

**MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 4-6) AND JUNIOR HIGH (GRADES 7-8)**

These students are able to build upon the foundational skills and habits of learning established in the elementary programs from which they come. The core curriculum content broadens and deepens, beginning the preparation for high school and culminating the master of the basic skills of literacy and scholarship. A variety of fine and performing arts experiences, as well as extra-curricular athletic and service activities, provide the balance and alternatives needed by the pre-adolescent student.

The success of each student is enhanced through the tutoring department which supports classroom instruction in giving both remedial and enrichment help. A strong emphasis is on peer relationships, encouraging appropriate and principled interaction among peers according to a Biblical standard. Daily Bible instruction and weekly chapels give strong spiritual support.

In fifth through eighth grades, field trips, special days and drama productions give learning a “hands-on” spirit. The core curriculum includes Bible, English, reading math, history, drama, geography, literature, Spanish, science, art, music, chorus, physical education, and keyboarding.

**A. MIDDLE SCHOOL/JUNIOR HIGH CURRICULUM:**

**Bible:** The Bible curriculum is a sequential study of the life of Old Testament and New Testament surveys, a biblical study of the teenager along with Proverbs, and Bible Doctrine.

Prayer and singing are a part of each day and attendance at Chapel is weekly on Wednesday. In the 2004/05 school year a monthly Christian Womanhood and Manhood Class will be provided.

**English:** The right balance of grammar instruction and composition practice produces excellent writers and thinkers. The English class also includes spelling, syntax vocabulary, speech, and writing. Annual Spelling Bees and Speech Meets and competitions are part of the curriculum.

**Reading:** Using the Bible as the reader, reading instruction includes comprehension drills vocabulary, content reading, and recreational reading with outside reading and quarterly book reviews.

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**Literature:** The literature program at Brenham Christian Academy cultivates a love of language and books, enriches the vocabulary, speech, and writing and teaches students the elements of literary tastes and analyses. The students study major classics, in addition to the Bible as literature, poetry, and Shakespeare in depth using the Notebook approach.

**Math:** Math Computation and concepts are taught using the text, Principle Approach and manipulative tools. Mastery of mathematics vocabulary, computation for speed and basic math concepts preparing for higher level courses are emphasized.

**Science:** Life Science, Earth Science and Introductory Physics and Chemistry cultivate the love of knowledge and observation skills as the science curriculum broadens in the middle grades. “Hands on” lab work, field work, and the study of great characters in science are included.

**History:** In the history class, the chronology of history from creation to the present is taught with an emphasis in fourth grade on Colonial America and Texas History, fifth grade on US History, sixth grade on New World History; 7<sup>th</sup> grade on Old World History, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Rudiments of America’s history.)

**Geography:** A thorough study of geography with map work, includes the continents, the United States, and Texas; and geographical terms and phenomena.

**Art:** A full art program for every student includes art history, appreciation, and practice with a wide range of media. Student art work is displayed continually and an ACSI Art Festival giving students the opportunity to cultivate an appreciation and knowledge of art and to enter work for judging at the district level and beyond.

**Music:** The music program will include regular classroom instruction in music theory and appreciation as well as vocal singing. A middle school and a seventh and eighth grade chorus is offered with performances throughout the year. Band is an option for students in the fifth grade and up.

**Drama:** Seventh and eighth grade students receive weekly instruction in dramatic performance. Each class presents a dramatic offering each year with every student activity participating: the seventh traditionally presents Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet* and the eighth grad performs a series of Geek plays.

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BREHAM CHRISTIAN ACADEMY CURRICULUM CHART

4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
English Grammar, Composition Reading, Speech	English Grammar, Composition Reading, Speech	English Grammar, Composition Reading, Speech	English Grammar, Composition Reading, Speech	English Grammar, Composition Reading, Speech
Literature: The Bible as Literature; Poetry, Classical Novels	Literature: The Bible as Literature; Poetry, Classical Novels	Literature: The Bible as Literature; Poetry, Classical Novels	Literature: The Bible as Literature; Poetry, Classical Novels	Literature: The Bible as Literature; Poetry, Classical Novels
Colonial Am & TX History	US History	Old World History	New World History	Rudiments of American History
Science, Computer	Science, Computer	Earth Science, Computer	Life Science	IPC
Bible	Old Testament Survey	New Testament Survey	Christian Manhood and Womanhood; Proverbs	Bible Doctrine
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics; Pre-Algebra	Pre Algebra or Algebra I
Fine Arts	Fine Arts	Fine Arts	Fine Arts/Kbdg	Fine Arts/Kbdg
Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education

