. Missed work must be turned in when student returns to school.

Repeated offenses results in expulsion from the MPCS.

DRESS CODE

MPCS students must appear neat, clean and appropriately attired and well-spoken at all times. Central to acceptable appearance is the presence of all uniform elements and the absence of adult-like, worldly accessories and hairstyles, hair ornaments, fingernail tips, etc.

Students are required to arrive at school each day in full uniform (see Appendix B). All components of the uniform must be worn each day. School Dress Code compliance is a vital component of “training up” our children; therefore, it must be faithfully followed.

Appearance

- ❑ Girls’ hair should be neat and natural, free of synthetic additions, dreads, twists, etc. and modestly adorned. Boys must maintain a short haircut-no dreads, twists, etc.
- ❑ Girls’ jewelry is limited to small stud earrings and a single-strand bracelet or bangle. Boys may not wear jewelry, including earrings and chains.
- ❑ Neither girls nor boys may wear body rings, tattoos, ostentatious jewelry, or fingernail polish. Modesty is our standard. All watches must be plain face timepieces, not made in the image of monstrous and/or demonic characters.

If a student arrives out of uniform, parents are sent a reminder. With a subsequent violation, the student will be sent to the office and the parent will be telephoned. If there is a third occurrence, student will be sent to the office where s/he will remain until the missing uniform elements are supplied.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Uniforms must be purchased from the official uniform vendor: **Dennis Uniform, 1110C North Rolling Road Plaza, Catonsville, MD, 21228, (410) 869-4682; (800) 854-6951; www.dennisuniform.com**. Our school code is BT00MP. Online ordering is available.

HOMEWORK

Homework is important! It is a vehicle for practice and reinforcement of new and developing skills. However, it should be pleasurable and completed within a reasonable amount of time. The MPCS expects its parents to consistently participate in their children’s homework experiences. Students will receive daily or weekly homework sheets. All students will have daily homework assignments.

OBTAINING ASSIGNMENTS WHEN ABSENT

When students are absent, the following procedures should be followed: (1) if out for one day, student/parent should call a friend to get assignments or check the class website and check with your teacher for any remaining work when you return; (2) if out for several days, call before 9

a.m. and plan to pick up assignments after 3 p.m. in the office; and (3) if going out of town, get prior permission from the teacher and the administrator, give the teacher one week's notice, and turn in assignments upon return to school.

FRIDAY FOLDER

Each Friday students will receive a folder that contains informational items, papers/tests and a weekly progress report. Parents should read and sign the Progress Report and return the Report on Monday. Because the folder is a critical component of parent-teacher-school communication, parents must carefully read and respond appropriately to all FRIDAY FOLDER elements.

REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

Report cards are distributed four times during the school year. At the end of the first three marking periods, classroom teachers will schedule individual parent conferences (see table below) and distribute report cards. The final report card will be distributed immediately following the Graduation and Awards Ceremony.

MARKING PERIODS

The MPCS school year consists of 180 student days divided into four *terms* or *marking periods* (see table below). At the end of each term, grades are tabulated and averaged for each subject. At the end of the school year, term grades are averaged for a final grade in each subject, as well as an overall final average.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Students who fail two or more core subjects during any quarter will be placed on Academic Probation for the following quarter. Two consecutive quarters on Academic Probation may result in retention in that grade level, required summer study or expulsion from the school.

PROMOTION POLICY

Except in cases of excused absences, each student is expected to attend the designated number of school days to be eligible for promotion. Any student who earns a low grade average (C- or less) or is failing to indicate mastery of skills and content covered in his grade level will be maintained in that grade level until s/he has shown sufficient progress to allow him to function successfully in the next grade. If there is a possibility that a student will be retained, parents will be notified well in advance of the end of the school year, and the teacher and administration will work with the family to assist in arranging supplementary instruction. With effective and consistent parent-teacher communication, there should be no instance where the parent is unaware of the student's academic difficulties.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

Comprehensive testing will take place each year utilizing the Stanford Achievement Tests, an annual program of student assessment for grades K–12. In conjunction with Harcourt Educational Measurement, a Bible Assessment Subtest was developed to measure mastery of facts, understanding and application of biblical principles.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Student behavior and achievement will be celebrated during the Awards and Graduation Ceremony. Awards and recognitions will be based upon performance and behavior for the entire school year. The award categories (see table below) will be: (1) Outstanding Academic Achievement; (2) Fruit of the Spirit; (3) Perfect Attendance; and (4) Most Improved.

