EVANGELICAL
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2026-2027 HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOK

4501 COLONIAL BLVD
FORT MYERS, FL 33966

EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

STUDENT AND PARENT AGREEMENT FORM

Evangelical Christian School is a Christian ministry organization. When enrolling a student, parents indicate full cooperation in assuring the established rules, regulations, and policies of ECS are followed on and off campus. A lack of knowledge does not excuse a student or parent from the responsibility of obeying the rules, regulations, and policies of Evangelical Christian School.

Signing this form indicates parents and students agree to the following:

- I have read and understand the Evangelical Christian School Parent/Student Handbook.
- I have read and understand the Standards of Conduct of Evangelical Christian School.
- I agree that my child will abide by the two documents listed above while on and off campus.
- I agree to fully support the school in its enforcement of the Handbook and the Standards of Conduct.
- I agree not to make demands, threaten to sue, make any kind of accusation or complaint, or litigate any matter whatsoever relating to or resulting from the enforcement of the Parent/Student Handbook or the Standards of Conduct.
- I acknowledge the inherent risk of exposure to illnesses and accidents that exists in any public place where people are present. By attending activities at ECS, I voluntarily assume all related risks for myself and/or my child and agree not to hold Evangelical Christian School or any of its directors, employees, contractors, or volunteers liable for any illness or injury.

Parental support is a requirement for admission to ECS. If the contents of the handbook are known and the guidelines are followed by all, the school will function smoothly and efficiently, with little misunderstanding. This will result in a positive campus atmosphere with increased academic achievement and a greater degree of satisfaction for all.

Print Student's Name

_____ _____

Grade Bible Teacher

_____ _____

Student's Signature Date

_____ _____

Father's Signature or Legal Guardian Date

_____ _____

Mother's Signature or Legal Guardian Date

EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

STUDENT PLEDGE

Evangelical Christian School seeks students who want to live biblically and are committed to Paul's exhortation in Colossians 3 which says "...whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus". Every young person desiring to be a student at Evangelical Christian School must read and sign the Student Pledge. The school also requires parents to read and sign the Student Pledge. By signing the pledge, parents and students declare full support of the school's enforcement of the pledge and acknowledge a sincere commitment to the education Evangelical Christian School seeks to provide for every student.

The Evangelical Christian School Student Pledge

As a student enrolled in Evangelical Christian School...

1. In all areas of my life, both on and off campus, through all my online activity, and through all of my social media platforms, I will seek to uphold the standards of the school for myself and encourage my fellow students to do the same. I understand it is a privilege to attend ECS and my personal behavior is to be pleasing to God in all aspects of my life. (Colossians 1:10 & Hebrews 10:23-24)
2. I pledge to cooperate with, and show respect for, all authority placed over me. I also pledge to treat my fellow students with respect by refraining from words or actions considered to be demeaning or harassing. I will seek to be perceived by others as a kind person. (Romans 13:1-7)
3. I understand attendance in Bible class and ECS chapel services are required of every student. I also understand regular attendance in a local church is expected. (Hebrews 10:25)
4. I recognize the physical, social, and moral degradation associated with alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs or substances, pornography, gambling, thievery, and witchcraft. I will refrain from any form of participation with the above items while a student at ECS. If there is reasonable suspicion of drug or substance involvement, I agree to pay for a drug test at an ECS approved clinic. (Ephesians 5:18)
5. I agree to abstain from all forms of sexual activity while enrolled at ECS. I understand that this includes any type of sexual relationship, which is against God's Word. (1 Thessalonians 4:1-8).
6. I understand that the use of profane language, and the reading or possession of pornographic materials are against ECS standards and will not be tolerated. (Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 4:6)
7. I understand cheating is wrong and plagiarism is a form of cheating. I will do my own work and not allow others to use my work and turn it in as their own. (Proverbs 10:9)
8. I will be honest in all my dealings with students, teachers, administrators, and other ECS personnel. (Ephesians 4:15)
9. I agree to abide by the standards listed in this pledge and any additional standards stated in the Parent/Student Handbook. Please pay close attention to the student dress code and hair policy.
10. I understand that failure on my part to comply with any of the standards of this pledge is grounds for dismissal from Evangelical Christian School.

_____

Print Student's Name

_____ _____

Student Signature Date

_____ _____

Father's Signature or Legal Guardian Date

_____ _____

Mother's Signature or Legal Guardian Date

EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
4501 Colonial Blvd.
Fort Myers, Florida 33966
Phone (239) 936-3319

ADMISSION'S OFFICE
Extension 1393

BUSINESS OFFICE
Extension 1306

ATHLETIC OFFICE
Extension 1205

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT
Art – Extension 1506
Band – Extension 1554
Drama – Extension 1388
Orchestra – Extension 1529
Video Production – Extension 1391

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
Extension 1543

HIGH SCHOOL ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS
Extension 1531 & 1539

DEAN OF STUDENTS
Extension 1520

SCHOOL COUNSELOR
Extension 1209

COLLEGE COUNSELOR
Extension 1512

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
Extension 1324

CAMPUS CHAPLIN
Extension TBD

Table of Contents

Student and Parent Agreement Form
Student Pledge Form
School Address and Phone Information

General Information
Mission Statement..... 7
Non-Discrimination Policy..... 7
Letter of Welcome..... 7
School History..... 7
Affiliation and Accreditation..... 8
Philosophy of Christian Education..... 8
Statement of Faith..... 9
Focus on Biblical Values..... 9
Human Sexuality..... 10

Daily Policies and Routines for Parents and Students
Parental Support..... 10
Contacting a Student During the School Day 11
Emergency Closings..... 11
Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up..... 11
Lunch Options..... 12
Lost and Found..... 12
Parental Custody..... 12
Parent Service Hours..... 12
Parent Conferences..... 13

Admissions
Non-discrimination Standard..... 13
Enrollment Procedures..... 13
Health and Immunization Requirements..... 14
Student Accident Insurance..... 14
Prospective Student Visits..... 14
Student Withdrawals..... 14
Re-Enrollment Refusal..... 15

Finances
Yearly Tuition Rates and Fees..... 15
Application and Enrollment Fees..... 15
Tuition Payments Plans..... 15
Financial Aid..... 15
Graduation Fee..... 15
Lunch Payment Options..... 15
Purchase of Uniforms..... 16
After School Supervised Study Hall..... 16

The Medical Clinic and Student Illness
Student Medications..... 16

Communicable Diseases..... 17

Academics

Grading Scale..... 17
Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment..... 17
Sentinel Scholar Program..... 18
National Honor Society..... 18
Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program..... 19
Exams and Exemptions..... 19
Standardized Testing..... 20
Report Cards and Progress Reports..... 20
Graduation Requirements..... 21
Athletic Eligibility..... 22

Attendance

School Hours..... 22
Daily Bell Schedules..... 23
Absences and Excuses..... 23
Attendance Warnings and Contracts..... 24
Late to School and Tardy to Class..... 25
Early Dismissal..... 25
Planned Absences and College Visits..... 25

Student Discipline

Biblical Philosophy of Discipline..... 26
Standard of Conduct..... 27
Response to Discipline..... 28

On and Off Campus Standard of Conduct and Policies

Chapels and Assemblies..... 29
Lunchroom..... 30
Cheating..... 30
Cell Phones and Wearable Technology.....30
Digital Books and School Issued Devices..... 31
Student Parking and Driving Privileges..... 32
Disrespect Toward a Member of the Faculty, Staff or Administration..... 32
Immoral Conduct..... 33
Social Networking and Electronic Communication.....33

Violence Prevention

Weapons Policy..... 34
Assault, Threats, and Harassment Prohibited..... 35
Vandalism..... 37
Search and Seizure..... 37
Drugs, Nicotine, and Alcohol Policy..... 37
Vape Detection Devices..... 39
School Responsibility to Students and Parents..... 39

Consequences of Student Misbehavior

Levels of Disciplinary Action..... 40

Disciplinary Infractions..... 42
Demerits, Detentions, and Strategic Disciplinary Action..... 46
Student Suspensions..... 47
Administrative Review..... 47
Disciplinary Probation..... 48
Expulsion and Dismissal..... 48
Restoration Program..... 49

Dress Code

General Uniform Requirements..... 49
Jewelry..... 50
Dress Code for ECS Dress Down Days..... 51
Make Up and Hairstyles for Girls..... 52
Haircuts and Facial Hair for Boys..... 52
Tattoo Policy..... 52

System Policies

School Drills..... 53
Visitor Policy..... 53
School Trips..... 54
School Provided Transportation..... 54

Dress Code Picture Examples..... 55

MISSION STATEMENT

Evangelical Christian School's mission is to provide students in preschool through grade twelve an excellent academic education in an environment that honors the Lord Jesus Christ and to challenge students to reach their highest potentials mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Evangelical Christian School admits students of any race, color, or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to all students at the school. ECS does not discriminate based on race, color, or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

LETTER OF WELCOME

Dear Parents,

Raising children in today's culture is certainly a challenge. It has become increasingly difficult for parents to transfer the traditional values of God, country, and family to their children because society consistently sends messages and images that contradict these hallowed principles.

By choosing Evangelical Christian School for your family's educational needs, you are committing to a school philosophy that promotes a Biblical worldview with the goal of training up each child in the way he/she should go (Proverbs 22:6). Thank you for your willingness to sacrifice for the good of your family and for demonstrating a desire to raise future leaders who prioritize faith, home, church, country, and education.

The ECS Administration is grateful for you and the trust you have placed in us. We commit to do our best to give each child an exceptional education; not just academically, but spiritually, emotionally, morally, intellectually, and socially. Please pray for us as we assume this vital responsibility.

We recognize God has designed you, as parents, to be the ultimate authority in your homes. We will be praying for you and the crucial role you play in the education of your children.

Finally, no education is complete without spiritual instruction. It is our hope that each ECS family is actively involved in a Bible-preaching church that supports the family. Without this important facet, any family's effort at a complete, well-rounded education will fall short.

May God bless you and your family in the year to come.

The ECS Administration

SCHOOL HISTORY

By 1973, ECS Founder, Douglas D. Dunn, had already been a teacher and guidance counselor in the public school system for thirteen years. Having a young daughter about ready to start school, he became deeply troubled by the humanistic philosophy she would be taught. He began to earnestly ask God to show him a way for his daughter not to become entangled in this system.

God, seeing the sincerity of his heart, answered his prayer in an unexpected way. God very clearly told Mr. Dunn that he was to start a Christian school. After making multiple excuses, shedding many tears, and praying fervently Douglas Dunn finally told God he would obey and was willing to tackle the mammoth task, but only with God's help.

In May 1973, with the faithful assistance of his wife, Elsie, and several like-minded parents, ECS was born. Teachers, staff, curriculum, and textbooks for grades K/5 - 6 were prepared and the educational department of a church in downtown Fort Myers was leased. In September of 1973 the doors of Evangelical Christian School were opened with seventy students enrolled. The student body grew to 335 in the second year with the additions of K/4 and grades 7-12.

In l975, the school was moved to a tree lined, twenty-acre tract of land in south Fort Myers, where students K-4 through grade 12 attended. The Preschool Division was added in 1976 making ECS a full-service school for children from eight weeks old through grade 12. Over the years, new buildings, programs, and educational innovations have been added. In 2024, God provided a beautiful new location for the high school allowing for continued growth in all divisions.

In this twenty-first century, where all things are judged by the product produced, Evangelical Christian School is proud to be an outstanding leader in Christian Education in the state of Florida. ECS educates graduates who are well equipped Biblically and academically to face the challenges ahead of them. More than ninety percent of ECS graduates pursue a college degree. From the inception of ECS, Douglas Dunn said, "This is not my school, it is God's school. It is not what I have done, but rather what God has done." Evangelical Christian School truly is a testament to God's marvelous work.

ACCREDITATION AND AFFILIATION

The following statement made by the Florida Department of Education accurately represents the states position on accreditation: "By law, the Department of Education does not act as an approval or accrediting agency. The Department is allowed only to register certain non-public schools and to collect certain prescribed data. Accreditation of schools is entirely voluntary and is achieved by adopting and maintaining the academic standards prescribed by an independent association."

The State of Florida does not accredit any schools, public or private. Hence, all accreditation in Florida is accomplished through licensed accrediting agencies. Evangelical Christian School holds multiple accreditations in its dedication to excellence in Christian education. ECS is registered as a non-public school, accredited through the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), and the Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Inc. (FACCS). Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (FACCS) is recognized as an approved agency by the State of Florida and is also recognized by the National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA). By virtue of the multiple accreditations, students can be assured transfer of acceptable credit to other accredited schools around the state and worldwide.

PHILOSOPHY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Evangelical Christian School believes all education should be undergirded by a vital faith in God and belief in the Bible as the revelation from God. The school, therefore, has been established to provide an unwavering Biblical education within a rigorous academic program.

Evangelical Christian School believes:

- Each student is a distinct individual creation of an omnipotent God and all of creation belongs to God.

- Each person should be a careful and faithful steward of conscience, understanding the direct responsibility to God one has for all actions and resulting consequences.
- Parents ultimately have the God-given responsibility to educate and model what is proper Christian conduct. Only individuals who submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and allow Christ to govern one's life will demonstrate exemplary Christian character.
- Evangelical Christian School is an extension of the Christian home and strives to provide models of Christian character for students to emulate.
- Parents and those given charge, should utilize Biblical methods of correction for training young people.
- Christian education can only be provided by a school whose philosophy is Christ-centered and whose faculty profess faith in Jesus Christ and teach all subjects from a Biblical worldview.
- God is the center of all truth, knowledge, and wisdom. Jesus Christ and the Word of God should be at the center of the Christian school curriculum.
- The United States of America was founded upon Christian principles and the unifying factor in the early days was faith in God and Jesus Christ. For the country to remain a Christian nation it must be led by people with Biblical values.
- Christian Education is best defined as Biblical education from preschool through college.
- The highest calling for any individual is to love the Lord Jesus Christ with all one's heart and serve the Lord through obedience to God's Word.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Evangelical Christian School believes:

- The Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
- There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His death and resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return to power and glory.
- That for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential.
- In the resurrection of both the saved and lost; those who are saved unto the resurrection of life and those who are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
- In the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ and that the true church, with the Lord as their Savior, is the body of Christ.
- In the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by who's indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life.
- God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God.
- God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one man and one woman, and that intimate sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union.

In accordance with the school's recognition of Biblical authority, no immoral conduct will be tolerated, including identifying statements related to immoral conduct. The Bible strictly forbids immoral conduct and the advocacy for such sinful behavior (1Thess. 4:1-8).

The statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of the school's beliefs. The Bible, being the inspired and infallible Word of God, is the sole source of all ECS believes and speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind. For the purposes of Evangelical Christian School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the Board of Directors is the final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

FOCUS ON BIBLICAL VALUES

The focus of Evangelical Christian School is on the Biblical values that all Evangelicals share. The school defers to parental instruction in denominational issues such as predestination, speaking in tongues, and mode of baptism. ECS

desires to remain clearly focused on the Gospel and the non-negotiables of the Statement of Faith, and as such avoid theological issues and arguments that may divide.

Evangelical Christian School believes:

- The primary focus must always and forever remain on the Gospel of Jesus Christ that redeems man and guides the believer to respond to every cultural and relational issue faced (Ephesians 2:8-10).
- The church is a divinely ordained community of Christ-followers who faithfully gather to grow in faith, and love others the way Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:19-20).
- The greatest form of worship is imitating Jesus by serving others (Philippians 2:1-11).
- All Christian School administrators, teachers, and coaches are entrusted by God with the responsibility to disciple students and lead them to become devoted Christ-followers (II Corinthians 3:3).
- Every employee has a personal responsibility to model for students what it looks like to be a Christ-follower (Hebrews 10:24).
- The school community flourishes when all work cooperatively, putting the needs of others first (I Corinthians 12:14-18).
- The school's partnership with parents includes working to connect families to Jesus and the local church (Deuteronomy 6:6-9).
- The Christian school teacher has received a calling from God to teach and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has the potential to change lives forever (Romans 12:6-7).
- Every student is created in the image of God with the potential to grow in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God (Luke 2:52).

