

SCHEDULE "A": EDUCATIONAL VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

Mission and Vision Statement

FORT MCMURRAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM EDUCATIONAL VISION

Vision Statement:

The Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program (FMCS) is committed to achieving academic excellence offering an alternative program from a Christian perspective.

Mission Statement:

Our students will develop a good working knowledge of values and principles and engage in the study of the Bible. FMCS will assist students in developing academically, socially, physically and spiritually to encourage the development of a Christian personality, with the disposition to act in accordance with Christian principles and values. FMCS will strive to create an overall atmosphere with a positive learning environment where academic achievement is evidenced by meeting or exceeding provincial achievement test averages.

- To provide students with an education based on the Bible, the Christian perspective is integrated into every aspect of study.
- To acknowledge the Lordship of Christ and to develop the students' understanding of their own relationship to God as well as their relationship to others and creation.
- To provide an education which allows children to reach their potential academically, spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically.
- To direct students in development of Christ-like character.
- To prepare students to be of service in the community

FMCS seeks to:

- Develop and deliver a Christian program to meet the goals of FMCS.
- Identify, monitor and track progress and student achievement.
- Provide instruction to assist students to gain knowledge of Christian values and principles according to the Bible.
- Allow student participation and observation of Biblical celebrations and holidays to the extent permitted under the School Act or other relevant legislation for the Province of Alberta
- Challenge students through instruction and activities to learn Christian values and principles according to the Bible and integrate that knowledge and its relevance in to the approved Province of Alberta curriculum.

- Deliver programming based on the Province of Alberta curriculum, research and outcome based instruction, assessment, benchmarks and sound pedagogical criteria.

Student Development:

FMCS seeks to be a caring, encouraging school community committed to developing excellence in all areas of students' lives by:

- Promoting high academic standards within the potential of the individual;
- Encouraging Christian attitudes, respect for others, caring, sharing and forbearance;
- Meeting or exceeding the academic requirements of the Alberta curriculum;
- Teaching and encouraging the use of good study habits and helping students to assume responsibility for their own academic and spiritual progress;
- Helping students acquire the tools to understand the Christian personality and to act in accordance with Christian principles and values;
 - Developing competency in the use of technology;
 - Ensuring students have the tools necessary to succeed in higher education;
 - Providing students the opportunity for daily prayer and worship, along with observing Biblical holidays to the extent permitted under the laws of the Province of Alberta, Board policy, practice and procedures and relevant collective agreements;

Statement of Christian Faith, Biblical Foundations

The Alternative Program will explore the following Christian beliefs: The world belongs to God! This includes the following principles related to Christian faith and the role of education:

Scriptures: The Bible is the God-breathed Word of Truth, fully reliable in leading us to know God and have life in Jesus Christ. Its infallibility tells of God's mighty acts, reveals His will and His plan of salvation.

Creation: In the beginning God - Father, Son and Spirit - called this world into being out of nothing and gave it shape and order. God continues to direct all that happens in His world.

Sin: Our disobedience to God has broken the relationship. Looking for life without God, we find only death, leaving us blind to our place in the world and to the meaning of life.

Redemption: Jesus Christ, the eternal Word made flesh, conquered sin through His death and resurrection. Being both God and man, Jesus is the only mediator between God and His people. He alone paid the debt of sin; there is no other Saviour. It is in Jesus Christ, through the work of the Holy Spirit, that all areas of life, including education, are redeemed and restored. Therefore, it is only in Jesus Christ that we are able to discover the meaning and purpose of life.

True knowledge of God, of a Christian's self and of all of creation, is made possible only by a true faith in Jesus Christ, and finds its source in the Word of God, through the direction of the Holy Spirit.

A Christian's purpose is to acknowledge that the rule of Jesus Christ covers the whole universe, including the world, and recognize that to follow the Lord is to serve Him in all aspects of life, including the field of education.

Distinguishing Features of Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program

On the foundation of the Bible we affirm the following distinguishing features of Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program: the curriculum, the students, the staff, the atmosphere, teaching about the Christian community, along with daily prayer and worship. Recognizing the distinctiveness of each of these features, Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program seeks to grow in its understanding of how to fully express ourselves as Christ's followers and then to walk in that understanding in each of these areas.