Award	Criterion
Outstanding Academic Achievement	Honor roll and biblical conduct for 4 terms.
Fruit of the Spirit	Galatians 5:22-23
Perfect Attendance	Perfect Attendance for 4 quarters with no absences and three or less marks of lateness per term.
Most Improved	Significant increase in academic performance (10 point minimum) or in adherence to the Code of Conduct (as judged by the teacher).

EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

The Extended Day Program includes BeforeCare and AfterCare. BeforeCare is available from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.; AfterCare will be available from 3:00– 6:00 p.m. The Extended Day Program will observe the MPCS calendar and emergency closings. When the school is closed, Extended Day services will be closed. When the School Day ends early, there will be no After Care service.

The Extended Day Program maintains the MPCS standard of excellence. Hence, Extended Day students will adhere to the standard of behavior set forth in the MPCS Biblical Code of Behavior and Discipline. The Extended Day Program staff may share minor behavioral concerns with parents but chronic concerns will be communicated through an administrative conference. The Extended Day Program is a service available to those students who will submit to the authority of those in charge. Persistent difficulty and disobedience from a student may result in that student’s dismissal from the Extended Day Program.

Sign In/Out Procedures. Students must be “signed in” for Before Care and “signed out” from After Care. Further, **students must always be picked up from the Extended Day Program area.** No student will be permitted to meet parents at the front of the building. If a student must be picked up by someone other than persons indicated on the Emergency Card, a **written authorization** must faxed to the office. The authorized person must present a photo ID. No exceptions, please.

Late Pick-Up. The After Care daily sign-out sheet will be removed at 6:05 p.m. When a student is picked-up after 6:10 p.m., the pick up will be considered late and the parent will incur a late

fee that is to be paid on the day that the late pick up occurs. The late fee is **\$5.00 per five minutes of lateness. The minimum late charge is \$5.00.** Chronic lateness may result in suspension of After Care services.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

After-School Clubs are designed (1) to promote school connectedness and spirit; (2) to enhance and advance psychosocial skills; (3) to provide opportunities for students to discover their natural bent and develop their genius through participation in artistic, scientific and linguistic activities; (4) to create contexts that encourage practice, refinement, and integration of reading, writing, thinking, listening and writing skills; and (5) to nurture students' need for industry.

General Guidelines

- Club membership is a privilege afforded students in grades 1 through 6 who consistently conduct themselves according to the MPCS Biblical Code of Conduct.
- Eligible students may join a Club by completing and submitting an application form and Club Fee to the Office. Special projects, such as the Christmas Program and Marital Arts, are an exception to the One-Club Rule.
- Each club will meet twice a month for a one-hour period.
- Each club will have a teacher-sponsor (s) who will develop the Club's program and schedule.
- On club meeting days, students will meet in sponsor's classroom and then, with the sponsor, proceed to the club meeting area. At the end of the club meeting, the club sponsor will escort club members to the School Lobby to meet their parents or to the Extended Day Program.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Unannounced fire and disaster evacuation drills occur during the school year. Instructions for evacuation of the building are posted in each room. When the emergency bell or call is sounded, the students quietly exit the building with their teachers.

INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS

For weather related emergency school closings, the MPCS will follow the **Baltimore County Public Schools** schedule. You may hear school related announcements on most area radio and TV stations, i.e., **WBAL Radio 11 (1190 AM), WRBS (95.1 FM), WBAL-TV 11, WBFF-TV 45.** In addition, parents may call the School voicemail for updates (410.325.4827). When the School has weather-related closings, the Extended Day Program are also closed. When there is an announced school opening delay, there is no Before Care service.

TUITION AND FEE PAYMENT: Cash/Certified Check or Money Order

Tuition and Extended Day Program fee payments are due, in full, on the First School Day of Each Month, with a two-day grace period. Payments received beyond the grace period are

considered late and will incur a late fee. Late fees are due at the time that the tuition and/or Extended Care payments are remitted.

When student tuition and fees are not paid, in full, by the fifth Day, the student will be ineligible to attend school and/or Extended Care. When the tuition and/or fee (including the late fee) are paid, the student's eligibility will be restored. "The righteous man will handle his affairs with discretion."

SCHOOL WITHDRAWAL

To withdraw a student during the school year, the parent should complete the *Request for Withdrawal* (see Appendix D). All fees paid in full through the month of the withdrawal date. Student records will not be released until all fees are paid. Tuition and/or fees are nonrefundable.

PARENTAL AGREEMENT

MPCS parents are exhorted to exercise their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as set forth and agreed upon in *MPCS Parent Covenant* (Appendix C).

PARENTS AS PARTNERS (PAP) COUNCIL

The Parents as Partners (PAP) Council is a cohesive cadre of spiritual parents who give leadership to the joint responsibility of parents and school to educate our children. The PAP Council's primary goals are: (1) to serve as a vehicle for collaboration and communication; (2) to provide resources and support for school programs and activities; and (3) to foster networks that empower families and communities.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Mount Pleasant Church & Ministries
410.325.3080

Extended Care
443. 573.1388/1389

APPENDICES

Appendix A

Handling Student Emergency and Non-Emergency Medical Situations

Emergency Medical Situations

An emergency medical situation is ANY situation that requires immediate medical attention. It may be illness or an accident. It may result in a severe, life-threatening situation. When a student is involved in an emergency medical situation, the following procedures will be enacted:

1. First, the staff will see that the phone call to emergency services is made and will provide assistance to the student until help arrives. The administration should be notified immediately!
2. The supervising staff person should provide emergency assistance as necessary (CPR, First Aid) until EMS staff arrive and solicit the assistance of other staff.
3. Where feasible, the student should be escorted to the Health Room and the assistance of the Secretary should be engaged. If the incident occurs when other students are present, an available responsible adult should be asked to monitor the students until other school personnel arrive. If the incident occurs while the student is in the supervision of an aide, the aide should first secure the safety of the student and then contact the teacher. The teacher should oversee the procedures and, in all cases, the teacher should be the person to speak with the parent(s).
4. Once the situation is stabilized, the teacher should telephone the parents and calmly and carefully describe the incident, the actions taken, and the results of those actions. The verbal report should include: who, what, when, and where.
5. The follow-up written Incident/Accident report should also include the actions taken and the result of those actions.
6. A follow-up call will be made to the parents on the evening of the incident.

Non-Emergency Medical Situations

A non-emergency medical situation is one that may result in physical changes or injuries that are not an immediate threat to the life or safety of the student. When a student experiences a non-emergency medical situation, the following procedures will be enacted:

1. First, the supervising staff will secure assistance, as needed, to maintain care for other students present, and then escort the student to the Health Room.
2. In the Health Room, the secretary will render assistance in the care and soothing of the student while the teacher notifies the administrator and then the parent.
3. The teacher/staff member making the telephone call to parent will document the date and time of the call. If the parent elects to come for the student, the teacher/staff will prepare the student for dismissal and be available to speak briefly with the parent when he or she arrives.
4. If a conference is requested, it will occur after the school day ends so that the other students may be cared for properly.
5. The teacher/staff member will complete and submit an Incident/Accident Report Form on the day that the situation occurs.
6. A follow-up call will be made to the parent on the evening of the incident.