HUMAN SEXUALITY

Evangelical Christian School believes:

- God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage.
- The only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman.
  (Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; 1 Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23)

DAILY POLICIES AND ROUTINES FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Parental Support

Parental support is an essential part of the educational process. Evangelical Christian School seeks to create a learning environment that encourages the wholesome aspects of life and reduce the distractions prevalent in many schools. This is the reason behind the required signing and the school's enforcement of the Student Pledge.

ECS parents are partners with Evangelical Christian School and must fully support the pledge as a student standard of conduct. A goal of ECS is to partner with parents in educating students academically, socially, and civically. Parents should be mindful to avoid actions, statements, and activities out of harmony with the spirit of ECS policy and practice. It is normal, in a partner relationship, for disagreements to occur occasionally. The school administration asks for parents to apply the Matthew 18 principle when times of disagreement arise. This will ensure students, parents, and school personnel maintain positive attitudes and will also promote the best outcomes for students.

The administration, faculty and staff at ECS desire to have a harmonious relationship with parents. When a parent has a question about a school policy, a student event, or anything school related an inquiry should be made to the appropriate teacher or administrator. The administration and faculty will endeavor to answer questions, resolve issues, and maintain effective communication with parents.

If, in the sole discretion of the administration, a parent fails to support an administrator, faculty, or staff member or fails to support the standards articulated in the school's Statement of Faith, the administration reserves the right to deny the student continued enrollment in the school.

Parent Dress on Campus

Parents are expected to be dressed modestly and appropriately when on the ECS campus whether it be to conduct business, attend a school function, or chaperone a school activity.

School Office Hours

All parents are welcome in the school office.

- The office is open from 7:40 a.m. to 4:10 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Lunches, homework, books, or other items to be delivered to a student must be left in the school office for delivery.

Parent Vehicles on Campus

Parents coming on campus for whatever reason should always park in a properly designated parking space. It is never acceptable to leave a vehicle in a location other than a properly designated parking space.

Parents are expected to always operate a vehicle in a safe manner using extra caution while on campus. A parent who operates a vehicle in an unsafe manner on campus may lose the privilege of driving on campus. This would include excessive speed, ignoring speed bumps, blocking traffic, improper parking, rudeness, or allowing someone else to drive the car in an unsafe manner.

Owners of vehicles that contain messages, bumper stickers, paintings, etc. considered to be inappropriate or inconsistent with the objectives and philosophy of the school will be asked to remove the offending material or arrange alternative transportation for the student.

Contacting a Student During the School Day

Parents who need to contact a student during the school day should call the high school at:
239 – 936 – 3319, extension 1500.

- In an emergency, the school staff will promptly assist parents in communicating with a child ASAP.
- A non-emergency message from a parent will be delivered to the student in a prompt manner.
- Parents should not call, text, or email a student during the school day.

Student Phone Calls

Students needing to contact a parent during the school day are permitted to use the designated phone at the high school front desk.

- Cell phone use during the school day is not permitted without special permission from an administrator.
- Classroom phones are for teachers only and may not be used or answered by a student.

Emergency Closings

In the case of a natural disaster:

- ECS will follow the instructions given by authorities on radio and television.
- ECS will follow the decisions of Lee County Schools for the closing of school however, ECS will follow its own directive on when to reopen.
- This policy is for emergency closings only.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Proper traffic flow is essential in maintaining a smooth and safe student drop-off and pick-up. If a parent must stop for longer than the time it requires a student to leave or enter the car, it is requested the parent not wait in the car line but rather park in a designated parking area.

Early Student Drop-Off

Supervisors are on duty each morning in the cafeteria at 7:15 A.M.

- with a Students should not plan to arrive at school before that time unless special arrangements have been made teacher or coach.

- Breakfast is available for purchase before school.
- Students are required to wait in the cafeteria until the bell rings.

Late Student Pick-Up

Students remaining on campus after 3:40pm who are not attending help class, tutoring, or a club meeting will be required to report to the after-school study hall in the library/Student Center.

- Students in after school study hall are expected to remain in dress code until leaving campus.
- Students are not permitted to remain unattended on any campus after 3:40pm
- Students who do not attend the after-school study hall and do not have a valid reason for being on campus after 3:40pm will be issued an OW.

Lunch Options

Students may purchase lunch in the cafeteria or bring lunch from home.

- The lunch menu can be viewed online at www.goecs.org under the Parent Section.
- Due to limited seating and time constraints, parents are not permitted to eat lunch with students in the cafeteria.

Student Gum Chewing Policy

Students are not permitted to chew gum on campus. It is an extremely laborious task to clean gum off desks, bus seats, benches, tables, and counters. A fee of $10.00 will be charged to a student's account for each offense of gum chewing on school campus including buses.

Water Bottles and Drinks

Water filling stations and drinking fountains are located throughout the campus. Students may bring refillable water bottles to stay hydrated throughout the school day.

- Metal or stainless-steel water bottles must have a rubber bumper to help protect the tile floors if dropped.
- Water is the only drink permitted in the hallways during the school day.
- Drinks such as Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Gatorade, energy drinks, or sparkling water are not permitted in the hallways. Students found with this type of drink in the hallways may be issued an OW.
- Drinks purchased in the cafeteria must be finished before leaving the cafeteria.

Lost and Found

Any items found on campus are taken to a designated "Lost and Found" location for storage until the items are claimed.

- If a student has lost an item, the first place to look for it is the "Lost and Found".
- Any item brought on campus by a student should have the student's name printed on it.
- Items that are labeled with a name can easily be returned to the student.
- The school is not responsible for lost or damaged items.
- Items in the "Lost and Found" for more than a month will be donated.

Parental Custody

In situations regarding parental custody or parental restraint orders, the school will follow what the court deems appropriate through official court papers. The school must have a notarized copy of an official court document (with judge's signature) before the school can take any action. Please inform the school's Safety Director of any situations regarding parental custody or restricted visitation.

Parent Service Hours

Parent service hours help to create a sense of ownership and pride in the school community. Volunteer support and tax-deductible contributions are important to the success and mission of Evangelical Christian School. Tuition revenue alone does not cover the full value of an Evangelical Christian School education. Volunteering by parents, grandparents, alumni, faculty, staff, and students, all contribute to make up the difference.

- ECS families are required each school year to complete 10 service hours per child, with a maximum of 20 hours per family.
- Some examples of service hours are field trip chaperone, athletic event volunteer, fine arts volunteer, school wide events volunteer
- Parents must record service hours on forms which are available on the school website or at the front desk.
- Parent Service Hours forms for the current school year must be turned into the front desk by April 30th.
- Families will be billed $20 per hour for any hours not completed by April 30th.
- Hours completed after April 30th will be applied to the next school year.

Fund Raising

Each year the school plans events to raise funds to improve or upgrade the school facilities. These improvements are outside the regular school budget which is supported by tuition.

- ECS encourages parents to actively support school fundraisers because the students directly benefit from the improvements and the fundraisers help keep tuition costs reasonable.
- ECS does not encourage door-to-door fundraising.
- All gifts to Evangelical Christian School are tax-deductible.

Parent Conferences

Parents may request a conference with any teacher or administrator.

- Parents must make an appointment to meet with a teacher or administrator.
- The best way to schedule a conference with a teacher or administrator is to email the person directly.
- Parents and guests are not permitted to visit classrooms without permission from the administration.
- It is unacceptable for a parent to expect a meeting without an appointment.
- If a parent wishes to meet with multiple teachers at once, it is best to email or call a High School Administrator to arrange for a joint conference.

ADMISSIONS

Evangelical Christian School is a private Christian school providing a traditional, academically-sound, Bible-based education. ECS strives for excellence and has gained a reputation for high academic standards and strong student character development. ECS is proud to offer a quality Christian Education experience to families residing in southwest Florida.

Non-discrimination Standard

Evangelical Christian School is committed to welcoming students of all races, colors, and ethnic origins. ECS believes in non-discrimination and desires an integrated student body. All ECS students must agree to the following standards:

- All student conduct shall be in adherence to the ECS Non-Discrimination Policy.
- No student shall undertake, participate in, or support any action, verbal or otherwise, which is intended to harm, injure, harass, or insult any other student on the grounds of race, color, or ethnic origin.
- Students violating the ECS Non-Discrimination Policy shall be subject to discipline deemed appropriate by the administration.
- Repeated violations to the ECS Non-Discrimination Policy shall be grounds for dismissal from ECS without refund.

Enrollment Procedures

Enrollment for students will be finalized upon completion of the following:

- A registration package signed and dated by both parents and student
- Receipt of all reference forms and student records from previous schools to include, report cards

standardized testing results
behavioral reports
IEP's, 504 Plans, and EHCP's

- Receipt of Health and Immunization Records
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Payment of the Application Fee
- Payment of the New Student Enrollment Fee
- Successful completion of an entrance exam
- An interview with an ECS Administrator

Health and Immunization Requirements

Florida Law 232.032 requires every student provide evidence of proper immunization to the school before attending the first day. The ECS Student Registration Package gives the information needed to ensure every student follows Florida Law.

Student Accident Insurance

All families are required to maintain primary health and/or accidental insurance on any child attending Evangelical Christian School. Every ECS student is covered by a school-time insurance plan, however, this is not a primary policy. The school insurance covers only the portion of the medical bill not covered by the student's primary policy.

All injuries must be reported to the ECS Clinic within 24 hours of the occurrence or risk possibly forfeiting the insurance claim. The business office completes the school's portion of the claim form and returns it to the parent or guardian to complete and send to the insurance company for reimbursement. Inquiries regarding coverage and claim filing should be directed to the Business Office.

Prospective Student Visits

Prospective students may shadow in the classroom if permission is granted from the ECS administration and sufficient seating is available. Evangelical Christian School asks all prospective students to obey the following guidelines regulations when shadowing:

- To protect the academic environment, only prospective students may shadow in classrooms.
- The prospective student must obtain permission to shadow from the ECS Admissions Office at least one week in advance of the visit.
- While on campus the prospective student must wear a visitor badge supplied by the school.
- The ECS Dress Code will apply to the prospective student apart from the hair code. See pages 49-52.
- A prospective student will be assigned an ECS student to shadow and must remain with the assigned student while on campus.
- If at any time the administration determines a prospective student is inappropriate, either by dress or by attitude, permission to shadow will be denied. In such a case, the student will wait in the office until transportation home can be arranged.

Student Withdrawals

All student withdrawals from ECS must be handled through the Business Office.

- **Voluntary Withdrawal**
  A parent who voluntarily withdraws a child from ECS is responsible to pay tuition through the end of the month of the official withdrawal date of the student. Fees for enrollment, electives, graduation, etc., are non-refundable after the first day of school. The financial obligation will be calculated by the Business Office based on the official withdrawal date of the student. If the total paid on the account is greater than the total due, the difference will be refunded. If the total due is greater than the total paid, all school records (excluding medical records), will be held until all financial obligations are paid. Official transcripts can only be sent by mail.

- **Nonvoluntary Withdrawal**
  All schools need and expect cooperation from students and parents in the education process. If at any time the ECS Administration deems a student or parent fails to maintain a cooperative attitude or the behavior of a student or parent is out of harmony with the spirit or standards of the school, whether there is breach of conduct or not, the student may be asked to withdraw from the school.

Re-Enrollment Refusal

Evangelical Christian School reserves the right to refuse re-enrollment to a student or family for any of the following reasons:

- The student or family have demonstrated disharmony regarding the purpose, objectives, standards, policies, rules, or regulations of ECS.
- The student or family have not met previous financial obligations owed to ECS.
- The student or family does not meet the academic or behavioral criteria of the school.

FINANCES

Any questions regarding finances or the status of an account must be directed to the Business Office. To maintain absolute objectivity, teachers and administrators of the school do not have access to financial records.

Yearly Tuition Rates and Fees

Tuition rates and fees may be adjusted from year to year. A current ECS Financial Agreement will contain accurate information regarding tuition rates, multiple-child discounts, and additional fees. The Financial Agreement can be found in the Enrollment Package, at the front desk of the school, or online at www.goecs.org,

Application and Enrollment Fees

- New students enrolling in ECS must pay a nonrefundable Application Fee and a nonrefundable Enrollment Fee at the time of making application to the school.
- Current ECS students must pay a nonrefundable enrollment fee annually to re-enroll for the next school year.
- A current ECS Financial Agreement will contain accurate rates for the above fees.

Tuition Payment Plans

All tuition payments and collections are handled directly through FACTS. ECS families have two options for the payment of tuition:

- Option One - Families may choose to make one payment annually.
- Option Two - Families may choose an 11-month payment plan.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available for families who apply and qualify. Applications can be completed online by clicking Admissions and Tuition Assistance on the school website, www.goecs.org.

Graduation Fee

- The amount of the Graduation Fee is stated in the ECS Financial Agreement.
- Graduation Fees for upcoming 12th grade students are billed to families the first of August.
- Form of payment must be cash or credit card.
- Payment is due no later than August 20th.

Lunch Payment Options

Students have three options for payment in the school cafeteria:

- Students may pay cash.

- Parents may pre-pay any amount onto a student's cafeteria lunch account.
- Students may charge a family account. A family cafeteria account must be paid in full each month for the student to continue charging the account. Any parent who does not want a child to be able to charge a family account must submit a written statement the Business Office.

Purchase of Uniforms

ECS requires all students to wear uniforms daily and parents are responsible to purchase the uniforms. For more specific information on uniform requirements and purchasing see the "Dress Code" section of the handbook.

After School Supervised Study Hall

The Supervised Study Hall is a service provided by the school for students of working parents**.**

- High school study hall hours are from 3:40pm - 4:40pm
- There is a charge per day for this service
- Any student picked up after 4:40pm will be charged an additional daily fee
- Please contact the Business Office for a list of charges.

THE MEDICAL CLINIC AND STUDENT ILLNESS

A student should not be sent to school with a temperature above 100 degrees, and should be fever free for 24 hours, without the help of medication, before returning to school.

A student who begins to not feel well while at school will be sent to the ECS Medical Clinic.

- The registered nurse on staff will assess the student and discern if the parent needs to be notified.
- Parent notification will be given via email or phone call depending on the severity of the illness.
- If a student is unable to function in the classroom as determined by the ECS clinic staff, the parent will be notified to pick up the student.
- The ECS Clinic staff calls a parent using the emergency phone numbers the parent supplied to the school on the registration form. If the emergency numbers change, it is imperative for parents to notify the front office ASAP.

Student Medications

Prescription medications scheduled to be taken during the school day must be kept in the ECS Clinic and administered by clinic staff.

- An ***Authorization for Medication Form*** must be on file in the clinic, signed by the parent and the student's prescribing provider.
- All prescription medications must be in the original pharmacy labeled container and delivered to the clinic or office by a parent.
- Students are not allowed to transport medications.
- No more than a 30-day supply of medications will be accepted in the ECS Clinic.

Non-prescription medications must be kept in the clinic for students and administered by clinic staff.

- Students are not permitted to personally carry or store medication at school.
- An ***Authorization for Medication Form*** must be on file in the clinic and signed by the parent.
- The medication must be in the original bottle, with the student's name clearly written on it.
- A parent can authorize the use of Tylenol, Ibuprofen, or Benadryl for a student via Ren Web under the medical tab. This online authorization will serve as parental permission for the school year. These 3 medications will be supplied by the clinic and do not need to be sent in by the parent.
- Parents will be notified via email or phone call if a student is given medication.
- If a student comes to the clinic requesting the use of over-the-counter medication, the student will first be evaluated by the registered nurse.

- If a student requests the use of over-the-counter medication more than 3 consecutive days, a physician's written order may be requested.

