

Ballard Christian School

A Ministry of Helps of Believers Church

Established - 1986

Located @ 1415 Moores Mill Road, Auburn, Al 36830

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Assistant Principal & Athletic Director

Mrs. Janice Hammock

Academic Administrator

Mrs. Regina Christian

Ballard Christian School is an institution founded on Jesus Christ with a vision of aiding Christian parents in educating their children while equipping this generation with Biblical understanding and wisdom, academic excellence, self-discipline, and physical education.

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SECTION 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY

Ballard Christian School was founded in 1986 as Believers Training Center, an educational ministry in keeping with the vision of Believers Church. Eighteen students enrolled that first year and were taught in a rented butler building with borrowed tables. All the supplies and materials were kept in two cardboard boxes. In 1987, the school began providing an off-campus enrollment program. In 1990, the name of the school was changed to Believers Christian School. By 1993, the enrollment had grown to over 125 students with 35 to 40 homeschool families enrolled. The name of the school was changed to Ballard Christian School in 1994 as a memorial to Hayward Ballard, a member of Believers Church who was killed in a car accident. Ballard Christian School on-campus program was terminated at the end of the 2000/2001 school year. Ballard Christian School has graduated numerous young people, many of whom have attended area universities and colleges.

Ballard Christian School is a ministry of Believers Church; therefore, all aspects of leadership are handled through the Church. The church also provides the classrooms, gymnasium, equipment, and other items necessary to the operation of the school. School tuition, donations, and fund-raisers are used to fund the school's operation. Our mission and purpose at Ballard Christian School is to be an institution founded on Jesus Christ with a vision of aiding Christian parents in educating their children while equipping this generation with Biblical understanding and wisdom, academic excellence, self-discipline, and physical education.

A God-given mandate for parents to educate their children is given in Deuteronomy 6:5-7a:

"Love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; and thou (parents) shalt teach them diligently unto thy children..."

Another mandate is given in Proverbs 22:6:

"...Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Teaching is training. Training our children to function in life must include training them for eternity.

A similar mandate is given to the church in Matthew 28:19-20:

"...Go ye therefore and teach all nations...teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..."

In Ephesians 4:11-12, the Bible tells us:

"...He gave some...teachers: for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ..." (i.e.: our children).

"The Biblical evidence, though meager, is plain. Even when a child was sent off from the home to obtain greater knowledge or skills from a tutor or craftsman, it was not to an institutionalized school that he went, but to one individual who acted in the place of a parent. The responsibility for general education was assumed by neither the state, nor the church, nor the business community. It was the home that undertook to educate in accordance with God's commands." (Jay E. Adams, Back to the Blackboard).

Over the years, history has made a complete cycle; education has gone from home training to church schools to public schools to church schools to home training. Today, all of these are available forms of education. Now more than ever, parents have a wide variety of educational modes from which to choose. One of these, home education, has grown since the early 1980's and has proven itself to be a solid, tried and tested form of education. It is the philosophy of Ballard Christian School that home education is a viable and acceptable alternative to public or private school.

Ballard Christian School adheres to the conviction that God has ordained that parents are primarily responsible for the education of their children and the direction of their mental, emotional, social, spiritual, and physical growth. "God gives the parents, not the government, nor the church, responsibility to care for and to train and educate their children according to His will and way. Parental authority is not a 'right' conveyed by the state. It is an assignment, a responsibility, set forth by God's Word." (Robert McCurry, Parent and the Education of Their Children). Our purpose is to minister to the needs of parents who wish to take up their God-given responsibility to educate their children primarily within the home environment.

Ballard Christian School is geared directly to meet the needs of parents who have chosen to educate their children. We assist parents by offering them a system of encouragement and support, a framework of structure and direction, a point of academic reference, a means of accountability, and a resource of information and training. We offer children access to group activities and learning experiences which enhance their academic, social, physical, and emotional development.

Enrollment in Ballard Christian School is open to all families which are committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and are in agreement with our doctrinal statement as well as our procedures, policies, and standards. We are not racially discriminatory and do not exclude families from enrollment based on race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin.