**B. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

- 1. SPEECH MEET:** All students in eighth grade participate in the ACSI Speech competitions with many of them receiving top awards against 15 different Christian Academy
- 2. SPECIAL DAYS:** Special Days are set aside to celebrate various aspects of our curriculum. Class rooms come alive with students dressed in costumes, authentic foods, crafts, music visuals and special guests. Examples: Plimoth Plantation Day, Christian Heritage Day, and Liberty Day.
- 3. EIGHTH GRADE PRESENTATION:** Our eighth graders complete their elementary education with a special presentation at the annual fall celebration.

4. **ATHLETICS:** Athletics for team and individual sports include football, volleyball, and basketball are available for students in 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. An athletic banquet will be held at the end of basketball season.
  
5. **CHEERLEADING:** Cheerleading is available for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade girls. Girls participate in camp and they work to support and encourage the football and basketball teams. They attend summer camp and practice routinely during the year. The cost of uniforms is borne by parents and supplemented by fund-raising efforts organized by the squad's coach.

*In essentials—unity*

*In non-essentials—liberty*

*In all things—charity*

*--Phillip Melanethon, 1500's*

*(Father of Christian Scholarship and Mentor to Martin Luther)*

School life is individuals, relationships, and communication. Effective and loving communication is an essential key and goal in the Christian education we are providing at Brenham Christian Academy. Since parents ultimately bear the responsibility of their child's education, it is essential that open and healthy communication exists between home and school. We are committed to this principle and pray that we are consistent and careful as communicators. As educators we know that in the classroom it is important for the teacher to establish her authority with her students. We know, too, that a loving and accepting relationship of trust with each child is important to the learning process. Therefore, we are dedicated to placing our relationship with people first in all that occurs in our principles, policies, and practices of the daily educational process. We are not perfect, but do believe that God is able to bless our efforts to maintain supportive and loving relationships and forgive our shortcomings. We prayerfully apply Biblical principles to problems as they arise.

**A. THE DAILY ASSIGNMENT BOOK (4<sup>TH</sup> – 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADES)**

The Daily Assignment Book is a valuable daily communication for parents of 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Your child's teacher(s) will make certain that any homework assignment is in this book and will make comments if necessary for your attention. Please check daily with your child for communication from the teacher.

**B. THE GUARDIAN EAGLES NEWSLETTER**

This parent newsletter is published monthly and mailed with the monthly statements near the end of each month. It features education articles, and news pertaining to the life of the school, upcoming calendar of events, student achievements, etc. Parents are highly encouraged to read each one to keep abreast of current communication.

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**C. PROGRESS REPORTS**

In our new nine week grading period, progress reports will be posted on RenWeb at the third and sixth weeks points for any child with an average below 80 in any course as well as for conduct concerns.

**D. REPORT CARDS**

Report cards will go out at the end of each nine week grading period through RenWeb. Parents must sign the report card and return the slip to the school indicating that you have reviewed the report.

**E. PERSONAL COMMUNICATION**

Effective and immediate communication in matters of a more personal nature requires a note or telephone call. In order to effectively work with each family, the administration and faculty need to be informed when there are problems. Parents are encouraged to respond to personal notes from teachers requiring parental action immediately. A short conference with the teacher may be needed for resolution of some situations. Parents will be notified when their child has received disciplinary action that is severe enough to be taken to the principal.

**F. FAMILY ORIENTATION NIGHT**

Brenham Christian Academy has a Family Orientation Night for all parents as the school year begins. All parents are encouraged to attend and meet the teachers and receive information helpful to effective school operation for the new school year.

**G. HANDLING PROBLEMS, OFFENSES, AND COMPLAINTS**

The Biblical “Principle of Unity with Union” commands that, as Christians, we walk in unity and harmony with God and each other in our association as a school family. Many problems arise in relationships over the course of a school year in a body of over one hundred families that could give cause for disunity. At Brenham Christian Academy, problems are seen as opportunities for communication and resolution. In the daily life of one administrator or teacher, there are many possibilities for misunderstandings in communication. Teaching and learning IS communication. What a child perceives may or may not have been what was communicated by the school. This principle also works in reverse! Therefore, open and immediate communication with the SOURCE of the misunderstanding is necessary for understanding and resolving the situation. If you have been offended in some way, always begin by finding out just what was communicated (Matthew 18 principle). The *Bible* tells us

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**SCHOOL PARENT COMMUNICATIONS  
G. (continued)**

to first BELIEVE THE BEST of one another in LOVE. Relationships are built on TRUST, OPEN COMMUNICATION, and an HONEST REPORT!