Communicable Diseases

Evangelical Christian School desires to maintain a healthy school environment and has instituted controls designed to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. The term "communicable disease" indicates an illness that arises because of a specific infectious agent and may be transmitted directly or indirectly by a susceptible host or infected person, to other persons.

- A faculty or staff member who has reason to suspect a student has a communicable disease shall immediately notify the school administration.
- A student or employee with a communicable disease for which immunization is required by law or is available, will be temporarily excluded from school during recognized periods of communicability.
- A student or employee with a communicable disease for which immunization is not available, shall be excluded from school while ill. If the nature of the disease and circumstances warrant, the school may require an independent physician's examination of the student to verify the diagnosis of the communicable disease.
- Evangelical Christian School reserves the right to make all final decisions necessary to enforce its communicable disease policy and to take all necessary action to control the spread of communicable diseases within the school.

ACADEMICS

Grading Scale

In compliance with Section 232.2463 of the Florida Statutes, Evangelical Christian School's grading scale is as follows:

Percent	Grade	GPA
99-100	A+	4.00
92-98	A	4.00
90-91	A-	4.00
88-89	B+	3.00
82-87	B	3.00
80-81	B-	3.00
78-79	C+	2.00
72-77	C	2.00
70-71	C-	2.00
68-69	D+	1.00
62-67	D	1.00
60-61	D-	1.00
0-59	F	0

Honors Courses GPA Weights

Honors courses are weighted by adding .5 point to the GPA.
Examples: A = 4.5, B = 3.5, C = 2.5

Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment

ECS high school students can earn college credit while on campus by taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses and Dual Enrollment (DE) courses.

- AP and DE courses are weighted by adding 1 point to the GPA. Example: A = 5.0, B = 4.0, C = 3.0
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses are offered through The College Board and taught on the ECS campus by qualified teachers.

- Dual Enrollment (DE) courses are offered by Southeastern University and taught on the ECS campus by qualified teachers.
- Online opportunities for additional DE courses are available.
- There are eligibility requirements for students wanting to enroll in an AP or DE course.
- Interested students should inquire with the Assistant Principal.

Class Rank

ECS does not rank high school students. A student's cumulative weighted GPA and cumulative unweighted GPA are both listed on official transcripts.

Honor Roll

The Honor Roll is compiled at the end of the school year and is figured using the following guidelines:

- "**A**" Honor Roll is given to students who have earned a grade of "A" in all courses for both semesters.
- "**B**" Honor Roll is given to students who have earned a grade of "A" or "B" in all courses for both semesters.

Principal's List

High School students in grades 9-12, who exhibit exemplary performance in the classroom are named to the Principal's List. "Exemplary performance" is defined as having earned a grade of "A" in all courses every quarter in both semesters and received a grade of "A" on all midterm and final exams. The high honor of being named to the Principal's List is awarded to students at the end of the school year.

Sentinel Scholar Program

The Sentinel Scholar Program is designed to challenge high achieving students to excel in academics, leadership, and service. Admission to the program requires a formal application, a personal essay, and meeting specific academic eligibility criteria. The program has three levels of student achievement:

- Cum Laude (with honor)
- Magna Cum Laude (with high honor)
- Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor)

Each level demands increasingly rigorous academic, leadership, and service requirements. Students self-track progress throughout high school and submit a **Sentinel Scholar Declaration Form** in the spring of senior year. Students or parents wanting further information are encouraged to contact the High School Principal.

The National Honor Society

Evangelical Christian High School is a member of the National Honor Society and sponsors the Alpha Omega chapter on the high school campus. Membership into the society is based on four pillars: character, scholarship, leadership, and service.

The following is necessary for a student to be eligible for induction into the National Honor Society at ECS:

- A student must be in 10th grade or above.
- A student wishing to be considered for induction into NHS must complete an application.
- A student must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50.
- A student must demonstrate Godly character, positive leadership, and service to others.
- A student must be enrolled at the beginning of the school year to be eligible for induction that year. Transfer students who start after the beginning of the school year would become eligible the following year.
- A student must be in good standing with the Office of the Dean.
- A student cannot have received more than one non behavioral detention per semester or any behavioral detentions in the present school year. Suspension from school will automatically disqualify a student from eligibility.
- All current NHS students are evaluated each year to ensure the standards of the National Honor Society are maintained.
- A student not upholding the standards of the honor society will be dismissed or put on probation.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program is a state-funded, merit-based program that rewards Florida high school graduates for academic achievement with funding for postsecondary education within the state of Florida. The two levels of scholarships for four-year degrees are the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) and the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS). Each scholarship level has distinct eligibility criteria and benefits.

Evangelical Christian School participates in the Florida Bright Future Scholarship Program. ECS seniors who meet the requirements are eligible to receive the scholarship. The ECS College Counselor will distribute the most up to date information to the Senior class each year.

Class Officers and Student Senate

Each grade elects a Class President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chaplain in the spring to serve on the Student Senate for the upcoming school year. Class Senators are expected to:

- Always be in harmony with the objectives of the school
- Help plan, promote, and attend all class and student functions

The administration has the right to remove a Class Senator from office if the student displays conduct contrary to the school objectives.

To be a candidate for Class Office and the Student Senate, compliance with the following is required:

- Recommendations by two teachers
- A student at ECS for at least one full semester
- Display leadership qualities
- No more than three behavioral detentions
- Promote school spirit
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75
- Good attendance record
- Must be re-enrolled for the upcoming school year

Exams and Exemptions

Students take an exam in every core academic course at the end of each semester. The exam covers the material from the entire semester unless otherwise indicated by the teacher. The grade received on the exam counts for 20% of the semester grade and the two quarter grades count 40% each toward the semester grade.

- Students in grades 11-12, who receive the grade of "A" in all four quarters and the first semester, have the privilege of being exempt from taking the **second semester** exam.
- Any student who is exempt from an exam but for some reason decides to take the exam, the grade will be counted.
- Students in grades 11-12 who have accrued 13 absences in a full year course or 9 absences in a semester course by the first day of exams are not able to benefit from exam exemptions, regardless of the grades received in the course.
- The last three days of each semester are designated as exam days. Exams are given by subject with not more than two exams per day.
- Students in grades 11-12 who are exempt from taking an exam for a given subject can arrive late to school or leave early only with written permission from a parent.
- Exams may not be taken early.
- If a student is ill during the exam days, the principal will designate alternate exam times at no additional expense to the family.
- If a student must take an exam outside of the set exam schedule because of family obligations such as a trip, written request must be given to the principal prior to the beginning of the three exam days. The principal will designate alternate exam times and the family's FACTS account will be billed $50 per exam.

Standardized Testing

Evangelical Christian School uses the following standardized tests annually to assist in determining student progress:

- PSAT (Pre-SAT) is required and given to all students in grades 9, 10, and 11. This test help students prepare for SAT college entrance test and determines student eligibility for National Merit Scholarships for 11th grade students. This test is given in October.
- Pre-ACT is required and given to all students in grade 9 and 10 in the spring.
- ACT and SAT – ECS recommends all students in grades 11 and 12 take both college entrance tests. Most colleges require scores from at least one of these tests as part of the admissions process. Both tests are offered locally numerous times during the year, and students can take the tests multiple times to improve scores.
- For more information on the standardized tests contact the ECS College Counselor or the Testing Coordinator.

Report Cards and Progress Reports

Report cards are available online approximately one week after each quarter ends.
Progress reports are emailed weekly unless parents choose to opt out of the automatic email through ParentsWeb.

Homework

Evangelical Christian School believes homework is vital to student academic development. Homework nurtures independence and self-direction while reinforcing classroom learning. Homework acquaints parents with what the student is learning and affords an opportunity for parents to assist in the education process. ECS teachers assign homework for the following reasons:

- **Reinforcement:** Most students require repetition to master material essential to the educational progress.
- **Practice:** Following the classroom introduction, explanation, and practice of a new lesson, homework is given to assist the student in mastering the material.
- **Remedial Activity:** As instruction progresses, weak points in the student's grasp of the subject become evident. Homework can be given to help students overcome weaknesses.
- **Special Projects:** Book reports, compositions, research papers and special projects can be assigned as homework for enhancing the student learning process.
- Homework assignments must be completed and handed in on the day designated by the teacher.

Help Classes

Help classes are offered as a free service for students who are experiencing minor academic difficulties in any of the core academic courses in high school. Each teacher will inform students and parents of the day and time for help class and post the information in the classroom as a reminder. Help classes are not meant for remediation, but rather for increasing student understanding of the material by:

- Bridging small gaps due to absences.
- Answering student questions.
- Reviewing for a test or exam.

Summer School

Any student who fails a course for the semester must retake the course in summer school to receive credit for the course.

- Failure of more than 4 courses during a school year may result in repeating the grade or being denied re-enrollment.
- All summer school courses for returning students must be taken through the Evangelical Christian School Online Academy.
- Upon completion of a course in summer school, the grade received will be averaged with the grade earned during the regular school year. This grade average will be the student's final grade for the semester.
- Students wishing to take summer school for grade replacement in a subject must obtain approval from the High School Principal.
- Failure to pass any summer school course disqualifies a student for fall re-enrollment.

Graduation Requirements

Students must have a minimum of 26 credits and a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to graduate from ECS. Students with fewer than 26 credits or who do not have a 2.0 cumulative GPA will not receive a graduation diploma. The 26 credits are to be distributed as follows:

- Four credits in English, with major concentration in composition and literature
- Four credits in mathematics, courses must be Algebra I level or higher
- Three or four credits in science, two of which must have a laboratory component
- Three or four credits in Social Studies
- Four credits in Biblical Studies, or one credit for every year attending ECS
- Two credits in Foreign Language, must be consecutive years in the same language
- One-half credit in a Performing Art
- One-half credit in a Practical Art
- One-half credit in Health or Life Management
- One-half credit in Physical Education, to include assessment, improvement, and maintenance of personal fitness
- A minimum of 3 elective credits, includes any course that exceeds the above requirements

Academic Requirements for Grades 11 and 12

A student wanting to graduate from ECS must note the following grade point average (GPA) requirements:

- A student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 1.8 by the end of grade 10 to reenroll.
- A student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. by the end of grade 12 to receive an ECS diploma of graduation.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The honor of being the Valedictorian or Salutatorian of an Evangelical Christian School graduating class requires the student to meet the following requirements:

- Must be a full-time traditional student at ECS for all of grades 11 and 12.
- Only courses taken at ECS will be used to calculate the GPA.
- Must qualify as a Sentinel Scholar at the Summa Cum Laude level.

Graduation Ceremony

An Evangelical Christian School graduation ceremony is a night to remember for all graduates and families. All students graduating from ECS are expected to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Ceremony Dress Code for graduating seniors is as follows:

- Ladies - Dresses or skirts and blouses, hemlines and necklines should be modest, and dressy shoes or sandals
- Gentlemen - Dress shirt with collar, dress pants, and dress shoes
- Official ECS cap and gown must be worn
- Decorated graduation caps must meet the standards of ECS, be appropriate, and free of offensive or suggestive messages
- Students may only wear stoles that have been issued by ECS, representing academic honors and club memberships

Official Transcripts and Records

Educational records of students are released only under the following conditions:

- ECS receives a signed request on school letterhead from a new school
- The ECS student account is paid in full
- In compliance with a judicial order or subpoena

Official transcripts and records are sent directly to the new school, not released to parents or students. Students or graduates who wish to have transcripts sent to colleges or employers must fill out a **Transcript Request Form**. ECS

does release student names, addresses, general academic and leadership information to colleges and other reputable organizations who may offer scholarships or other assistance to students.

Athletic Eligibility

A student must meet all Florida High School Activities Association (FHSAA) and Evangelical Christian School standards to participate in athletics at ECS. The eligibility requirements are:

- A student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 at the end of each semester to be eligible for athletic participation in the next semester.
- A student who is declared ineligible for a semester may participate the following semester if the cumulative GPA is brough up to 2.0.
- A student may be declared ineligible by the administration for non-academic reasons.

ATTENDANCE

School Hours

Office Hours:
Beacon Campus - 7:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Colonial Campus - 7:40 a.m. - 4:10 p.m.
Student School Day Hours (M, T, TH, F):
Beacon Campus - 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Colonial Campus - 8:10 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.
Student School Day Hours on Wednesday:
Beacon Campus - 8:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Colonial Campus - 9:00 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

Florida School Attendance Laws

Evangelical Christian School reminds parents of the laws of the State of Florida regarding school attendance. Florida School Law states*:* "Each parent of a child within the compulsory attendance age will be responsible for such child's attendance as required by law." The law further states, "When a child of compulsory school attendance age is absent without permission of the person in charge of the school, the parent of the child shall, as soon as practical after learning of the absence report, explain the cause of such absence to the teacher or principal of the school."

The Florida Legislature enacted requirements that schools report to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) the names, birth dates, gender, and social security numbers of minors who attain the age of 14 and accumulate 15 unexcused absences in a period of 90 calendar days. The legislation further provides those minors who fail to satisfy attendance requirements will be ineligible for driving privileges. Pursuant to section 322.091, (1) Florida Statutes, a minor is not eligible for driving privileges and the school is required to report this to the DHSMV, resulting in the suspension of any state issued driving permit or license. Please refer to FLDOE.org for additional information.

Truancy

A student with deliberate absences or tardiness without the knowledge and permission of the school and parents will be considered truant. Truancy will result in a grade of zero for all work missed and discipline by the administration. Continued truancy will be referred to the juvenile authorities.

Closed Campus Policy

Evangelical Christian School operates under a Closed Campus Policy which means once a student arrives on the school property in the morning, the student may not leave campus until the end of the school day.

- If a student's last class of the day is "Leave Campus," the student must leave campus by 2:30 p.m. A student who does not comply with this policy may be disciplined and placed in an elective class or study hall for the remainder of the school year.
- A student from the Colonial Blvd. campus may not be on the Beacon campus before 3:10 p.m.

Daily Bell Schedules

9th & 10th Grade (1st Lunch)

REGULAR – M-T-F	LATE START WEDNESDAY	CHAPEL - THURSDAY
8:10-8:16 – Homeroom	9:00-9:06 – Homeroom	8:10-8:16 – Homeroom
8:16-9:07 – Period 1	9:06-9:52 – Period 1	8:16-9:00 – Period 1
9:11-10:02 – Period 2	9:56-10:42 – Period 2	9:04-9:56 – Chapel
10:02-10:12 – BREAK	10:46-11:32 – Period 3	10:00-10:44 – Period 2
10:13-11:04 – Period 3	11:36-11:58 – 1st Lunch	10:48-11:32 – Period 3
11:08-11:30 – 1st Lunch	12:02-12:46 – Period 4	11:36-11:58 – 1st Lunch
11:34-12:25 – Period 4	12:50-1:34 – Period 5	12:02-12:46 – Period 4
12:29-1:20 – Period 5	1:38-2:22 – Period 6	12:50-1:34 – Period 5
1:24-2:15 – Period 6	2:26-3:10 – Period 7	1:38-2:22 – Period 6
2:19-3:10 – Period 7		1:26-3:10 – Period 7

11th & 12th Grade (2nd Lunch)

REGULAR – M-T-F	LATE START WEDNESDAY	CHAPEL - THURSDAY
8:10-8:16 – Homeroom	9:00-9:06 – Homeroom	8:10-8:16 – Homeroom
8:16-9:07 – Period 1	9:06-9:52 – Period 1	8:16-9:00 – Period 1
9:11-10:02 – Period 2	9:56-10:42 – Period 2	9:04-9:56 – Chapel
10:02-10:12 – BREAK	10:46-11:32 – Period 3	10:00-10:44 – Period 2
10:13-11:04 – Period 3	11:36-12:20 – Period 4	10:48-11:32 – Period 3
11:08-11:59 – Period 4	12:24-12:46 – 2nd Lunch	11:36-12:20 – Period 4
12:03-12:25 – 2nd Lunch	12:50-1:34 – Period 5	12:24-12:46 – 2nd Lunch
12:29-1:20 – Period 5	1:38-2:22 – Period 6	12:50-1:34 – Period 5
1:24-2:15 – Period 6	2:26-3:10 – Period 7	1:38-2:22 – Period 6
2:19-3:10 – Period 7		2:26-3:10 – Period 7

Absences and Excuses

A student receives the best education by attending school every day, but at times an absence may be necessary due to illness or unforeseen circumstances. Absences are evaluated on a case-by-case basis and may be considered excused or unexcused at the discretion of the school administration.