STATEMENT OF DOCTRINE

- The inspiration of the Bible, equally in all parts and without error.
- The One God, eternally existent Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who created man by a direct immediate act.
- The pre-existence, incarnation, virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, ascension to Heaven, and the second coming of Jesus Christ.
- The fall of man, the need of regeneration by the operation of the Holy Spirit on the basis of grace alone, and the resurrection of all; to life or to damnation.
- The spiritual relationship of all in the Lord Jesus Christ, living a life of righteous works separated from the world, witnessing of His saving grace through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

STRUCTURE OF BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

As a ministry of helps of Believers Church, Ballard Christian School hopes to present a well-rounded program which will benefit as many families as possible in the Auburn/Opelika and surrounding area. With this goal in mind, we have established two enrollment options:

- Ballard Christian School Academic Program
- Ballard Christian School Access Program

Ballard Christian School Academic Program:

- To Enroll:
 - Meet Requirements for Admission and follow Application Procedure for Academic Families in Section 1 of the *Policies and Procedures Manual*
 - Meet Parent/Teacher Requirements
- Options Available:
 - Permanent records kept
 - Quarterly newsletter
 - Support Group Leader services
 - Curriculum Counseling and High School Academic Projections
 - HSLDA group discount
 - School insurance
 - School pictures
 - Athletic Program (see Section 4)
 - Telephone tree alerts
 - BCS Resource Room
 - Achievement Test
 - "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" Christmas party
 - REACH Fair (Student Fair)
 - Extra-curricular classes
 - Annual Staff
 - Field Trips
 - 4-H program

Ballard Christian School Access Program:

- To Enroll:
 - Be enrolled in a covering group for academic accountability unless a certified teacher or child is under legal school age
 - Meet Requirements for Admission and follow Application Procedure for Access Families (see Section 1, page 4)
 - Pay the Annual family fee
 - Conform to the policies and procedures of BCS (Section 1, pages 5-7)
- All Options listed for Academic Families are available with the following exceptions:
 - Additional fee for the REACH Fair
 - Maintain academic records for students participating in JV and Varsity level sports
 - Resource Room check-out priority is given to Academic Families

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

The following requirements must be met to be accepted into our program:

1. Must be an active member of a local Protestant evangelical church (this excludes Mormon, World Wide Church of God, Jehovah Witness, Christian Science, Muslim, and Eastern Mysticism churches). Contact will be made with a family's pastor to confirm active church attendance.
2. Primary teaching parent must be born again according to Romans 10:9-10.
3. Be in agreement with our Statement of Doctrine.
4. Complete all steps in Application Procedure.
5. Students must be taught more than half of their academic subjects by a teacher of Ballard Christian School.

RESTRICTIONS TO ADMISSION

No student will be admitted if he/she is currently using drugs, smoking, using tobacco or under suspension or expulsion from any other educational institution.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR ACADEMIC FAMILIES

1. Apply for admission by the 15th of July.
2. Both parents must attend a new family orientation meeting.
3. Complete a Teachers Application Form, Student Application Form, Medical History Form, Church School Enrollment Form, Student Record Release Form, and sign the Ballard Christian School Enrollment Agreement.
4. Turn in to the school office all completed forms, a copy of the student's permanent record from previous school(s), birth certificate, accident insurance policy number, social security number, a current picture, and the family registration fee. A recommendation from the applying family's pastor is required for enrollment. It is recommended that a Certificate of Immunization be turned in for each student with the enrollment application, but is not required.
5. Enrollment with the Home School Legal Defense Association is not a requirement of Ballard Christian School, but is available. (discount group # 293296).
6. Parents interview with principal or administrator.
7. Final Admission is decided by Ballard Christian School Board of Education.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR Access FAMILIES

1. Apply for admission by the 15th of July.
2. Complete Extra-Curricular Family Application Form, and Teacher's Application Form.
3. Turn in to the school office all completed forms along with a copy of a student's birth certificate, accident insurance policy number, and the annual family fee. A recommendation from the applying family's pastor is required for enrollment. A Certificate of Immunization can be turned in for each student, but is not required.
4. Enrollment with Home School Legal Defense Association is available, but not required.
5. When a student enters the JV and Varsity level of participation in Ballard athletics, an attendance and academic report will need to be turned in to the family's support group leader at the end of each semester.

RE-ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

Students will be considered enrolled for each successive year unless the family notifies Ballard.