Brenham Christian Academy board members, administrators, teachers, coaches, and staff, take seriously the sacred trust of educating children and expect that parents uphold that same trust and commitment at home. We appreciate parents who maintain the integrity and reputation of each Brenham Christian Academy Family member in their homes by faithfully practicing the Word of God.

Effective communication means that we maintain a good report and get to the heart of problems quickly. Sometimes we must confront someone about an unpleasant matter, but this is necessary to ensure that it does not grow into a much larger issue. We are commanded by God to go to that person FIRST, not to discuss it with those not involved, and thereby open the door to potential gossip, mistrust, division, and defamed character.

For the welfare of each child and his education, as well as for the continued health and growth of Brenham Christian Academy, we are commanded by Christ to resolve any conflict, offense, or hurt by applying His Word. Frequently when an individual does not deal with a problem or an offense scripturally, the relationship spirals on a downward course toward disunity. A miscommunication frequently leads to a more serious problem, which can eventually break the fellowship and association. There are many scriptural admonitions and instructions in the Bible for how to maintain healthy relationships:

*A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another, as I love you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. –John 15:34-35*

*With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. –Ephesians 4:23*

(Please see the following page for “Practicing the Matthew 18 Principle.”)

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**PRACTICING THE MATTHEW 18 PRINCIPLE**

*“And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed. And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax gatherer.”*      *--Matthew 18:15-17*

**STEPS FOR RESOLVING PROBLEMS AND OFFENSES**

1. Remember that God has providentially placed each person at Brenham Christian Academy for eternal growth and instruction; therefore, building healthy relationships is pre-eminent in the educational process.
2. Choose to believe the best of everyone, building relationships on a sacred trust and the bond of Christian love.
3. Lovingly and prayerfully apply the Biblical principles of unity and positive communication.
4. Do not entertain gossip or complaints, knowing they are sinful and withhold the blessings and favor of God.
5. Choose to speak a good report of everyone in order to uphold the integrity and reputation of all.
6. Deal immediately with problems when they arise, no matter how insignificant they appear.
7. Prayerfully go first to the source of the misunderstanding.
8. Deal with problems in private with only the person(s) involved.
9. Privately seek a higher authority if the problem is not resolved. If in question, please refer to the Brenham Christian Academy Flow Chart representing the Chain of Authority.
10. Forgive quickly, apply mercy, and see each person fresh each day. Believe God for total restoration in the relationship and walk in brotherly love.

**GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

The grievance procedure outlined here is available to any parent. A grievance is a complaint based on any alleged violation or inequitable application of a policy. A grievance must be filed with the Superintendent within five (5) days of the occurrence on which the grievance is based. The grievance must be submitted in writing and provide the individual's name, address, and telephone number. The Board of Trustees will address all grievances in closed session. The Board of Trustees will have final authority in all decisions with reference to the grievance.

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The Brenham Christian Academy Parent Volunteer Program is guided by the **GUARDIAN EAGLES**, our parent organization. The purpose of this organization is to develop, promote, and encourage avenues for parent education and involvement within Brenham Christian Academy and the many programs that require active parent participation for success.

Many areas of volunteerism are now developed which require parents for involvement in leadership and support. The following list describes the programs available within the Brenham Christian Academy for parents to volunteer their individual giftings. Every parent should pray about his role in stewarding the health of the school and the progress of its many outstanding programs that benefit each child enrolled and the future direction of Brenham Christian Academy.