The following reasons for absence are considered valid by the school and will be considered excused.

- Illness or injury

- Death in immediate family
- Quarantine
- Medical or dental appointment
- Court or administrative proceedings
- Religious observances
- Educational opportunity with proper advance notice
- Pre-approved family trip with the necessary form on file prior to absence (see planned absences below).

When a student is absent from school a parent must submit to the attendance desk in writing or by email: attendancehs@goecs.org the reason for the absence.

- It is recommended the written reason for an absence be received by the attendance desk on the day of the absence, but it must be received no later than 3 days after the student returns to school.
- Any written reason for an absence received after the 3-day deadline will be invalid and the student will be marked as "unexcused".
- A doctor's note is required for absences of three or more consecutive days.
- A doctor's note for any on-going illness that may require numerous absences should be presented to the administration at the time of the diagnosis or at the beginning of each school year.
- The forging of a note by a student is grounds for suspension.
- A parent who falsifies a note of absence may be asked to withdraw the student from Evangelical Christian School.

Additional information regarding student attendance:

- A student must be in attendance for at least 25 minutes of a class period to be recorded as present for the class.
- Student athletes and Fine Arts students must be present in class for at least four class periods during the day to attend an after-school practice, game or performance.

Make Up Work

When a student has been absent it is always the student's responsibility to:

- Communicate with the teacher and make a list of the assignments, quizzes, and test missed
- Complete all assignments, quizzes, and tests per the makeup policy
- Make up tests and quizzes before or after school

Unplanned Absences

- The number of days the student was absent is the number of days the student has to make up missed work.
- It is at the teacher's discretion to exempt a student from some of the work missed.

Unexcused Absences

- The student will receive a zero "0" for any homework or quiz due on the day of the unexcused absence(s). Students are not permitted to make up this homework or quizzes for credit.
- Work assigned on the date of the unexcused absence may be completed for credit as long as the due date falls on a day following the unexcused absence(s).
- The student can make up tests or exams missed. However, the student needs to be prepared to take the missed test or exam before or after school, on the day of return to school, unless other arrangements are made with the teacher.

Attendance Warnings and Contracts

A student who is absent from school with frequency may be in danger of failing a course and/or not being permitted to re-enroll at ECS for the next school year. A policy has been put in place to help prevent this from happening to a student. This policy applies to the accumulation of all absences, excused and unexcused, and is stated as follows:

- If a student accrues **13 absences** in a full year course, or **5 absences** in a semester/elective course, the administration will issue an **Attendance Warning** to the student and parent by email.

- If a student accrues **18 absences** in a full year course or **9 absences** in a semester/elective course, the administration will issue an **Attendance Contract** to the student. The administration will communicate with the parent and student to go over the requirements of the contract. A student who does not fulfil the requirements of an attendance contract will not be permitted to re-enroll for the next school year.
- A student who accrues **21 absences** in a full year course or **12 absences** in a semester/elective course, will fail the course and be required to recover the lost credit in summer school at the parent's expense.
- A student who accrues **26 absences** in a full year course or **15 absences** in a semester/elective course, will not be permitted to re-enroll for the next school year.
- No attendance contracts will be initiated after May 1st, however, continued absences by a student will be subject to administrative review. Summer school for credit recovery may be required or permission to re-enroll for the next school year may be revoked.

Late to School or Tardy to Class

A student arriving after the starting bell, must report to the Student Services desk for a late pass to class. Parents must send a written note or email: attendancehs@goecs.org stating the reason for the late arrival. The administration will determine if the reason given is excused.

- A student without a note or with a reason deemed unsatisfactory will receive an unexcused tardy and an Official Warning (OW).
- A student with 3 OW's for tardiness to school or to class will receive a detention.
- Three tardies, excused or unexcused, will be considered as one day of absence from school.
- During the school day, if a student is kept after the bell by a teacher for any reason, the teacher will provide the student with a tardy pass to the next class.
- All student drivers need to be aware that too many tardies to school can suspend on-campus driving privileges. More specific information is given in the handbook under the section entitled Parking/Driving Privileges.

Early Dismissal

Early Dismissals will be considered excused only for illness, medical appointments, court dates, and funerals.
All other Early Dismissals will be considered "unexcused". A student will be marked absent from any classes missed due to an early dismissal.

- Parents needing to pick up a student for early dismissal are strongly urged to send an email to: attendancehs@goecs.org or place a phone call to the Attendance Desk at least one hour before arriving on campus with the reason for the early dismissal and the time of pick up clearly stated. This will allow the school to have the student sent to the office and be ready to go when the parent arrives. Not calling or emailing ahead will delay the pickup process.
- A student needing to be dismissed early should be picked up before 2:20 p.m.
- If a student is dismissed from school early because of illness, the student may not return to school that day for any after-school practice, game, or performance.
- For student drivers, parent permission to leave early must be submitted to the Attendance Desk in writing or by email to: attendancehs@goecs.org before the student may sign out and leave campus.
- Permission via a phone call is not permitted.

Planned Absences and College Visits

All planned absences such as family trips or special events require families to complete an **Absence Request Form** at least 2 days prior to the planned absence. The Absence Request Form can be found on the school website at: www.goecs.org or can be requested from the high school office. The form must be completed in the following order:

- The parent fills out the top section of the form and signs it.
- The student brings the form to the high school office for a signature of approval by the principal.
- The form is returned to the student to obtain the signatures of all teachers affected by the absence.
- The student must have all 3 sections of the form completed and returned to the high school office before the planned absence.

- Failure to do so may result in the absence being considered unexcused.

ECS allots students in grades 11 and 12 three school days each year for college visits by completing a **College Visit Request Form** before going on the campus visit. Forms can be found on the school website at: www.goecs.org or can be requested from the high school office. The form must be completed in the following order:

- The parent fills out the top section of the form and signs it.
- The student brings the form to the high school office for a signature of approval by the principal.
- The form is returned to the student to obtain the signatures of all teachers affected by the absence.
- The student must have all 3 sections of the form completed and returned to the high school office before the college visit takes place.
- Failure to do so may result in the absence being considered unexcused.

Additional important information regarding college visits:

- No college visits should be scheduled during the month of May.
- No college visits should be planned during Recharge (spiritual emphasis week).
- If there is reason to believe the student has no interest in attending the college being requested for a visit, the administration may not approve the request.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

A Biblical Philosophy of Discipline

The Evangelical Christian School philosophy of discipline is a Biblical one and is rooted in the fact that God disciplines those He loves (Hebrews 12:3-11). Discipline, therefore, is a gracious gift of God that demonstrates the love of a Heavenly Father. Biblical discipline is Christ-centered and targets heart change for the glory of God. Discipline is imperative for anyone desiring to be more like Christ. Evangelical Christian School aims to always reflect the loving discipline of the Heavenly Father in dealing with students.

The following Biblical philosophy will guide the school during any process of discipline:

- **Discipline must be heart-targeted**: Discipline is not just about changing actions. God's primary agenda is always heart transformation through the power of the Lord Jesus Christ (Proverbs 4:23; Jeremiah 17:5-9; Matthew 15:18-19).
- **Discipline must be done in love**: A sincere Christlike love must be communicated to the student who is being disciplined as God communicates to us that His discipline for His children is always done in love (Proverbs 3:11-12; 1 Corinthians 13:16:14; Hebrews 12:4-22).
- **Growth and maturity in Christ demand discipline**: The transformation of character requires consistent loving correction and admonishment (Proverbs 9:8-9; Ephesians 4:15). God's discipline requires humility and heart searching which leads to prayer and seeking Biblical counsel.
- **Discipline has consequences**: Moses could not live in the Promised Land due to his loss of temper and anger (Numbers 20). David would suffer personal consequences due to his adultery with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11-12). Because Jonah refused to preach to the Ninevites, God allowed a great fish to swallow him (Jonah 1). God allows consequences because He loves us, and His purpose is always restorative. Students must understand the consequential aspect of discipline is founded in the character of God and implemented within the pages of Scripture, even among some of God's choicest of servants.
- **Discipline must be filled with hope**: By God's grace and power, a person can truly change (Romans 15:13). Being a new creation in Christ means that true life-changing hope is always available (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Standard of Conduct

Evangelical Christian School partners with families to reinforce God's directive found in Proverbs 22:6 to "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." This is carried out by creating a safe, structured, life-giving, learning environment with a standard of conduct that contains behavior guidelines and is acknowledged by reward for good behavior and consequences for poor behavior. This campus atmosphere fosters academic excellence, builds Godly character, and allows students to discover God-given talents and abilities to be used for the glory of God.

ECS holds a standard of conduct that is committed to helping students develop into men and women who live in obedience to God and His Word. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) and "each of us will give an account of ourselves to God" (Romans 14:12). The ECS Standard of Conduct for students has been prayerfully created using two main pillars: Biblical Mandates and School Policies.

- Biblical Mandates are specific commands from God's Word which apply to every believer's life.
- School Policies are mandated conduct guidelines designed to create a positive, healthy, and safe educational environment.

A student who decides to become a part of Evangelical Christian School declares a commitment to willingly abide by the ECS Standard of Conduct.

Evangelical Christian School seeks to lovingly serve and encourage students to walk in the Spirit by pursuing the fruit of the Spirit and to put off the works of the flesh (Galatians 5:16-25) Additional biblical mandates found in scripture, (Ephesians 4:17-32; Colossians 3:5-17), should also guide student behavior as part of the Evangelical Christian School community.

Walk in the Spirit - The Bible describes walking in the Spirit and pursuing the fruit of the spirit as desirable characteristics of believers. The following biblical mandates should be demonstrated in the heart and life of believers in an increasing and progressive manner.

- **Love one another -** Believers are called to love another (Colossians 3:12-14). This love is not always easy, and applies to loving family, faculty, staff, and fellow students. Loving one another is demonstrated through kindness, humility, forgiveness, and compassion.
  ECS calls students to love, honor, and value one another.
- **Submit to authority -** Romans 13:1-7 states all authority is ordained by God and believers are to have an attitude of submission toward all authorities.
  ECS calls students to submit to all authorities in life, including parents, government, school administration, faculty, and staff.
- **Stewardship -** God is the giver of all things to man. Believers are to honor God with the possessions given to them (Proverbs 3:9). Everything God has entrusted to a person: money, time, belongings, talents and abilities, is to be used to glorify God alone.
  ECS calls students to be good stewards of all that God has given.
- **Modesty -** All believers are to exhibit modesty in all areas of life. In I Peter 3 modesty is taught as an attitude of submission rather than pride. Modesty can be displayed in speech, in actions, in dress, and personal appearance.
  ECS calls students, male and female, to have a humble spirit and be modest in word, deed, and appearance.

Walk in the Flesh - The Bible describes walking in the flesh and the works of the flesh as sin and believers are instructed to put off these things. Actively working to decrease and eliminate the works of the flesh in one's heart and life should be the goal of every believer. This can only be done with the help of the Holy Spirit.

- **Anger -** Galatians 5:20 lists anger as a fruit of the flesh. Pride will often deceive the heart into thinking one's personal needs and opinions are what is most important. Philippians 2 instructs believers to put others first and consider the interests of others above personal interests.
  ECS calls students to consider the needs of others first. This will allow all students to live harmoniously within the school community.

- **Jealousy -** Jealousy is also listed in Galatians 5:20 as a fruit of the flesh. This is another area where pride can infect one's mind making it is easy to desire what others have rather than being personally content. Paul encourages believers in Philippians 4:11 to be content in every circumstance. This scripture refers to living in poverty or in wealth, or any physical circumstance.
  ECS calls students to draw strength and contentment daily from a loving heavenly Father, regardless of circumstances.
- **Deception -** Ephesians 4:25 calls believers to lay aside falsehood and speak the truth. Deception occurs in many subtle forms. The temptation can be to lie outright, to slant a story to make a person look not guilty, to hide the truth in silence, or to spread rumors or gossip. All of these are sin and have destructive consequences.
  ECS calls students to speak truthfully in love.
- **Unwholesome Speech -** Ephesians 4:29 instructs believers not to speak with unwholesome words, which means any profane, obscene, or derogatory language. Instead, believers are to speak in a manner that builds others up. It is sin to speak words that tear others down, are disrespectful or hurtful to others, or are profane, obscene, or derogatory.
  ECS calls students to speech which edifies others and glorifies God.
- **Stealing -** Exodus 20:15 expresses the simple command from the Lord to not steal. While this may seem elementary, there are constant temptations to steal from others. Borrowing something without the owner's permission is stealing. Copying someone else's schoolwork is stealing.
  ECS calls students to refrain from stealing.
- **Lust -** In 1 Peter 2:11 God calls believers to abstain from fleshly lusts. Satan will tempt believers to pursue desires of the flesh. Temptations may come in the form of sexual desires, material desires, or desires based on pride. The school administration recognizes one can be tempted by others to lust and follow fleshly desires.
  ECS calls students to demonstrate self-control, love, and respect for each other and set aside dress, speech, actions, or possessions which may tempt others to sin.
- **Substance Abuse -** Ephesians 5:18 calls believers to not be drunk with wine, but to be filled with the Holy Spirit. The difference is control. God desires His Holy Spirit to control and guide behavior not alcohol or any other substance.
  ECS calls students to be controlled by the Holy Spirit rather than by substances of any form.

Evangelical Christian School believes students who live by God's Biblical mandates and abide by the policies set forth by the school will have increased confidence and will be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to:

- Be self-disciplined
- Be responsible
- Bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit
- Submit to proper authority
- Discern right from wrong
- Make decisions based on Biblical principles

Response to Discipline

A student who has been corrected by a teacher should never discuss the issue or argue with the teacher in front of other students. The student is expected to obey the directive of the teacher. When a student believes a misunderstanding exists, the student should take one or more of the following steps to clear up the matter:

- Set up a time with the teacher to discuss the matter privately
- Talk over the issue with a parent and have the parent contact the teacher for discussion and clarification
- If a misunderstanding still exists after the student and parent have discussed it with the teacher, the parent should make an appointment to meet with the teacher and an administrator together.

Following these steps is in accordance with the Matthew 18 principle and should be followed in every instance. If these steps are followed, situations of misunderstanding will rarely have to be brought to the Administration.

Additional Note on Discipline

This handbook is used by the Administration as a guide and may be revised at any time. Additional specialized programs or behavioral strategies may be set up by the school. The Administration considers each disciplinary incident and circumstance on an individual basis. Consequences issued by the school are kept private between the involved student, parent/guardian, and the school administration and should not be discussed with anyone else.

ON AND OFF CAMPUS STANDARD OF CONDUCT AND POLICIES

The goal of every ECS classroom is to foster a safe and productive learning environment for the students. It is imperative that student learning always be encouraged and protected. Student behavior at school must not cause incident that would lead to the distraction of other students. Guidelines have been established to minimalize the opportunities for student distraction from learning.

Evangelical Christian School desires to represent the gospel of Jesus Christ in a positive manner to the families of the school, the local and state authorities, and the local community. Rules exist to teach Biblical principles which should govern lives on and off campus. A student who is deemed out of harmony with the ECS Statement of Faith, or the policies of the school, whether on or off campus, may be dismissed from school or asked not to return for the upcoming school year as determined by the school administration.