REASONS FOR EXPULSION

Since Ballard Christian School is a Christian organization, automatic expulsion will occur if:

1. A family ceases to have regular weekly attendance at the church where they are members.
2. A family leaves Believers Church because of contention or church discipline. Families leaving the church in good standing will not have their eligibility at the school altered.
3. A family does not comply with the Parent/Teacher Requirements. If a violation occurs, a notice will be sent to advise of the violation and to seek resolution. If the violation is not resolved, the family will be assumed to be negligent and removed from enrollment and the student(s) files closed. Records will not be transferred if there are outstanding fees due.

GENERAL SCHOOL POLICIES

BELIEVERS CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

The Believers Church office hours are subject to change from time to time due to holidays, athletic events, etc. It is important that a person call the church office before making a trip to the church to see if someone is there at the office.

Believers Church/Ballard Christian School office phone: (334) 826-7080.

DRESS CODE: There is a definite relationship between a student's appearance and his attitude toward scholarship and good citizenship. A realization that preparation for the adult Christian life means developing acceptable patterns of grooming, dress and deportment. A dress code has been designated at BCS stressing neatness and modesty. This is not based on a scriptural doctrine, but rather on the training of our children in self-discipline, which includes an awareness of how our physical appearance affects others. The following guidelines are set to assist the parent in helping the child to dress in a manner that is beneficial to the Christian atmosphere of the school. This dress code should be adhered to when participating in school-sponsored events.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: Clothing appropriate for school wear should be neat, clean, and modest in appearance. Students should dress appropriately for the season of the year. All are encouraged to practice proper personal habits of cleanliness. Moderation is the key word in answering any question concerning what a student should wear to BCS.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

GRADES K-2:

The student should dress suitable for a small child. Shorts are acceptable. It is advisable that they dress in clothing comfortable and suitable for wear on the playground.

GRADES 3-12:

Shirts: Boys: Sport, dress shirts, or T-shirts in good Christian taste, are appropriate for school activities.

Girls: Conservative dress or casual cuts (no tight, low-cut, tank-top, spaghetti strap, or midriff revealing). T-shirts, in good Christian taste, are appropriate during school activities.

Sweaters/sweat shirts: Conservative look only. Decals must be in good Christian taste.

Pants/skirts and dresses:

Boys: Slacks and jeans neatly groomed and in good repair. No low riding pants, and belts should be used with loose fitting pants. Shorts that are 2½ inches above the knee are permitted.

Girls: Dresses, skirts, slacks, or jeans are appropriate during school activities. Shorts that are 2 inches above the knee are permitted.

Shoes: Boys: Tennis or dress shoes, clean and in good repair

Girls: Tennis, flats, "Dockers" styles or sandals.

Hair: Boys: Conservative, short, cut off the collar and ears.

Girls: Conservative.

Jewelry: All necklaces, pins, watchbands, rings and decorative items must be in good taste.

Boys: No earrings allowed.

These guidelines should be followed by students, staff, visitors and parents at all school-sponsored activities. Students who are not properly attired will not be allowed to attend school activities.

STUDENT CONDUCT: All students (off-campus, & extracurricular) must obey school staff and BCS policies concerning conduct when on campus. No child should be left unattended at Ballard without parental supervision.

STUDENT CONDUCT (continued): If a parent needs to leave, another adult must be designated to supervise the child. There is to be no physical contact between any students while attending a Ballard school function. There is a "6-inch" rule in effect for students. This means no hitting, kicking, wrestling, or boy/girl contact while attending any Ballard school activity. It is expected that students enrolled with Ballard should not use cursing or any objectionable language or communication. No weapons are allowed on campus (slingshots, knives, sharp sticks, guns, etc.). During school activities, students are expected to be in a class or should ask permission to leave a class, if necessary. Students should not be wandering around, congregating in the foyer, or go outside of the building without parental supervision. We expect students to show proper respect and care for school and church property. Resource Room books are not to be destroyed.

TELEPHONE USE: A student must ask permission to use the phone from a Believers Church or BCS staff person. Please be considerate of others and limit calls to no more than 3 minutes. Cell phones should be used in moderation while at BCS, during classes and athletic practices phone should be on silent.

LOST AND FOUND: The lost and found department of the school is operated from the school office. At the end of each semester, unclaimed articles will be donated to Goodwill.

PARTIES AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS: Ballard Christian School is not responsible for any party or function that is not officially (by written notice) approved or sponsored by the school.