The Curriculum: Recognizing that the primary task of the Christian School Alternative Program is to guide students into a deeper understanding about God and our faith in him, Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program will provide a curriculum based on the guidelines that Biblical principles are relevant to all areas of study, and that faith directed learning leads to purposeful response.

Students: Each student is unique. FMCS provides an educational program which deepens students understanding about curriculum and Christian faith. In the process of educating the whole child, we endeavor to embrace students as they are in their development, and encourage them to develop to their full potential using the gifts with which they have.

Staff: Professional educators and support staff are entrusted by parents with the responsibility of instructing and nurturing students in alignment with our Educational Vision (Schedule "A"). Staff reflects the professional code of conduct. Staff are responsible for incorporating instruction of curriculum and incorporating discussion and understanding of Christian values and principles according to Scripture.

Atmosphere: The School's staff will use opportunities to show students where Christians would praise and honor God and believe the Spirit is working among them. The decor of the hallways and the classrooms reflect FMCS focus.

The Christian Community partners with Fort McMurray Public School District to: Support the Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program

Prayer and Worship: The staff will provide opportunity for students to see and participate in Christian prayer and worship.

Dress Code

Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program Dress Code Policy

The goal of the FMCS Dress Code is to help create an atmosphere, which is conducive to education. This means that students come to school prepared to work effectively with their classmates. They should appear well groomed and in properly fitted clothing that is appropriate to the situation and should dress modestly. The code does not attempt to embrace every conceivable situation in the realm of dress, but is meant to provide a reasonable standard for parents, faculty and students.

Principles

To dress modestly, and live not for ourselves but for others. Modesty refers not only to avoiding that which is sensual but also to avoiding that which calls attention to oneself.

Clothing should be appropriate for promoting the goal of academic excellence. It should therefore be comfortable for the wearer and appropriate for their daily activities. Clothing should not be a distraction for others.

Parents, students and teachers will easily interpret a good dress code.

Student Code

All aspects of dress should be neat, clean, and modest. Styles of hair, clothing, makeup and jewelry should be such as are age-appropriate and generally acceptable. No offensive printing or offensive pictures are allowed.

Tops must fit properly with a modest, well-fitting neckline. Sheer material must have proper undergarments. Tube tops and spaghetti straps, or bare midriffs are not allowed as outerwear.

Pants should fit so that undergarments or bare skin are not evident.

Dresses, skirts and shorts must be no shorter than the point reached by the extended fingers when one's arm is at one's side.

Students are required to have two pairs of shoes; inside shoes for the classroom and gym and outside shoes/boots for outside recess breaks.

Outdoor coats and hats are not to be worn inside the building during the school day. Students are to wear suitable clothing for the weather.

Exceptions

Students may be asked to dress more formally for certain public events such as field trips, concerts, ministry groups, game day for sports teams, etc.

Students are permitted to dress more casually for sporting events, retreats, etc.

Students are encouraged to dress appropriately for School Spirit days (Hawaiian Day, Western Day, etc.)

Accountability

Parents are to ensure that their children understand and abide by the Dress Code.

Teachers, who are to check during attendance that students are dressed properly, have the right to warn students who are not following the Dress Code (or the spirit of the Code). They are to take appropriate disciplinary measures including, informing the principal of those who are not following the Dress Code, and in the case of serious offenses, removing students from the classroom until appropriate clothing is provided. Students wearing clothes deemed unacceptable will be asked to phone home for a change of clothes.

The Principal will ensure that this policy is distributed to parents, students and teachers and take appropriate disciplinary measures for repeat offenders.

Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program Enrollment Request Form

For all FMCS Parents:

To: Fort McMurray Public School District No. 2833

We are in support of the Educational Vision attached hereto as Schedule "A" objectives, standards of conduct, dress code, religious beliefs and the principles of this alternative program, we covenant and agree to have our child/children taught at Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program according to these principles.

If at any time we can no longer work together in a spirit of unity and under the guidelines of the Educational Vision, and all reasonable avenues of communication are exhausted, we will withdraw our child/children from Fort McMurray Christian School Alternative Program.

Father's Signature (or Legal Guardian) _____

Date

Mother's Signature (or Legal Guardian) _____

Date