Off-campus activities and social media conduct do affect the on-campus environment in a social, spiritual, and even physical way. Therefore, any information found to be detrimental to the students, families, faculty, or staff of ECS is treated seriously and could result in disciplinary action, even dismissal from school.

Evangelical Christian School students must abstain from the following on and off campus:

- Possession/use of tobacco products
- Possession/use of alcoholic beverages
- Possession/use of illegal drugs or substances, including wrongly used prescription or over the counter medications
- Possession/use of an electronic or battery powered dispensing device for nicotine or any other substance
- Possession/use of any type of weapon or object used as a weapon
- Sexual activity
- Viewing pornography or other inappropriate images
- Having inappropriate conversations
- Making threats on or off campus or through social media, to another student, faculty, or staff member
- Use of profanity, which includes insulting or demeaning another student, faculty, or staff member
- Any type of harassment, intimidation, threats, bullying, or any acts of violence
- Criminal activity or being arrested and charged by the authorities
- Inappropriate internet or social media activity
- Making claims of being involved with any of the above prohibited items
- Attending an event where any of the above is occurring – It is the responsibility of the student and parent to understand the nature of any off-campus event attended. If a student attends an off-campus event where illegal, criminal, or expellable activity is taking place, the student should leave the event immediately, inform the Principal, Guidance Counselor, or Office of the Deans the next school day to avoid misunderstandings and possible disciplinary action. The administration reserves the right to use disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for students who do not leave said events immediately.

Chapels and Assemblies

Chapel services are typically held once a week.

- Chapel speakers are carefully chosen and include local pastors, youth pastors, or ministry leaders.
- Once each semester, consecutive days are designated for a time of spiritual challenge called Recharge.
- Additionally, throughout the year there will be times for students to assemble for special musical performances, educational programs, or films.

- Students are expected to actively participate in chapels and assemblies through worship, respectful listening, and volunteering when asked.
- Students are expected to show respect to students, faculty, and visiting guests by not hindering the ability of others to actively participate in chapel or an assembly.
- Students causing disruption are demonstrating disrespect and will be disciplined. See page 43.

Lunchroom

Lunch time should be an enjoyable break from the students' busy class schedule.

- Food brought from home cannot be refrigerated at school.
- Students are expected to demonstrate good manners and common courtesy to all during lunch.
- Students are never permitted to throw or play with food.
- A student who demonstrates disregard for the rules of the lunchroom, acts in a disrespectful manner to others, causes any damage in the cafeteria will be disciplined accordingly.

Cheating

Cheating, which is the stealing of another students' work, will not be tolerated at Evangelical Christian School. This includes homework, quizzes, tests, papers, or any work a student is expected to complete independently.

- Plagiarism is a form of cheating and will be handled accordingly.
- A student will receive a grade of zero on any work that has been determined to be stolen from another source.
- Any student, who after an investigation, has been shown to assist another in cheating, will also receive a zero on the assignment.
- Appropriate consequences will be administered. See page 42.
- A student who repeats cheating behavior may be suspended or expelled from ECS.
- Any student caught in suspicious behavior, such as talking during a test or quiz or looking on another student's paper may be disciplined and the grade on the assignment may be reduced at the teacher's discretion.

ECS deems Artificial Intelligence (AI) and websites, such as ChatGPT, to be inappropriate for use when completing essays and personal academic work. Any student work completed using AI, ChatGPT, or other sites will be considered stolen, and the student will receive a grade of zero on the assignment and may be issued disciplinary action.

Cell Phones and Wearable Technology

Students are not permitted to use a cell phone or any wearable technology (Smart watches, Apple watches, Air pods, Meta glasses, wireless headphones, or any personal recording device) during school hours as these items can cause a disruption to the school environment. Any use of a cell phone or wearable technology during school hours by a student will result in disciplinary action. If a student brings a cell phone and/or wearable technology to school, both must be powered off and secured in the student's backpack. If a student is viewed with a cell phone or wearable technology during the school day, the following disciplinary action will be taken:

- **1st Offense**: The device will be confiscated. The student will be issued an **automatic detention.** The device will be returned to the student after the dismissal bell on the day the device was confiscated.
- **2nd Offense**: The device will be confiscated. The student will be required to serve **two detentions** on consecutive days. The device will be returned to the parent only.
- **3rd Offense**: The device will be confiscated. The student will be assigned one day of **In-School-Suspension** (ISS). The device will be returned to the parent only.
- **4th Offense**: The device will be confiscated, and the administration will determine further consequences.

- **Please Note: Students are not permitted to use their cell phone or wearable technology to take photographs/videos/recordings of any student or teacher/staff member during class or on school grounds at any time. Particularly, students are not permitted to use cell phones or wearable technology to take photographs/videos/recordings in the restrooms or locker room areas at any time. Taking pictures, videos, or recordings of other students/teachers/staff is a serious offense. It will be deemed as an automatic Level III offense, and depending on the severity of the offense, could result in a Level IV offense, including expulsion.**

Additional Information regarding cell phones and wearable technology:

- Forgetting to turn off, take off, or put a device in the backpack is not an excuse.
- Possession of a cell phone or wearable technology during a test or quiz for any reason will automatically be considered cheating, and appropriate academic and disciplinary action will be taken.
- Students are not permitted to use a cell phone or wearable technology to take photographs/videos on school grounds.
- Students are not permitted to use cell phones or wearable technology to take photographs/videos in the restrooms or locker rooms at any time. Violation of this policy could lead to dismissal from ECS.
- Because cell phones/wearable technology also function as data storage devices, student devices brought to school will be subject to inspection and review by school staff pursuant to the school's normal search and seizure policy at the discretion of the administration. Any contraband content found that is deemed inappropriate by the administration, will be grounds for disciplinary action.

Digital Books and School Issued Devices

A digital book should be utilized in the same way as a textbook. When a teacher refers to taking out a textbook, this is the appropriate time for the student to take out the digital textbook. During class time, the only application that should be open on a student's school issued device is the app that allows a student to view the digital book.

Teachers may ask to check a student's device at any time to view any running programs, which will ensure that students have not accessed non-academic applications. When a teacher asks to check the device and notices the student clearing something off the device, it will be assumed the student is misusing the device and will be disciplined. Students who refuse access to a device will be written up and sent to the office.

School devices and electronic books have the great potential to enhance learning and improve many areas of a student's education. However, the following guidelines must be followed to ensure the potential is maximized:

- The school issues a device to each student, and it is the student's responsibility to care for the device.
- Each student is responsible to make sure the school issued device is fully charged and ready for use at the beginning of each school day.
- A student should never loan a device to someone else. Loss or damage to a device is the sole responsibility of the student who was issued the device by the school.
- A student should always secure the device. Never depend on someone else to secure the device.
- Each student is required to login and remain logged in to the assigned school issued site, such as Apple Classroom.
- School issued devices are strictly for educational purposes within the classroom. Any other use must be approved by the teacher.
- A student should not use a device to play games, to access non-academic material, to use camera or video, or to record class, students, or any area of the school without permission.
- Devices should never be taken into the locker room or the restroom.
- A school issued device is considered a searchable item. By using a school issued device, a student is consenting to any searches of the device. Upon request, a student may be asked for passwords or logins to assist in a search by the administration.
- Over the course of each semester, misuse of a school issued device will result in the following consequences:
  - 1st Offense – Warning
  - 2nd Offense – Warning
  - 3rd Offense – Removal of device for 1 week
  - 4th Offense – Removal of device for 2 weeks
  - 5th Offense – Removal of the device for the remainder of the current semester. **This may require parents to purchase textbooks to replace electronic books.**

Other Electronic Devices

Students are not permitted to bring to school personal iPads, laptops, Smartwatches, or any other personal electronic devices. Electronic games, music, or any devices deemed distracting are prohibited during the academic day. Headphones or AirPods are also prohibited during school hours. Any of the above items will be confiscated if seen and disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with the policies within the Parent Student Handbook.

Student Parking and Driving Privileges

All student vehicles must be registered with the Dean of Students. Once registered the student will be issued a parking permit which must be visibly displayed in the front windshield of the car. The permit to drive and park on campus must be displayed any time student is on campus.

- A student parking on campus may only park in the designated student lot.
- Once a vehicle is parked on school property for the day, the student is not permitted to return to the vehicle until the end of the school day without the permission of the administration.
- A student cannot park in a marked disabled parking space unless an official government agency disabled parking permit is displayed in the front windshield of the vehicle.
- Once a student arrives at school and parks in the designated lot, the student must leave the parking lot. Students are not permitted to loiter in the parking lot before, during, or after school.

A student driver is responsible to arrive at school on time.

- A student driver who accumulates **7 Unexcused Tardies** to school in a semester will be suspended 1 week from driving and parking on campus.
- A student driver who accumulates **8 Unexcused Tardies** to school will be suspended from driving and parking on campus for 2 weeks.
- A student driver who accumulates **9 Unexcused Tardies** to school will be suspended from driving and parking on campus for the remainder of the semester.

Additionally, any of the following actions could result in disciplinary action which may include a permanent suspension of on campus driving and parking privileges:

- While driving on campus and in the neighborhood around the campus, a student is expected to observe all speed limits and drive with extreme caution for the safety of all pedestrians and vehicles.
- Student drivers are not permitted to pick up other students who have been dropped off at school and leave campus.
- No student may be transported to school, from school, or to any school activity or practice in another student's vehicle without permission from the parents of both the driver and the rider.

Conducting Business on Campus

A student may not sell a product, collect money for a product, or solicit business in any form while on campus without permission from the Principal or Dean of Students. A student's involvement in any business activities on campus without proper permission could result in disciplinary action.

Disrespect Toward a Member of the Faculty, Staff, or Administration

An ECS student must always demonstrate respect toward members of the faculty, staff, and administration. Any student who shows disrespect to a member of the faculty, staff or administration, either with or without intent, is subject to discipline from the Administration.

The following actions directed toward a member of the faculty, staff, or administration are considered disrespectful behavior:

- Student refuses to follow instructions
- Student uses demeaning language or gestures
- Student makes inflammatory, degrading, or derogatory comments
- Student makes unwarranted accusations
- Student uses physical force

In the event of any violation of this policy, the administration reserves the right to designate an appropriate disciplinary action to the student. This action may include suspension from school or expulsion.

Immoral Conduct

In accordance with the school's statement of faith and in recognition of Biblical commands, no immoral conduct will be tolerated and will constitute grounds for expulsion. The Bible strictly forbids such conduct, which includes immoral actions as well as advocating for sinful behavior. The administration has a moral and legal responsibility to maintain suitable standards within the school to assure the welfare and health of all students.

Evangelical Christian School's definition of immoral conduct is bodily contact, actively undertaken or passively permitted, between members of the opposite sex or members of the same sex for the purpose of satisfying sexual desires. Any bodily contact that a reasonable person would understand to demonstrate a propensity or intent to engage in an immoral act. This also includes any transmission of inappropriate videos, pictures, photos, or text messages via cell phone, or social media.

It is important to note the following school policies regarding immoral conduct:

- A student who engages in any sexual activity will be subject to an Administrative Review and may be dismissed from ECS if the accusation has been proven true.
- A student who is pregnant will not be allowed to continue at ECS. If the administration has a reasonable suspicion that a student is pregnant, the student may be asked to submit to a proper medical pregnancy test. If the student, parent, or guardian fail to present to the administration proper medical testing, the administration shall suspend the student until such time as medical proof is presented.
- A student who shares, sends, or posts inappropriate images, emails, texts, or posts is subject to dismissal from ECS. This includes any inappropriate sharing done in person, with a cell phone, on a computer, or through social media.
- Demonstrations of romantic involvement between students on school property is not permitted. ECS students should refrain from hand holding, embracing, or any other contact that would contribute to undue familiarity. Students should desire and demonstrate behavior that is above reproach.

Social Networking and Electronic Communications

Students enrolled at Evangelical Christian School are to uphold the standards of decorum on all social networking sites, chat rooms, texts, internet activity and any other electronic forms of communication available. While the school does not actively monitor such student communications, proof of certain activities may result in disciplinary action. Such activities include, but are not limited to:

- Negative statements toward the school
- Statements that violate the Parent/Student Handbook or the philosophy of the school
- Transmission of statements, pictures, or online activities that could be classified as harassment as defined in the Violence Prevention section of the Parent/Student Handbook
- Displaying or taking pictures that are inappropriate and/or violate the Parent/Student Handbook
- Self-incriminating statements or pictures
- Imitating another student electronically or using another student's image without the student's consent.

Negative electronic activity directly impacts the school environment. Students and parents who have valid concerns should print out pages and give them to a school administrator. The administration reserves the right to designate appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, to any student who violates this policy.

Corporal Punishment

Evangelical Christian School views corporal punishment, properly administered, as a Scriptural and sound method of correction. However, for legal reasons, neither school personnel nor parents may administer corporal punishment on campus to any student.

Rights and Responsibilities

The Administration may decide, in its sole discretion, to request a hearing or to grant a student's request for a hearing on a case-by-case basis. **Nothing in the ECS Parent/Student Handbook should be construed as granting a student the legal right to any hearing with the Administration or any other school body or official**.

The Administration shall not be required to meet or demonstrate any legal standard of proof in carrying out any school disciplinary policy. All findings of fact made by the Administration for the purpose of disciplining students at Evangelical Christian School shall be made in the sole discretion of the school officials and are not subject to further review by any other body or court. All discretionary decisions made by the Administration for the purpose of disciplining a student at Evangelical Christian School shall not be subject to further review by any other body or court. The ECS Administration understands and shares the parental concern for the safety of all ECS students. Consequently, much thought and research have gone into the formulation of the above policies. The structure and procedures are part of an ongoing effort to protect ECS students from the risk of violence and create an environment conducive to learning and building Godly character. Each member of the ECS staff is familiar with the policies and is personally committed to the safety of all students. The school administration appreciates the confidence parents have placed in Evangelical Christian School and pledges to always seek to safeguard and educate every ECS student to the glory of God.

VIOLENCE PROVENTION

Zero-Tolerance for Violence

Evangelical Christian School does not tolerate violence in any form. Every member of the school family, students, parents, faculty, staff, administrators, and visitors to campus, is governed by the no tolerance for violence policy while on school property and at any school sponsored event, on or off campus. The same persons are expected to share in the task of creating an environment that is safe, harmonious and respectful by speaking to an administrator if something questionable is witnessed.

Police Investigations

Evangelical Christian School is committed to providing students with a quality education within a safe and law-abiding school environment. While respecting the rights and responsibilities of all parties concerned, ECS faculty, staff, and administration will cooperate fully with law enforcement officers carrying out responsibilities as part of a law enforcement investigation or proceeding. If permitted to do so by the investigating officers, the school will make every effort to contact the parent of any student who is to be questioned by law enforcement officials.

Weapons Policy

Evangelical Christian School strictly prohibits and will not tolerate the possession of weapons by any unauthorized person on its property or in its buildings or at school-sponsored activities. The school will not tolerate the presence of weapons in lockers, school bags, cars, or any other place on the ECS property. The school prohibits the use of weapons, replicas of weapons, or the threat of the use of weapons by any person on its property, in its buildings or at school-sponsored activities.

Evangelical Christian School treats **possession** of a weapon and the **use** of a weapon as two separate offenses.

Possession

Having a weapon on one's person or in an area subject to one's control in a school location constitutes possession of a weapon. Objects considered to be weapons include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A gun (loaded or unloaded)
- A replica of a gun or weapon
- All knives, blades, clubs, metal knuckles, nun chucks, and throwing stars
- Explosives and fireworks
- Mace and other propellants

- Stun-guns
- Ammunition
- Poisons
- Chains
- Arrows
- Objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon
- Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer
- Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket, missile, mine, or a similar device
- Any type of weapon, by whatever name known, which will or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant
- Any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting a device into a destructive device described above, or from which such a device may be readily assembled.