PRESS: Students must not release information concerning Ballard Christian School and its policies to members of the press unless specific authorization to do so has been granted by the Administrator. All requests for information should be channeled through the school office. No student may use the name of the school on any radio, video, or television program or in any publication without prior authorization from the school administration.

MEDICAL GUIDELINES: Should a child become sick or injured at school, Ballard Christian School will attempt first to contact the parents, then the person designated for emergencies. If contact cannot be made with either of the above, we will seek medical help from the child's family doctor.

POLICY ON STUDENT SEXUAL INFRACTION: Any student of Ballard Christian School who voluntarily commits any illicit sexual act involving another person or willingly cooperates or abets an illicit sexual act between two people will be disciplined in the following manner:

1. First time offenders 10th-12th grades: There will be a suspension for one month. During this suspension the student will be prohibited from the school campus. Suspension includes all sports, classes, field trips and extracurricular activities. Suspension can be applied sequentially and proactively. Regular probation procedures will apply. If disciplinary action commences in less than one month from graduation, then the school board will meet and determine additional disciplinary actions. Suspension does not include church attendance and athletic spectator events. A student offender cannot be selected as valedictorian or salutatorian. The board will meet and decide if any further disciplinary stipulations should be augmented.
2. Second time offenders will be permanently expelled from Ballard Christian School.
3. Disciplinary response for any other sexual infractions other than those committed by two persons and those students of grades lower than the 10th grade will be determined by the school board.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: It is mandatory that all students who show symptoms and/or contract a communicable disease be excluded from class participation. If your child contracts a communicable disease, he/she may not return to class until the period of contagion is over.

AIDS POLICY: Due to the epidemic outbreak of the HIV virus, Ballard Christian School will handle perceived or actual cases of high-risk students in the following manner:

1. Any student suspected of sexual promiscuity, based solely on the opinion of the Administration of BCS, will be required to take an AIDS test at the parents expense.
2. If a student is found to be HIV positive, the student will be quarantined in certain situations dealing with other students.
3. A meeting between the Administration and the parent is required to establish alternatives for the child(ren).

This policy is in response to the latest information on the contagious nature of the HIV virus. The Administration renews its commitment to protect the student body of our school.

PASTOR'S LEADERSHIP REPORT

Ballard Christian School aspires to sustain its Christian integrity by maintaining Christian teachers, coaches, and leaders who guard their testimony in the community. Our conclusion is, those persons who do not attend church on a regular basis should not be leaders in a Christian school. Therefore we ask that each leader submit the Ballard Christian School Pastor's Leadership Report to their pastor to be completed and returned to Ballard prior to August 1st of each year. This form must be filled out by teachers, coaches, or leaders who teach groups of students other than their own children. See the Pastor's Leadership Report form included at the end of this manual, page 28.

ACCREDITATION

A. Accreditation by a state government agency is designed to attain uniform education for all children in government schools. It was established as a means of causing local public school districts to meet what the State Department of Education determines to be the minimum academic, facility and faculty standards for all schools. Therefore, accreditation teams investigate and approve or disapprove schools according to criteria developed by secular educators who may not be Christians.

B. The Administration of Ballard Christian School considers state accreditation to be a form of state licensure which violates separation of church and state. The headship of the church is Christ, not the state. This holds true for all church-related ministries, and as a matter of religious conscience, we cannot allow the state to prohibit what God requires.

C. Accreditation of Ballard Christian School is not necessary for a graduate of the school to enroll in a college or university. College registrars are interested in the academic merits of individual students, not in the accreditation status of their school of graduation. Our graduates have not only gone to numerous colleges, but have also been offered scholastic and athletic scholarships. Although BCS does not seek accreditation by the Alabama State Department of Education, we do endeavor to provide a program of academic excellence.