#### **A. PARENT PRAYER**

*If two of you shall agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three have gathered together in My name, there I am in their midst.*

*--Matthew 18:19-20*

Daily intercession for Brenham Christian Academy is essential to invoke God's wisdom, empowerment, direction, and blessings on each day and our children and the many activities in which they're involved, and so is corporate prayer to sing His praises and lay current needs at His feet. Brenham Christian Academy. The following are ways to become more active in praying for our school:

1. Individual Prayer
2. Form a prayer group with moms or dads for scheduled prayer meetings.

#### **B. HOMEROOM MOTHERS**

The homeroom mother program is an extremely important and necessary adjunct to the daily life within the classrooms. A homeroom mother is a parent who is willing to work in direct supervision of the homeroom teacher to directly aide the teacher with manpower or finding others to help with classroom projects, parties, student drills crafts, special events, graduation receptions, and sundry other needs that arise in any school calendar. Each homeroom needs at least on homeroom mother and a pool of parents who can be called upon for special help.

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**C. PARENT WORKDAYS**

The Parent Workdays consist of volunteer parents and students who provide services to the school on two scheduled days and evenings to perform various tasks associated with the grounds and buildings on the campus. Areas of need have traditionally been:

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|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Painting | 4. Pruning/Weeding  | 7. Minor Carpentry |
| 2. Mowing   | 5. Planting         |                    |
| 3. Plumbing | 6. Equipment repair |                    |

**D. FUND RAISING PROGRAM**

In the world of private education, there is always a gap between what it actually costs to educate a child and what is provided by tuition. This volunteer program plays a major role in all fund raising activities. Each volunteer parent is encouraged to assume an active, personal part in these activities. Broad categories for raising funds are:

1. Annual Fall Celebration: A tasteful Saturday evening which includes dinner, presentations of the eighth grade and twelfth grade graduates, fellowship, choral presentations, and silent and live auctions. The whole Brenham Christian Academy family and their relatives attend and community pastors and friends of the Academy are invited. Monetary pledges are sought by the school. Volunteer parents are needed for:
    - a. Chairman of the Event
    - b. Decorations
    - c. Auction
    - d. Program
    - e. Reservations/ ticket sales
    - f. Seating
    - g. Clean-up
    - h. Other
  2. Gideons' 300: An annual drive to get 300 people to donate \$300 toward the Academy's annual needs for the gap between tuition income and actual operating expenses to help assist the Academy in keeping manageable tuition rates.
  3. Capital Campaign: The final obligation for the existing modular complex of \$250,000 must be paid before a campaign for the construction of a permanent structure can begin. Volunteers in this area are critical to the future expansion of Brenham Christian Academy.
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**E. PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Initial impressions are often lasting. No matter how effective Brenham Christian Academy is at providing our parents and children with an opportunity for an unrivaled education, we will never achieve the excellence God has in mind for us unless we are able to shine our light throughout Brenham, Washington County and surrounding counties. Some of the many ways volunteer parents can assist are:

1. Hosting at special school functions
2. Video taping presentations/lectures
3. Sound/camera experience
4. Brochures/posters
5. Typing/mailing
6. Informational school tours
7. Create costumes
8. Tutoring
9. Substituting

**F. BOOSTER CLUB**

Brenham Christian Academy has a marvelous athletic program with team sports, individual sports, and cheerleading in which our children participate, governed by a dedicated staff of qualified and committed coaches, who often labor under difficult circumstances securing gyms for practice, and driving miles from school to games. By participating in the Booster Club parents release coaches to instruct and build the character of Christ through the Biblical principles in the program. Brenham Christian Academy enjoys a reputation among other

Christian schools and home school teams of Godly sportsmanship and demeanor on and off the field. A Booster Club member volunteer can participate by:

1. Transporting students to away games
  2. Securing CDL license to qualify do drive the Academy bus
  3. Selling and collecting tickets at appropriate games
  4. Working the concession stand when the school is able to sponsor one.
  5. Helping clean up after games
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6. Assisting the Athletic Director with the Athletic banquets
7. Serving as Team Mom

**G. OTHER VOLUNTEER NEEDS**

Brenham Christian Academy operates on a very tight budget and stewards its property and resources carefully. Therefore, any service offered the school is greatly appreciated. For parents who can only donate a few hours of time for the entire school year, areas of need exist that can accommodate those parents, such as:

1. Office helps such as typing, copying, computer skills, mailings, etc.
  2. Library assistance for book processing, shelving, and library monitor
  3. Open House planning and hostessing
  4. ACSI and TAPPS Academic competitions such as judging, driving, assisting teachers with practices, etc.
  5. Assistance in travel arrangements for eighth grade retreat and senior trip.
  6. Securing library books; research documents for teachers
  7. Unique skills, hobbies, interests, travels for sharing in the classroom
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