Use

Using or threatening to use any of the above items constitutes use of a weapon regardless of whether said weapon is in the student's possession or not at the time the threat was made. Use of a weapon also includes using or threatening to use, any item as a weapon, even if the object, under normal circumstances, is not considered a weapon, such as brandishing a ball-point pen in a stabbing motion.

The minimum consequence for a student threatening to use, possessing, using, or distributing a weapon includes:

- Immediate confiscation of the weapon
- Immediate notification of a parent or guardian
- Immediate suspension from school
- The administration will impose a suspension from school for any length of time deemed necessary for an appropriate investigation into the occurrence.
- Once the investigation is complete, the administration will implement disciplinary action which may include expulsion from school.

Assault, Threats and Harassment Prohibited

Evangelical Christian School does not tolerate assault, threats, harassment, or abuse against any member of the school family. Verbal or written threats, racial/ethno-cultural harassment, physical or sexual harassment, or abuse perpetrated by anyone in the school, whether intentional or unintentional, is condemned as unacceptable and will be dealt with through appropriate discipline.

Evangelical Christian School prohibits:

- The use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or intimidation against another person
- Any course of comment or conduct that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be objectionable, or create an environment that is hostile, intimidating, or offensive to another person
- Any intentional violation of the **Six-Inch Principle**. The Six-Inch Principle holds that each student should avoid intentionally invading the six inches of space surrounding a person and his or her property, with the exception of activities directed by the faculty during a class such as P.E. or in which normal and reasonable contact should be expected for example: incidental contact in the hallways, in lunch lines, or during an athletic activity.

When a verbal assault, threat, or harassment occurs, the parent/guardian of the student involved will be informed; and the perpetrating student will be disciplined. The administration reserves the right to use any disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

If a student makes a threat toward themself, another student, or the school, the school reserves the right to investigate the situation with the School Resource Officer (SRO). If the Lee County Sheriff's Department determines the threat to be credible, the student will be expelled immediately. If the Lee County Sheriff's Office determines the

threat is not credible, ECS administration reserves the right to use any disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

When an assault occurs, the parent/guardian of the student involved will be informed. If there is no weapon involved, the minimum length of suspension of the student offender is three days unless there are mitigating circumstances. If there is a weapon involved, the minimum disciplinary action for the student offender is seven days of suspension unless there are mitigating circumstances. In any instance of assault, the administration reserves the right to use any disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

The parent/guardian of a student will be informed, and a detention will be issued if a student violates the Six-Inch Principle and physical contact is determined to be any of the following:

- reasonably described as non-violent
- not leading to injury, threat of injury, or a dangerous situation
- non-threatening
- part of a mutual disagreement or pre-fight pushing or shoving

The administration reserves the right to use any disciplinary action, depending on the circumstances, up to and including suspension. Repeat offenses may result in an expulsion.

If the Administration deems that a student's physical response to a verbal or physical provocation is disproportionately strong, it will be deemed unreasonable and the student will be disciplined appropriately. The Administration may reduce disciplinary actions or exonerate a student who did not initiate the physical altercation.

Harassment and Bullying

Harassment is defined as any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal, or physical conduct directed against a student or school employee that:

- Places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school

Bullying is defined as systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students through behavior described in the "Violence Prevention" section above. The term bullying implies prolonged, repeated behaviors and is not tolerated. Students, faculty, staff, and parents should notify a member of the administration immediately when there is a suspicion or report of ongoing activity.

The Administration reserves the right to use any disciplinary action up to and including expulsion in cases of harassment or bullying. This includes amending consequences listed in the parent/student handbook when proven to be "systematic and chronic."

Wrongful or untrue claims of bullying, harassment, threats, or assault are not tolerated. The Administration reserves the right to use any disciplinary action up to and including expulsion for such an act.

Sexual Harassment

All allegations of sexual harassment will be promptly investigated in as impartial and confidential a manner as possible. A timely resolution of each complaint will be communicated to the parties involved.

The school will not tolerate any retaliation against anyone who brings a *bona fide* complaint of sexual harassment or who, as a witness, provides true information in the investigation of a complaint of sexual harassment. However, an individual who makes a false complaint or provides false information to an investigator will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. Any student found to have violated the sexual harassment policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

Vandalism

Evangelical Christian School prohibits the deliberate damage or defacement of school buildings, grounds, equipment, books, or the personal property of individuals on school property.

When vandalism occurs:

- The student's parent will be informed.
- The student and parent/guardian will be held responsible for returning stolen items to the owner or pay full compensation for the items.
- The student and parent/guardian will be responsible for paying all costs to restore or replace the vandalized property to its original condition.
- The student's diploma and any awards or privileges (including yearbooks, academic and fine arts awards, participation in field trips or senior class trip) will be withheld until the student's debt is repaid.
- The administration reserves the right to use any disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Search and Seizure

In the interest of maintaining law, order, discipline, and decorum in the school and during authorized school functions held off school property, Evangelical Christian School prohibits the possession of substances or objects which may threaten good order, discipline, decorum, and public safety. Such materials or objects may include, but are not limited to, the following items:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Illicit drugs
- Tobacco products
- Vapes
- Stolen property
- Weapons
- Hate Literature
- Racist Material
- Pornography
- Unapproved music
- Unapproved electronics

Any prohibited items discovered in the possession of a student will be confiscated and dealt with appropriately. Any illegal items will be referred to law enforcement for further investigation.

Evangelical Christian School authorizes the Principal, Dean of Students, or a designated person, to conduct searches and, where necessary, to seize prohibited substances or objects. A K9 unit will sweep the campus, lockers and vehicles included, checking for prohibited substances or objects once per quarter. ECS students should have no expectation of privacy from the ECS administration in any of the following areas:

- Designated student storage for personal belongings on school property, such as, but not limited to, a locker
- Any belongings transported by the student onto school property in a car or in person
- Any electronic devices brought on campus

Drugs, Nicotine, and Alcohol Policy

Evangelical Christian School is committed to maintaining a drug and alcohol-free environment that promotes health and well-being while addressing students at risk. The school has implemented the following comprehensive drug, alcohol, nicotine, and tobacco policy:

> Student use or possession of illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, mood-altering substances, drug-related paraphernalia, prescription, or non-prescription drugs not registered with the school nurse, tobacco, products containing nicotine, or any other controlled substance defined herein, including e-cigarettes, etc. is forbidden and may result in the student being expelled from ECS.

Drug/Alcohol Offense	School Response
Use or possession of alcohol or controlled substance on or off campus,	An automatic administrative review will take place with possible mandatory student withdrawal from ECS. “Use or possession” will be regarded as a positive drug/nicotine/alcohol test. A student and parent demonstrating a willingness to modify and change behavior may be given the opportunity to stay at ECS if agreeable to the following conditions: • Student will serve an External Suspension (min. of 2 full days). • Athletes are banned from dressing out and/or participating in preseason games and 20% of the present season's games, including playoffs or the next season's games if an incident occurred at the end of a season or out of season, including the summer. A student athlete may practice at the discretion of the Dean of Students. • The Dean of Students may implement penalties for participation in clubs and holding elected offices. • Student will get counseling from a drug/alcohol counselor off campus. • Student will submit to random drug/nicotine/alcohol testing. A student who refuses to be tested will be treated as one receiving a positive test result. • Any subsequent alcohol OR drug incident OR positive drug/nicotine/alcohol test will result in the student’s mandatory withdrawal from ECS.
Positive Drug/Nicotine/Alcohol Test (School Administered)	Automatic administrative review; possible mandatory withdrawal. A student and parent demonstrating a willingness to modify and change behavior may be given the opportunity to stay at ECS if agreeable to the following conditions: • External Suspension (min. of 2 full days) • Athletes banned from dressing out and/or participating in preseason games and 20% of the present season's games, including playoffs or the next season's games if an incident occurred at the end of a season or out of season including the summer. A student may practice at the discretion of the Dean of Students. • The Dean of Students may implement penalties for participation in clubs and holding elected offices. • Student will get counseling from a drug/alcohol counselor off campus • Student will submit to random drug/nicotine/alcohol testing. A student who refuses to be tested will treated as one receiving a positive test result. • Any subsequent alcohol OR drug incident OR positive drug/nicotine/alcohol test will result in the student’s mandatory withdrawal from ECS.
2nd Positive Drug/Nicotine/Alcohol Test	A second positive test will result in a mandatory withdrawal of the student from ECS without opportunity for readmission.

Selling, distributing, purchasing, or possession with the intent to distribute illegal/illicit drugs or drug paraphernalia or alcohol on or off school property	The first offense will result in the expulsion of the student from ECS without opportunity for readmission.
Arrest/Conviction for Drug or Alcohol Possession, Alcohol related incident off campus, Sale or Distribution of Drugs	The first offense will result in the expulsion of the student from ECS without opportunity for readmission.

Under the Influence of Illegal and Illicit Substances or Alcohol, on Campus or at School Events

The safety of the students and others is a primary concern to the school therefore the school will immediately notify the parents of any student perceived to be intoxicated or under the influence of any drug while on school property, or at any school event. Law enforcement may also be notified, particularly if the student is perceived to be a threat to himself or others. The school will test the student for drugs, nicotine, or alcohol immediately if possible. All related policies will be applied and enforced whether the event is held on the ECS campus or at another site.

Drug, Nicotine, and Alcohol Testing

The school may ask a student to submit to a drug/nicotine/alcohol test at any time, with or without cause. This may be done at random or based on behaviors reported by teachers, peers, or parents. Students will be tested by the Dean of Students and another administrator present. The following will be considered standard procedure for any student asked to submit to an in-school drug/nicotine/alcohol test:

- A student will not be permitted to go unsupervised to a locker, a vehicle, the bathroom or any other area before submitting a sample for testing.
- Any student refusing to submit a sample for testing must withdraw from Evangelical Christian School immediately.
- A student testing positive for any illegal or illicit drug, including nicotine, will be subject to disciplinary action.
- A student found tampering with the drug/nicotine/alcohol test will be subject to expulsion from ECS.
- Students admitting drug use before the test will be regarded as having tested positive, but the school views honesty as a sign of willingness to properly address a problem.
- Any parent refusing to allow a student to submit to a school administered drug test will be required to withdraw the student from Evangelical Christian School immediately.

Regular or Random Drug, Nicotine, and Alcohol Testing

Students who have had drug or other related concerns may be required to submit to regular or random drug/nicotine/alcohol testing as a condition for remaining at Evangelical Christian School and as a deterrent to destructive behaviors. The payment for each required drug/nicotine/alcohol test is the responsibility of the student in the program.

Vape Detection Devices

Evangelical Christian School utilizes HALO vape detection devices. The devices are installed in bathrooms and locker rooms on campus. The devices detect any vaping, including vape devices that contain nicotine and THC. The vape detectors are integrated with a surveillance system and send alert notifications to the administrative staff. Any student found to be in an area when a vape detection device sends an alert may be required to submit to a drug/nicotine/alcohol test. The student's parents will be notified prior to the testing.

School Responsibility to Students and Parents

It is the responsibility of the school to provide a safe and friendly atmosphere for student learning. A primary concern of the school is the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of each student. Therefore, parents will be notified of any suspicion of student drug and/or alcohol abuse. The issue will be addressed with the goal of assisting the student in the recognition and treatment of harmful and potentially addictive behavior. It is the policy of Evangelical

Christian School to assist students suffering from substance abuse when possible. Upon reasonable suspicion of student drug and/or alcohol use, the school may take the following measures:

- Notification of parents/guardians of the student
- Family consultation with school officials
- Drug/Nicotine/Alcohol testing
- Random Drug/Nicotine/Alcohol testing during remaining time as a student at Evangelical Christian School as designated by the school administration

CONSEQUENCES OF STUDENT MISBEHAVIOR

As students mature, individual personalities and identities are developed and displayed. ECS understands students are in the process of building Godly character and developing a healthy view of the world and at times need leeway to be less than perfect. ECS believes all actions come with consequences and it is often the consequences that teach the student the most about character and life.

Learning to submit to guidelines and to obey rules is an important step toward maturity for students. Guidelines and rules allow a student to learn civic responsibility, live peacefully with others, and are key to knowing contentment in life. The guidelines and rules at Evangelical Christian School are not to be viewed negatively, but rather as purposeful, to create a peaceful and positive school environment for all students. This section contains the consequences for students who choose not to follow the rules. The purpose of disciplinary action is to assist the student in developing Godly character and to learn how to function successfully in the world.

Levels of Disciplinary Action

Disciplinary actions in the high school are divided into four (4) levels. Each level is determined by the seriousness of the act.

Level I Action *(0 Demerits, may accumulate to Level II)* – Level I infractions result in one or more of the following consequences:

- Official Warning (OW)
- Speaking with teacher during or after class
- Phone call to parent from the teacher or administrator

Level II Action *(0-1 Demerits)* – Level II infractions require more formal consequences which include, but are not limited to:

- After school Detention
- Work Detail
- Student/Teacher Conference
- Parent/Teacher conference with student
- Loss of Driving Privilege for 1 Week

Level III Action *(3-5 Demerits)* – Level III infractions require more formal consequences which include, but are not limited to one or more of the following:

- In-School Suspension (ISS)
- Out of School Suspension (OSS)
- Rest of Day Suspension (RODS)
- Student Disciplinary Contract
- Administrative Review
- Loss of Driving Privilege for 2 Weeks or permanently
- Directed Community Service

Level IV Action – Level IV infractions require an Administrative Review and may include, but are not limited to:

- Disciplinary Committee Review

- Forced Withdrawal
- Expulsion
- Alternate Discipline Plan/Contract
- Counseling as a required component of continuation as a student
- Any other action that is deemed appropriate, which is at the discretion of the Administration

Level I Infractions

The following are Level I Official Warnings (OW's) and will accumulate throughout a semester.

Level I – Infractions:

- Dress Code/Hair Code Violations
- Horseplay
- Hallway Disruption
- Inappropriate use of electronic device (ex. playing games, removal from Apple Classroom)
- Left iPad unattended
- Unprepared for class
- Unexcused tardy to class
- Unexcused tardy to school
- Eating in a Prohibited Area
- Classroom Disruption

Level I infractions accumulate in each category and become Level II infractions as follows:

- 1st OW – Level I action
- 2nd OW – Level I action
- 3rd OW – Level II action (1 demerit)
- 4th OW – Level I action
- 5th OW – Level I action
- 6th OW – Level II action (1 demerit)
- 7th OW – Level II action (1 demerit)
- Each infraction after eight (8) in a category is a level III infraction and one (1) demerit, which means a suspension of some type will be assigned. The Administration's goal for any level III consequence is to ensure such behavior is not repeated in the future.

Level II Infractions

The following are level II infractions and equal 1 Demerit and an Automatic Detention:

- Corrupt Communication
- Disobeying a teacher or staff member
- Disrespect
- Lying
- Cheating (homework/daily grade)
- Disrupting Chapel
- Uninvited Physical Contact - dependent on severity, could be elevated to Level III or IV
- Inappropriate internet activity (could be deemed a Level III Infraction, depending on severity)
- Bringing/using wearable technology to school

Disciplinary Infractions

Attendance

Failure to Sign In/Out is reporting to school late or leaving school early without following the established procedures.

- 1st Offense (Unintentional) – Level II
- Repeat same offense – Level III or IV
- 1st Offense (Intentional) – Level III or IV

Skipping Class is not reporting or leaving an assigned class, activity, or area without proper approval.

- 1st Offense – Level III
- Repeat same offense – Level III or IV

Skipping School is being absent from school without parent knowledge

- 1st Offense – Level III
- Repeat same offense – Level IV

Bullying

Bullying is defined as proven systematic and chronic behavior which inflicts physical hurt or psychological distress on another student.