FEE STRUCTURE OF BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

- Family Registration Fee- This fee is **\$25** per family and is due upon acceptance to Ballard Christian School.
- Family Tuition Fee- The annual family tuition fee is **\$125.00** per family and is due @ The time of registration.
- Home School Legal Defense Association Fee - This annual fee is \$95 per family (group rate). The discount group number is 293296. This is an optional membership and the fee is paid directly to HSLDA.
- Access Family Fee - This fee is **\$25** per family per year for families who do not desire a legal covering. Athletic, elective and testing fees are in addition to this.
- Achievement Test Fee - This fee varies from year to year. Contact the school for current price.
- Field Trips - Payment for field trips that have a cost attached to them will be due at the specified date.
- On-Campus Class Fees - These fees vary according to courses offered each year. Fees are subject to change.
- Athletic fees (see Athletic Packet) on Athletic section of ballardchristianschool.org

SECTION 2

BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ACADEMIC PROGRAM

PARENT/TEACHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Submit **Curriculum Log** for current school year for each child to local support group leader by the Annual Kick-Off Meeting. Families with students entering ninth grade and above are required to meet with a school administrator each summer for an academic projection of the current school year. Families with students entering seventh or eighth grades are encouraged, but not required, to do so, also. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that the student is meeting the requirements for high school graduation.
2. At least one parent must attend the **REQUIRED Annual Kick-Off Meeting** held in July & August.
3. Maintain **daily or weekly lesson plans**. Where appropriate briefly describe the lesson; otherwise, give the lesson or page number(s). A field trip that takes at least 3 hours may constitute a school day; otherwise, include it as a subject for the day. **1st Year Families** must submit their lesson plan book at the end of the 1st and 2nd semesters. **2nd Year Families or longer** are not required to submit lesson plan book unless the family chooses to do so, or the administration of Ballard deems it necessary. Lesson plan books are submitted to the local support group leader.
4. Turn in a **Student Academic Form** at the end of each semester to the local support group leader. The 1st semester begins June 1st and ends Dec. 31st. Reports for this semester are due by Jan. 15th. The 2nd semester begins Jan. 1st and ends May 31st and the reports are due by June 15th. **Graduating Seniors are the exception, their semester ends the second to the last Friday in May and reports for graduating seniors are due on the following Monday.** K-5 through 2nd grades may use as grades an E (for excellent), an S (for satisfactory), or a U (for unsatisfactory). Letter grades (A, B, or C), are adequate in the remaining elementary grades although number averages can be included if so desired. **When a student begins taking courses for high school academic credit, grades should show both letter and number evaluations.**
5. Maintain daily attendance records. Ballard requires **a minimum of 152 days** in attendance and **176 days for perfect attendance**. Ballard allows a family to school year round, June through May, with the year divided into two semesters. The **Attendance Form** is turned in at the end of each semester to the local support leader.
6. Turn in a copy of the **Student Report Card** at the end of the 2nd semester, showing both number and letter grades for academic credit for high school students.
7. Have students in 8th and 10th grades take the **Stanford Achievement Test** at Ballard. There will be no mandatory testing for students in any other grade, although students may be tested at Ballard, if desired.
8. Attend **5 hours of workshop training** for families home schooling two years or less.
9. Pay the **Annual family tuition fee** in one lump sum or choose the option of paying it on a monthly basis by the 5th of each month from June through May. (see page 7 – “Fee Structure”)
10. Maintain regular weekly attendance at the church where the family is a member.
11. Abide by the Ballard Christian School policies listed in Section 1, pages 5 and 6.

ACADEMIC COURSES OF STUDY

Kindergarten-Grade 1: Language Arts - phonics, handwriting, spelling, reading, and word study skills
Mathematics, Other subjects as desired

Grades 2-Upper Elementary or Junior High

Language Arts - add grammar, composition, creative writing, and/or vocabulary
Mathematics, Science or health, History, geography or social studies
Other subjects as desired

High School

Ballard Christian School will offer three graduation diplomas. They are listed as follows:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Academic</u>	<u>Advanced Academic</u>
English	4 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Social Studies	4 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Math	3 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Science	3 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Foreign Language	None	1 credit	2 credits
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
Electives	<u>7 credits</u>	<u>6 credits</u>	<u>7 credits</u>
Total Required.....	22 credits	24 credits	26 credits

A graduating student who achieves the Advanced Academic Diploma is eligible to graduate with Honors.

There are 3 requirements for students who desire to be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian. The student must take the ACT test, the SAT test, and achieve an Advanced Academic Diploma. These tests may be taken more than once during the student's high school years with the highest scores from each test being used to determine the valedictorian and salutatorian. The student must score a minimum of 20 on the ACT and 950 on the SAT. Any new student coming into the program as a senior will not be eligible for either valedictorian or salutatorian.