PARENT/SCHOOL COVENANT

And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. “ Ephesians 6:4

As a parent/primary caregiver(s) of the Mt. Pleasant Christian School, I agree to adhere to spiritual and academic standards set forth by School. I understand that the School aspires to excellence for the total School Community- parents, students, teachers, staff and administration and that as a parent/caregiver of its students I must support this aspiration.

Further, I do hereby agree to the following:

- A. That I have read the **Statement of Faith** and consent to have the applicant(s) educated in accordance with its spirit and principles.
- B. That I will faithfully uphold the MPCS in matters of spiritual nurturing by regularly attending Sunday School and church services with the applicant(s).
- C. That I give permission for the applicant(s) to be disciplined in accordance with School Policy.
- D. That I recognize that the MPCS has the right to dismiss any student who does not respect its spiritual standards or cooperate in the education process.
- E. That I assume faithful responsibility for full cooperation in the areas of
 1. regular and full tuition payments;
 2. practical help to the teachers;
 3. faithful and fervent prayer;
 4. if possible, special financial gifts (since tuition does not cover all expenses);
 5. support for the administration and the teaching staff;
 6. attendance at school events;
 7. full participation in fundraisers; and
 8. participation in the Parents as Partners (PAP) meetings and functions.
- F. That the applicant(s) has permission to attend scheduled field trips and other school activities, with proper notification.
- G. That I will adhere to the Dress Code and standards of the MPCS, which includes a uniformed dress code, regulation shoes, and restricted hairstyles for the girls and the boys.

Applicant's name: _____ Date: _____

Father/Caregiver Signature

Mother/Caregiver Signature

Thank you.

Appendix D

MOUNT PLEASANT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
“Awakening the Genius in Every Child”
6000 Radecke Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21206

REQUEST FOR SCHOOL WITHDRAWAL

Please Print (To be completed by parent)

Date of Request: _____ Date of Withdrawal _____

Name of Student: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

MPCS Enrollment Date: _____ Current Teacher: _____

Reason for Withdrawal (Please check appropriate option):

- Financial Academic Personal
- Moving Administrative Other

Comments _____

Signature of Requestor: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Thank you.

For School Office Only:

Date Received: _____

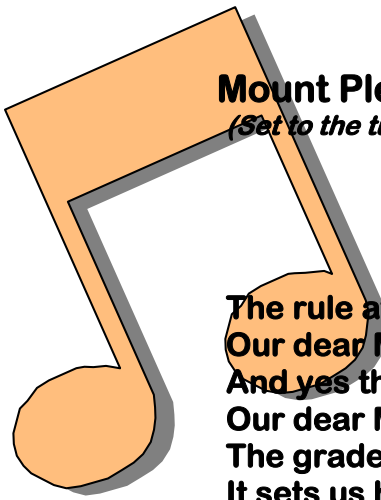
Exit Interview _____ **Interviewer:** _____

Financial Clearance Date: _____ **Approved by:** _____

Permission for Release of Records Obtained: _____

Records Sent to: _____

Appendix E

**Mount Pleasant Christian School Song***(Set to the tune of Maryland My Maryland)***Written by Steven Robert Gulas (2002)**

**The rule at school is do your best
Our dear Mt. Pleasant
And yes they put us to the test
Our dear Mt. Pleasant
The grades we earn help make us proud
It sets us high atop a cloud
And with one voice we sing aloud
Our dear Mt. Pleasant.**

**The teachers here they guide our class
Our dear Mt. Pleasant
Our parents too they guide our path
Our dear Mt. Pleasant
To change the world will be my goal
Each day I live to have and hold
The truth I know will save my soul
Our dear Mt. Pleasant.**

**Tis Jesus' ways we strive to learn
Our dear Mt. Pleasant
The life long path for which we yearn
Our dear Mt. Pleasant
In times of need the people came
He spoke His word and healed the lame
The church and school are one the same
Our dear Mt. Pleasant.**