- 1st Offense - Level IV - Automatic Administrative Review

Cell Phones & Wearable Technology

- 1st Offense - Level II: The device will be confiscated. The student will be issued an automatic detention. The device will be returned to the student after the dismissal bell on the day the device was confiscated.
- 2nd Offense - Level II: The device will be confiscated. The student will be required to serve two detentions on consecutive days. The device will be returned to the parent only.
- 3rd Offense - Level III: The device will be confiscated. The student will be assigned one day of In-School-Suspension (ISS). The device will be returned to the parent only.
- 4th Offense - Level III or Level IV: The device will be confiscated, and the administration will determine further consequences.
- Taking Pictures/Videos of other Students/Teachers/Staff: Automatic Level III or Level IV up to/including expulsion.

- Please Note: Students are not permitted to use their cell phone or wearable technology to take photographs/videos/recordings of any student or teacher/staff member during class or on school grounds at any time. Particularly, students are not permitted to use cell phones or wearable technology to take photographs/vides/recordings in the restrooms or locker room areas at any time. Taking pictures, videos, or recordings of other students/teachers/staff is a serious offense. It will be deemed as an automatic Level III offense and depending on the severity of the offense, could result in a Level IV offense, including expulsion.

Cheating

Receiving or giving help on any graded project.

- 1st Offense (homework or daily grade) – Level II
- 1st Offense (test or quiz) – Level III
- Repeat same offense – Level III or IV

Computer or iPad Misuse

- 1st Offense – Level II
- Repeat – Level III
- Major infraction - intentional or damaging behavior – Level III or IV

Corrupt Communication

General Profanity (overheard)

- 1st Offense – Level II

- Repeat same offense – Level III

Student to Adult

- 1st Offense – Level III
- Repeat same offense – Level IV

Student to Student (vulgar, obscene, or profane)

- 1st Offense – Level III
- Repeat same offense – Level IV

Criminal Activity or being arrested and charged by the authorities

- 1st Offense – Level IV – Automatic Administrative Review

Damaging Another Student's Property

- 1st Offense – Level I (must replace or pay for damage) - dependent on severity, could be elevated to Level II or III
- Repeat same offense – Level II or III (must replace or pay for damage)

Dangerous Operation of a Vehicle

- 1st Offense – Level II driving suspension for one week
- Repeat same offense - Level III driving suspension for two weeks or possible permanent driving suspension
- 1st Offense (extreme) – Level III driving suspension for two weeks or possible permanent driving suspension

Disrespect toward another person (minor)

- 1st Offense – Level II
- Repeat same offense – Level III

Disrespect toward another person (major)

- 1st Offense – Level III or IV
- Repeat same offense – Level IV

Disrupting Chapel

- 1st Offense – Level II
- Repeat same offense – Level III
- 1st Offense (extreme) – Level III

Dress Code

- 1st OW – Level I action and correction if possible
- 2nd OW – Level I action and correction if possible
- 3rd OW – Level II action and correction if possible
- After 3 infractions in the same category the student will receive a detention and be sent home until the dress code or hair code violation is corrected.
- Please note, even though OW's are given for the first three offenses in a semester, the administration reserves the right to require a student to be in code before being permitted to attend class.

Driving Violation/Speeding Violation

- 1st Offense - Level I (Official Warning)
- 2nd Offense - Level II driving suspended for one week & $50 fine
- Repeat same offense - Level III driving suspended for two weeks & $75 fine

Eating in a prohibited area

- 1st Offense - automatic detention assigned

- 2nd Offense - two detentions assigned
- 3rd Offense - In School Suspension
- 4th Offense - Administrative review

Entering an off-limits area
- 1st Offense – Level II
- Repeat same offense – Level III

Failure to serve Detention
- 1st Offense – Level II (1 Demerit)
- 2nd Offense – Level III (2 Demerits)
- 3rd Offense – Level IV (3 Demerits)

Fighting
- Un-aided contact – Level III
- Aided contact, repeat offenses – Level III or IV

Forgery
- 1st Offense – Level III
- 2nd Offense – Level IV

Gambling
- 1st Offense – Level IV – Automatic Administrative Review

Hair Code
- 1st OW – Level I action and correction if possible
- 2nd OW – Level I action and correction if possible
- 3rd OW – Level II action and correction if possible
- After 3 infractions in the same category the student will receive a detention and be sent home until the dress code or hair code violation is corrected.
- Please note, even though OW's are given for the first three offenses in a semester, the administration reserves the right to require a student to be in code before being permitted to attend class.

Harassment of any student, staff, faculty, or administrator
Includes racial comments, threats, intimidation, bullying, hazing, sexual harassment, or any acts of violence
- 1st Offense – Level III or IV
- Repeat Offenses – Level III or IV

Inappropriate comments directed toward another student
Includes name-calling, coarse joking, or embarrassing another student in public
- 1st Offense – Level II
- Repeat Offense – Level II or III

Inappropriate use of school issued electronic devices
- 1st Offense – Official Warning
- 2nd Offense – Official Warning
- 3rd Offense – Removal of device for 1 week
- 4th Offense – Removal of device for 2 weeks
- 5th Offense – Removal of the device for the remainder of the current semester. Parents may need to purchase textbooks to replace electronic books.

Lying

- Each Offense – Level II
- Hindering an Inquiry – Level III or IV

Parking Violation - (ex. Parking in Handicap space without legal tag)

- 1st Offense – Level I (Official Warning)
- 2nd Offense – Level II and $50.00 Fine
- Repeat Offense – Level III and $75.00 Fine

Possession or use of tobacco related products includes vaping

- 1st Offense - Level IV - Automatic Administrative Review

Possession, use, sale, distribution, storing, or purchasing alcohol, drugs, drug paraphernalia, controlled substances, counterfeit controlled substances, prescription medication, or over-the-counter medication – see pages 37-39

- 1st Offense - Level IV - Automatic Administrative Review

Possession or use of weapons (including fireworks)
See Weapons Policy (pg. 34-35)

Propping open an exterior building door
Constitutes a campus safety risk

- 1st Offense - Level II
- Repeat Offenses - Level III or IV

Public Display of Affection

- 1st Offense – Level II
- Repeat Offense – Level III

Sexual Activity
Includes sexual acts, inappropriate touching, possession or viewing of pornography on or off campus. Pornography is defined as any picture, photo, video, or written text or otherwise that promotes displays of nudity, a sexual act, or suggestive content.

- 1st Offense – Level IV – Automatic Administrative Review

Stealing

- 1st Offense – Level III or IV
- Repeat Offense – Level IV

Students or parents taking actions or making statements out of harmony with ECS policy and practice. This includes breaking the spirit of the policy and practice.

- 1st. Offense – Level IV – Automatic Administrative Review

Students or parents displaying attitudes that undermine the educational or social environment of the school.

- 1st Offense – Level IV – Automatic Administrative Review

Tampering with HALO vape detectors

- 1st Offense - Level IV - Automatic Administrative Review

Threatening behavior or communication

- Threat to use force – Level II or III
- Threat of using a weapon – Level III or IV

Unapproved electronic device use on campus

Includes, but is not limited to, personal iPads, laptops, Chromebooks, cell phones, Smartwatches, digital cameras, Air pods, and headphones.

- 1st Offense - Level II, includes confiscation and detention. Student may pick up device in the office at the end of the school day.
- Repeat same offense - Level II or III, includes confiscation and detention or In School Suspension. Device must be picked up in the office by a parent/guardian.

Unexcused Tardy to School

A student who drives to school and is continually late may have driving privileges suspended.

- 1st and 2nd Offense – Official Warning
- 3rd Offense – Detention (1 Demerit)
- 4th and 5th Offense – Official Warning
- 6th and each after – Detention (1 Demerit)

Uninvited Physical Contact with another person

- 1st Offense (minor) - Level II, dependent on severity
- Repeated Offense – Level II-IV

Unregistered Vehicle/No Parking Tag

- 1st Offense - Level I (Official Warning) & Purchase Parking Tag
- 2nd Offense - Level II and $50.00 Parking Fine
- Repeat Offense - Level III and $75.00 Parking Fine

Demerits, Detentions, and Strategic Disciplinary Action

Disciplinary actions are designed to help a student improve behavior. When a student continues to receive demerits without behavioral change the administration may put different strategies into place to encourage student improvement. Detentions are a standard consequence to help the student correct behavior, but the following strategic actions are also used when a student reaches given demerit levels:

- 5 demerits – Parent meeting required, possible probation, individual discipline plan created
- 7-9 demerits – (Level II or III) Suspension or special discipline as determined by the Administration
- 10 demerits – (Level IV) Out-of-School Suspension pending Administrative Review and possible Discipline Committee meeting

The Administration may choose, at any demerit level, to suspend a student whose behavior exhibits chronic disruption or disregard for the disciplinary system, detentions, or Official Warnings. It is at the sole discretion of the administration to determine when a student suspension is appropriate.

Detention Attendance

School detention is served after school from 3:15 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. The student will be notified in writing and the parents by email that a detention must be served before or on the assigned date written on the detention. Detention will consist of a written assignment or a work task given to the student. Unless otherwise instructed, the student serving a detention is required to be in school uniform while in detention. Extenuating circumstances that will not allow the student to serve a detention by the assigned date must be communicated to the Dean before missing the detention to avoid further discipline.

Missing a Detention

Students and parents must be proactive to ensure detentions are served by the assigned date to avoid further discipline. Missing a detention will result in the following disciplinary action:

- 1st Offense – Level II (1 Demerit)
- 2nd Offense – Level III (2 Demerits)
- 3rd Offense – Level IV (3 Demerits and Discipline Committee Meeting)

Student Suspensions

In-School Suspension (ISS)

An in-school suspension is served during the school day under the supervision of an ECS administrator or staff member. The length of the suspension is decided administratively and can be a partial day or a full day. A student assigned to serve an ISS must note the following:

- A student may not attend class while serving an ISS.
- The student will receive a zero "0" for any homework or quiz due on the day of the suspension(s).
- Any tests given on the day of suspension will be taken by the student on time while serving the ISS.
- A student, after serving an in-school suspension, is responsible for getting classwork and homework assignments from teachers to be ready for class the next day.
- A student serving an in-school suspension for the full day is ineligible to play in any sporting event on that day and may be prohibited from attending practice.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

An out-of-school suspension is served off campus under the supervision of a parent or the parent's designee. The ECS Administration will determine the number of days the student will serve. A student assigned to serve an OSS must note the following:

- A student may not be on campus before, during, or after school on the day of serving an OSS.
- The student will receive a zero "0" for any homework or quiz due on the day of the suspension(s).
- Any tests given the day a student serves the OSS must be made up before or after school on the first day of returning to school.
- A student serving an OSS is responsible for emailing teachers in a timely manner, requesting classwork and homework assignments to be prepared to return to class.
- A student serving an out-of-school suspension is ineligible to participate in any sporting event or practice, on or off campus, on the day the suspension is served.

Rest-Of-Day Suspension (RODS)

A student may be sent home by the Dean or assigned to In-School Suspension to serve a rest-of-day suspension due to the student's inappropriate actions while at school. A student assigned to serve a RODS must note the following:

- A student being sent home to serve RODS must be picked up by the parent or parent designee and may not return to campus the rest of the day.
- A student being assigned to In-School Suspension for the rest-of-day will remain on campus and serve suspension under the supervision of an ECS administrator or staff member. (see page 47, section titled In-School Suspension)

Administrative Review

Any Level IV infraction requires an Administrative Review. This review is for infractions considered serious enough to perhaps jeopardize a student's enrollment at Evangelical Christian School. The student will serve an out-of-school suspension during the review. The Administrative Review is carried out by a team of administrators who investigate and decide the best course of action. The Administrative Review team can make a final decision on appropriate action or refer the matter to the Discipline Committee, which is a team of administrators and teachers.

In the case of automatic Level IV infractions, it is important to note that consideration and grace will more likely be given in situations when the student confesses, rather than if the truth is received from a third party.

The following is the procedure for a Level IV Administrative Review:

- Administrative Review – Information is gathered and the incident is investigated. The facts of the incident are laid out by the administrative team, and the team determines the appropriate course of action.
- Conference – Following the review an administrator will schedule a conference with the student and parents. This conference may be held by phone or in person.

- Discipline Committee Meeting – If the Administrative Review refers the matter to the Discipline Committee it will be this committee's decision to assign appropriate discipline in the matter. Students who exceed 10 demerits will automatically proceed to a Discipline Committee Meeting.
- Conference – Following the committee's review of the incident an administrator will schedule a conference with the student and parents. This conference may be held by phone or in person.

Possible actions resulting from an Administrative Review or Discipline Committee decision:

- Expulsion – A student may lose the privilege to be a student at ECS. In this case, the student must return all ECS property and is not permitted to be on the school campus without administrative permission.
- Forced Withdrawal – A student may lose the privilege to be a student at ECS but has been offered the opportunity to withdraw rather than be expelled. In this case the student must return all ECS property and is not permitted on the ECS campus without administrative permission.
- Alternate Discipline Plan/Contract – A student may be offered an alternate consequence by the Administrative Review or Discipline Committee. The student and parent must agree in writing to this alternate consequence option. Once the agreement has been signed the student will be given a date to return to school.

Disciplinary Probation

If a student accumulates five (5) detentions in any semester of a school year, the student may be placed on disciplinary probation. The goal of disciplinary probation is to ensure student success, develop character, and monitor progress. Students receiving more than five (5) detentions in two consecutive semesters will be reviewed and may not be permitted to re-enroll.

A student may be placed on disciplinary probation for the following reasons:

- Acquiring 5 or more detentions in a semester
- Acquiring numerous demerits or warnings in a short period of time
- As deemed by the administration for the following school year
- As deemed by the administration for infractions detrimental to the school

The following are requirements for students placed on disciplinary probation:

- A conference with the student, parent, and an administrator will be scheduled.
- The student will meet with a designated administrator regularly to check in and discuss any recent issues. The administrator will determine the frequency of the meetings.
- Disciplinary probation is reviewed at the end of each semester to determine if the probationary period can be concluded and should continue.

The following are probationary infractions, which may lead to student dismissal from ECS:

- Any Automatic Detention Infractions
- Multiple OW's in a short period of time
- Displaying or conveying attitudes or behaviors that break the spirit of the probationary agreement with Evangelical Christian School.

Expulsion or Dismissal

A student may be expelled or dismissed from school at any time if it is discovered the student or the parents are out of harmony with the rules and policies of the school. Decisions in these matters are at the full discretion of the administration, and further reviews or appeals will not be considered. The following are rules regarding expulsions or dismissals:

- An expulsion or dismissal from ECS is for the remainder of the current school year.
- An expelled or dismissed student wanting to return to ECS the following school year must complete a **Student Petition to Return** by May 1. When the petition is received by the school, the administration will determine whether the student will be permitted to return the following school year. Reviews or appeals will not be considered.

- If a senior is expelled or dismissed from school, the senior will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony, nor will the student be issued an ECS diploma.

Restoration Program

The Restoration Program is for the student who has been expelled or asked to withdraw from Evangelical Christian School and wishes to return as a student in the future. The following requirements must be completed before consideration will be given:

- Both student and parent must each submit to administration a letter of petition.
- Once the letters are received, a conference with the student, parents, and school administrators may be scheduled.
- The administrative review team will make the final decision on the student's eligibility to return to ECS and will inform the parent.
- The student who is allowed the privilege of returning to ECS will return on disciplinary probation and contract. The contract will be issued and will have specific requirements. The student and parents must sign the contract, demonstrating agreement to the requirements.

DRESS CODE

Evangelical Christian School believes it is necessary to always dress appropriately and modestly. The purpose of a dress code is to assist students in demonstrating a God-glorifying lifestyle by maintaining a modest posture and appearance. Though standards and convictions regarding modesty may vary, ECS defines modesty using the following biblical principles:

- Show honor and respect for one's body by covering areas which are meant to be kept private. (1 Cor. 12:23)
- Promote Godly character over external adornment. (1 Peter 3:3-4)
- Cultivate humility rather than seek unnecessary attention. (1 John 2:15-16)
- Love one's neighbor by not being an undue source of temptation. (Matthew 18:7, Philippians 2:3-4)

The school reserves the right to ask a student to refrain from wearing anything that is deemed inappropriate based on the principles of biblical modesty or deemed disruptive to an environment of learning. Parents are expected to cooperate in enforcing school's dress guidelines.