A General Diploma will be issued when remedial and lower level subjects are mainly taken by the student. Some classes which are considered lower level are Pre-algebra and a basic math. An Academic Diploma will be issued when higher level subjects are taken, but not subjects that are considered advanced in nature. These are subjects that are typically considered high school level work, such as Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Physical Science, Biology, English Composition, and Literature. An Advanced Academic Diploma will be issued when some advanced level courses are taken in at least two of the four core subjects. Some examples of this are Pre-calculus, Physics, Chemistry, science labs, and an in-depth research project.

Please see the table on the following page for specific suggested course information for each diploma offered. To receive the Advanced Academic Diploma a student can take any courses listed in the other diplomas' columns, but must also take courses listed under the Advanced Academic column in at least two of the four core subject areas (Math, English, Social Studies, or Science). The Academic Diploma and the General Diploma student can take any course listed in either column, with the math exceptions listed under each diploma.

Following is a list of specific requirements concerning credit hour achievement for PE and electives:

- ½ credit is equal to approximately 60-75 hours of instruction/lab time
- Time should be recorded in lesson plan book
- Course progress should be put in quantifiable terms (letter grade) for transcript purposes
- Maximum of 2 hours credit of the same course may be applicable towards the total credits required

Homeschoolers should strive for nothing less than excellence in educating their children. If a student is unable or unwilling to achieve this level of academic proficiency, though, and wishes to take the GED test, the school will present a GED certificate upon this test being passed.

Suggested Courses for each Diploma			
SUBJECTS	ADVANCED ACADEMIC DIPLOMA 26 credits	ACADEMIC DIPLOMA 24 credits	GENERAL DIPLOMA 22 credits
MATH	(4 Credits) The courses listed in the <i>Academic Diploma</i> column & one of the following: Trigonometry Pre-calculus, Calculus	(4 Credits) Algebra I Geometry Algebra II Accounting Consumer Math or Business Math	(3 Credits) Remedial Math Pre-Algebra Consumer Math Business Math *Any courses listed in the other diplomas
ENGLISH	(4 Credits) *Advanced level work in any courses listed Research paper	(4 Credits) Grammar Composition Etymology Creative Writing	(4 Credits) Vocabulary American Literature British Literature
SOCIAL STUDIES	(4 Credits) TeenPact Christian World View Political Science Law, Philosophy *Advanced level work in any courses listed	(4 Credits) Alabama History U.S. History Geography World History Civics	(4 Credits) Sociology Religion Anthropology Economics
SCIENCE	(4 Credits) Chemistry Physics Anatomy & Physiology Marine Biology Microbiology Science labs *Advanced level work in any courses listed	(4 Credits) Biology Physical Science Botany Health/Nutrition Ecology Geology	(3 Credits) Environmental Science Astronomy Agricultural Science Meteorology Life Science Earth Science
PE	(1 Credit) Basketball, Football, Soccer, Volleyball, gymnastics, ballet, aerobics, etc.	(1 Credit)	(1 Credit)
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	(2 Credits) Spanish, Latin, French, German, Signing, etc....	(1 Credit)	(0 Credits)
ELECTIVES	(7 Credits) Bible Home Economics Typing Computer Literacy Drivers Ed. PE (1 credit allowed)	(6 Credits) Music/Art/Drama Business Apprenticeship Auto Mechanics Family Life Skills Ethics	(7 Credits) Home Maintenance and Repair Carpentry/Woodworking Annual Staff
Please note: Any college level course, with the exception of developmental or remedial course work, will count towards advanced level work.			

ACADEMIC PROGRESS

The administration at Ballard Christian School can only advise families on what they consider appropriate academic progress for each child. The parents are the ones who have the responsibility and who will make the decisions concerning the pace each child is capable of progressing. The following guidelines are suggestions which will help the parents determine a schedule where a year's worth of course work could be finished in one year's time.

ACE– six paces per semester per subject

Alpha-Omega– 5 Life-Pacs per semester per subject

ABeka and Bob Jones- The number of chapters per semester will vary from book to book. Divide the number of chapters by the two semesters, and then break each semester down into daily assignments.