Students are expected to be in proper uniform dress when at school. It is the parents' responsibility to purchase enough uniforms, schedule laundering, and maintain all uniforms in such a way that students are in proper dress code each day. Disciplinary action may be administered to any student who is not in dress code.

General Uniform Requirements

Shirts

- **Must be purchased directly from Renegades: www.renegadesfl.com**
- Only the top button may be undone.
- Monday - Thursday students must wear official ECS uniform shirts.
- ECS official crewnecks, purchased from the Sentinel Corner, may be worn Monday - Thursday if a uniform shirt is underneath and the collar is visible.
- On Fridays, students are permitted to wear any ECS purchased or issued shirt, ECS crewneck or hoodie. This includes ECS class shirts, club shirts, HOUSE shirts, or jerseys.

Pants

- May be purchased from Renegades or another retailer
- Must be a dress/uniform pant, in solid black or khaki
- Must be completely hemmed at the bottom, no homemade cuts and no frayed edges

- Must be loose fit; pants cannot be tight around the ankle, legs, thighs, or buttocks area.
- Pockets must look like dress pant pockets; jean style pockets are not permitted.
- The following types of pants are not permitted:

Joggers or athletic style	Jeans or jean-like (denim) material
Leggings	Corduroy
Cargo style	Drawstring style
Elastic waist	Pull-on
Clingy material	

Shorts

- **To ensure appropriate length, shorts must be purchased directly from Renegades: www.renegadesfl.com**
- Must be completely hemmed at the bottom, no homemade cuts and no frayed edges.
- May not be rolled up or hemmed.

Socks

- It is recommended that all students wear socks.
- Socks must be white, black, or gray.
- Only a thin stripe across the top of the sock or a small logo on the sock is permitted.

Belts

- Belts must be worn if shirts are tucked.
- Belts must be black or brown leather and be worn inside the belt loop.
- The buckle should be small and simple.

Shoes

- Shoes must be black, brown, or white.
- Shoes must have a closed toe and a closed heel.
- Contrasting stitching or logo markings on shoes are only permitted in white, off white, or black.
- A white logo and white sole on the tennis shoe is acceptable.
- Shoelaces must be a solid color and match the color of the shoe.
- Boots must be black or brown and may only be worn with pants.
- Shoes that give the appearance of a casual "slipper" may not be worn.

Undershirts and Camisoles

- Undershirts or camisoles may be worn under the uniform shirt but must be a solid white, black or gray.
- Designs and lettering of any kind are not acceptable.
- The length must not exceed the bottom of the uniform shirt or sleeves.
- See pictures in the Addendum.

Jewelry

The administration reserves the right to ask a student to remove a piece of jewelry that presents an unprofessional appearance or takes away from the uniformity of the school attire. Students are not permitted to cover piercings with Band-Aids or any other type of cover up.

Girls:

- May not have excessive ear piercings
- Piercings in other areas such as nose, lip, tongue, or eyebrow are not permitted.
- May not wear excessive jewelry

Boys:

- May not wear earrings
- Piercings in other areas such as nose, lip, tongue, or eyebrow are not permitted.

- May not wear excessive jewelry

Outerwear

Students must always wear a uniform shirt under all ECS official outerwear. The following is approved ECS official outerwear for students:

- Official ECS uniform outerwear purchased from Renegades or the Sentinel Corner
- Official ECS team jackets (not hooded sweatshirts) sanctioned by the ECS Athletic Department
- ECS hooded sweatshirts are not considered official outerwear but can be worn on Fridays only.

Cold Weather Attire

Students may wear warmer coats to and from school, but coats must be placed in backpacks during class. Only approved ECS official outerwear may be worn in the classroom.

Additions or Accessories to the School Uniform

No accessories may be added to the school uniform without prior approval. This includes items such as pins, stickers, ribbons, bracelets, necklaces, specific colors of clothing, or items corresponding to a local, state, or nationally publicized day of recognition.

- Students who wish to support a cause by wearing an addition or alteration to the dress code must receive permission from a school administrator to do so. This includes pins, stickers, ribbons, bracelets, necklaces, specific colors of clothing, or anything that corresponds to a local, state, or nationally publicized day of recognition for a cause.
- At times, worthy causes will prompt the administration to allow a corporate show of support by the entire student body.
- While on school property students are not permitted to display support for any cause that does not align with the general philosophy of the school or the standards reflected in the Parent/Student Handbook.
- The Administration reserves the right to prohibit any uniform additions that, in the opinion of the Administration, do not align with the school's philosophy or standard.

Physical Education Uniforms

Students are required to purchase P.E. uniforms from Renegades: **www.renegadesfl.com**.

- A student's P.E. grade will be negatively affected if a student is not in proper P.E. uniform for class.
- Disciplinary penalties may also be assessed for being out of P.E. uniform.
- Students must wear the appropriate socks, athletic shoes, and protective equipment.
- In cold weather, students may wear appropriate sweatshirts and sweatpants during P.E. class.

Students taking P.E.at ECS need to know the following:

- The P.E. teacher will assign a P.E. locker to every student, but the student must provide the lock.
- Lockers and locks must be used daily.
- All personal Items, including clothes and shoes, should be stored in a locked locker and never left outside the locker.
- Valuables and large amounts of money should be checked in with the P.E. teacher for safekeeping.
- Any damage of school property that occurs in the locker room will be paid for by the students responsible for the damage.

Dress Code for ECS Dress Down Days

Shirts

- No questionable writing
- Must have sleeves
- May not be low-cut or tight-fitting
- Must be able to raise hands in the air without seeing midriff

Pants

- Students may wear jeans or khaki style pants

- Must be loose-fitting without being overly baggy
- Cannot have holes or tears of any kind, even if skin is not showing
- Only ECS uniform shorts may be worn

Shoes (See Picture Addendum)

- Sneakers may be: black, white, gray or red and may have a black/white/gray/red logo and black/white/gray/red shoelaces and/or soles
- Hey Dudes are permitted in black, white, gray, red or brown
- Sperrys are permitted in black, white, gray, red or brown
- Boots must be black or brown and may only be worn with pants
- Shoes that give the appearance of a casual "slipper" may not be worn

Class Shirt and HOUSE Day Shirt

- Students must wear the shirt for the current school year
- Jackets worn over the shirt must be approved ECS official uniform outerwear
- The text of the shirt must be clearly visible
- Pants and shoes follow Dress Down Day Policy

Homecoming Week

Each day of Homecoming Week has a different theme for student dress.

- Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the dress theme for each day during Homecoming Week
- Students must follow the Dress Code for Dress Down Days when choosing what to wear for theme days.
- All clothing worn during Homecoming Week must be modest.

Make Up and Hairstyles for Girls

- Make-up is to be used to enhance a young lady's natural beauty.
- Make-up should not be worn in excess or in a distracting manner.
- Hairstyles and color should be conservative in nature and natural in appearance.
- Hair cannot cover the eyes; eyes must always be visible.
- Girls not complying with the hair code may not be allowed to attend class.
- The administration reserves the right to require a change in hairstyle if deemed necessary.

Haircuts and Facial Hair for Boys

- Boys' hair needs to be properly maintained and neatly groomed.
- Hair cannot go past the collar.
- Hair cannot cover the eyes; eyes must always be visible.
- Drastic hair color changes, shaved designs or Mohawks are not permitted.
- Boys are not permitted to wear man buns, ponytails or headbands.
- Boys must always be clean shaven. No beards, mustaches, or facial hair of any kind are permitted.
- Boys unshaven will be given until the following school day to be in code. If found to still be out of code, discipline will be applied.
- Sideburns may not be lower than the bottom of the ear.
- Boys not complying with the hair code may not be allowed to attend class.
- The administration reserves the right to require a change in hairstyle if deemed necessary.

Disciplinary Action for Students Out of Dress Code or Hair Code can be found on pages 43 – 44.

Tattoo Policy

Currently enrolled students are not permitted to get a tattoo while a student at ECS. Pre-existing tattoos on a newly enrolled student must always be covered by the student's clothing during school hours, on school property, at school functions, or in any capacity when serving as a representative of ECS. If the administration, in its sole discretion, determines a student has violated this policy, by obtaining a tattoo while a student at ECS or by

repeatedly failing to conceal a tattoo, appropriate discipline will be administered, up to and including expulsion.

SYSTEM POLICIES

Safety of Students

The safety of the students is the school's number one concern, and at no time will the school release a student to an unauthorized person or a parent or authorized person that appears to be under the influence of substances or in an impaired condition.

School Drills

Fire Drill

Periodic fire drills are held to prepare students for an emergency. The alarm is a loud electronic strobe. Upon hearing the fire alarm, the classroom teacher and students move quietly and quickly from the building to a designated assembly area. Upon reaching the designated area, the teacher will take attendance and send a messenger to a check-in station to give an attendance report.

Lock Down Drill

Periodic Lock-Down Drills are held to prepare teachers and students for an emergency that would require a lock down.

- A lock down will be announced throughout the campus via the intercom system.
- Upon hearing the announcement, teachers will lock classroom doors, turn off classroom lights, and close window shades.
- The students will proceed to a designated lock down location within the classroom.
- The teacher will call the office to inform the administration of any student who is not accounted for in the classroom.
- A student outside the classroom when a lock down is announced should report to the nearest classroom. The teacher will inform the administration of the student's presence.
- Teachers and students will remain in the locked down position in the classroom until an all clear is announced.

Code Yellow Drill

Periodic Code Yellow Drills are held to prepare teachers and students for an emergency that requires a code yellow situation.

- A code yellow will be announced throughout the campus via the intercom system.
- Upon hearing the announcement, teachers will lock classroom doors and continue teaching as normal.
- During a code yellow, no teachers or students should be outside the building. Any teachers or students outside the building when the code yellow is announced will immediately come inside the main building and report to a designated safe area.
- A student outside the classroom when a code yellow is announced should return to the appropriate classroom as quickly as possible.
- Teachers and students will remain in the locked classroom until an all clear is announced.

Visitor Policy

Lunchroom

Lunchroom visitors, including ECS Alumni, are required to enter the main entrance of the school building and register at the front desk to receive a visitor's badge.

- ECS Alumni who are in good standing with the school, may visit friends during the lunch hour in the cafeteria.
- Pastors or youth leaders are welcome to visit students during lunch.

- All lunchroom visitors must wear a visitor's badge while on campus.
- Due to limited seating and time constraints, parents are not permitted to eat lunch with students in the cafeteria.

On Campus

A campus visitor is anyone other than a currently enrolled ECS student or currently employed ECS staff member.

- All visitors are required to enter the main entrance of the school building and register at the front desk.
- All visitors must wear a visitor's badge while on campus.

School Trips

Field Trips

The purpose of field trips is to enhance student learning through experiences outside of the traditional classroom. All field trips are approved by the school administration and are planned by the teacher. The cost for transportation and admission is not always covered by the school activities fee.

All chaperones must model the standards of dress and conduct expected from ECS students, see pages 49-52. Parent chaperones may not take additional family or friends on field trips.

End of the Year Trip

An end of the year trip is planned by the administration. Students who did not receive any demerits for the second semester earn the privilege of being able to go on the trip; however, the cost of the trip is the responsibility of the student.

Senior Class Trip

Each year the senior class travels to Lake George, New York to enjoy several days of winter activities. It's a highlight of the senior year and provides memories for a lifetime. All seniors who are in good standing with the administration are encouraged to participate.

School Provided Transportation

Evangelical provides buses for field trips, sports, and other events. Depending on distance and the type of transportation used students may be charged to help cover the cost of the transportation. Students using school provided transportation are expected to obey the following rules and regulations:

- Students waiting to enter a vehicle are to stay away from the vehicle until it has come to a complete stop.
- If it is necessary to cross the street when getting off a bus, students must walk at least five feet in front of the bus to always be visible to the bus driver.
- No student is to stand or change seats during the trip without the permission of the driver.
- Students must sit in the seats. No one is to sit on top of books, backpacks, or anything else.
- At no time should a student put a hand, arm, head or other body part out of the window.
- Nothing may be thrown on or out of the bus.
- There is to be no shouting on the bus or out of the bus windows.
- Pencils, pens, or other sharp objects are not to be used on the bus.
- A student is not allowed to ride in a vehicle other than the one provided by the school without written permission from a parent.

In School Activities and Student Transportation

During the school year, high school students and staff may travel to the Beacon campus to participate in special school-wide events/activities.

- Students who do not drive are transported via school bus
- Student drivers are permitted to self-transport but MAY NOT transport other students, with the exception of his/her sibling.

Ladies Dress Code Attire

Pants MUST BE Black or Khaki Regular Loose Fit and must be open/roomy at the bottom of the pants over shoes. Pants cannot be tight around the ankle, legs, thighs, or buttocks area. Pockets on the back of pants MUST NOT have jean-like pockets. Pockets must look like the dress/khaki pant pockets shown in the pictures below.

No jeggings. No tight Spandex Material. No elastic waist pull on/clingy material.

Appropriate Pants



↓ NOT ALLOWED - See tight pants on the leg/around ankle/buttox area and jeans-like pockets. ↓

Inappropriate - Not Permitted (khaki or black jeans/jeggings)



Men Dress Code Attire

Pants MUST BE Khaki or Black Regular Loose Fit and must be open/roomy at the bottom of the pants over shoes. Pants cannot be tight around the ankle, legs, thighs, or buttocks area. Pockets on the back of pants MUST NOT have jean-like pockets. Pockets must look like the dress/khaki pant pockets shown in the pictures below.

No joggers. No Cargo Pants. No elastic waist pull on/clingy material.

Appropriate Pants



↓ NOT ALLOWED - No Cargo Pants. No Jogger Pants. No Elastic Waistband ↓

Inappropriate - Not Permitted



Men Dress Code Attire

Shorts MUST BE Black or Khaki Regular Loose Fit dress shorts with a button and zipper.
Shorts cannot be short, tight or clingy. Pockets on the back of pants MUST NOT have jean-like pockets.
Pockets must look like the dress/khaki short pockets shown in the pictures below.
No Cargo Shorts. Shorts must fall right above the knee or to the knee. No elastic waist pull on or draw string at waist or clingy material. No underwear should be seen out the bottom of shorts.

↓ Appropriate Shorts ↓



↓ NOT ALLOWED - No Cargo Shorts. No Elastic Waistband. No Short Shorts (shorts must fall to knee or just above the knee). No drawstring shorts. No underwear hanging out underneath the bottom of shorts. ↓

Inappropriate Shorts - Not Permitted



Acceptable Uniform Dress Code Examples for Everyday Wear




SENTINELS

BLACK SHOES With White/Black/Gray/Red Logo/Shoelaces
SHOES Acceptable and In Dress Code



WHITE SHOES With White/Black/Gray/Red Logo/Shoelaces
SHOES Acceptable and In Dress Code














GRAY SHOES With White/Black/Gray/Red Logo/Shoelaces
SHOES Acceptable and In Dress Code












RED SHOES With White/Black/Gray/Red Logo/Shoelaces
SHOES Acceptable and In Dress Code














BROWN DRESS SHOES Acceptable and In Dress Code













SHOES OUT OF DRESS CODE Not Acceptable

No other colors outside of permitted colors: black, white, gray, and red. No Birkenstocks, No Flip Flops, No UGG Boots/Slippers, No Slides, No Sandals, No Crocs



PE UNIFORMS 9th Grade ONLY





WATER BOTTLES

























HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOK

4501 COLONIAL BLVD, FORT MYERS, FL 33966