Unit Studies- Plan a scope and sequence for the unit study and then divide the lesson plans over the time allowed for it. A unit study may take an entire year or could be for a shorter time period. It is the parents' decision as to when a child should be promoted to the next grade level. The following points are suggestions in deciding this:

Kindergarten-2nd Grade

It may take more than one year for a child to learn to read. A phonics program could be stretched out over two years time. It is important to let a child advance at his or her own speed at this age. Be sensitive to your child and move at his or her pace. Phonics and arithmetic are the main subjects to concentrate on at this time. Penmanship and spelling can be added as the child shows ability. Science, social studies, and other areas of study can be viewed as extra-curricular subjects during this time.

3rd Grade-Upper Elementary or Junior High

Consider the four core areas of study in determining whether to advance your child to the next grade level. Look at the child's proficiency in the language art subjects and math for that grade. A good resource for determining what is expected to be learned in each grade is the *Christian Home Educators' Curriculum Manual for Elementary Grades* by Kathy Duffy. She lists educational goals for reading, composition, grammar, and mathematics from kindergarten through sixth grade. Compare what the child knows against the lists that she has compiled. The simplest way, of course, to decide if a child has learned what he or she needs to know is to use a traditional textbook approach. If all the material has been covered and the child has grasped all the concepts, then the he or she is most likely ready to advance. Sometimes it is not that clear, though, and having access to a list of educational goals can help the parent make that decision.

High School

Seventh and eighth grades can be a continuation of the elementary grades. It is a good idea, however, if the student is mature enough, to begin adding some high school level subjects. There are several elective subjects that could easily be done by seventh and eighth graders, for example: typing, computer literacy, geography, consumer math, and even a foreign language. This would allow more time for the sometimes more difficult core subjects in high school. Some students may wish to begin taking their core subjects in order to spend more than one year in the more in-depth courses. Age is not a factor in determining when a student may attain high school credits.

Academic performance is based solely on ability.

In order to determine whether a student should be advanced to the next grade level during these grades, look at the overall high school projection and decide if the student has accomplished what needs to be covered to meet your academic projections for high school. If high school is being spread over six years, earning an average of 4.5 credits per year would give the student 27 credits at the end of high school, one more than the minimum of 26 for the Advanced Academic Diploma. That is only an average; a seventh or eighth grader might not be capable of handling that many subjects for credit, but some can. Begin with what the student is able to do in the junior high years and the load will be lightened for the high school years.

Some students are electing to spread the senior year over two years. This helps lighten the high school load, allows more time for extracurricular activities, and provides more time for the student to mature before graduating from this time in their life.

Many families have found that it is helpful to school year-round, especially during high school. Athletics and other extra-curricular activities can be very time consuming. Beginning school in the summer months can give a definite advantage towards accomplishing academic goals.

Every summer each family with a high school student meets with someone on the administrative staff of Ballard to discuss the academic projections for that student. This is a time for being certain the student has covered what needs to be covered and setting realistic goals for the remaining years, especially the immediate one. It is also a time to verify the number of credits already earned by the student, determine the number of remaining credits required per subject area, verify the permanent record, and answer questions or make suggestions for the student's future courses. Families with students entering seventh or eighth grades are encouraged, but not required, to do so, also.

GRADE SCALE

It is each families prerogative to use whatever grade scale they desire. The ACE and ABeka grade scales are listed for your convenience.

<u>ACE</u> (5 pt.)		<u>ABeka</u> (10 pt.)
95-100	A	90-100
90-94	B	80-89
85-89	C	70-79
80-84	D	60-69
79 or lower	F	59 or lower

UNIT STUDY COURSES AND PERSONALLY DESIGNED COURSES

There are numerous unit study curriculums now available that may be used by our families. However, parents are asked to develop a method of quantifying the progress of their children for transcript purposes, particularly on the high school level (colleges will not accept a credit without a grade). Some parents may wish to develop their own course of study. Please consider the following guidelines:

- We suggest you review several existing textbooks of the course of study.
- Develop a Scope & Sequence of the course.

The following guidelines are specifically for high school level course work:

- A Carnegie credit unit for graduation requirements is equal to 120-150 hours of classroom instruction or practice time. Therefore, you should strive to attain at least this amount of course time to qualify for 1 credit.
- Develop a method of quantifying the results for the purpose of recording transcripts.

Some suggested courses of study may include training in: Home Economics, Carpentry, House Maintenance, Financial Management, Marriage Principles, etc.

DELIGHT STUDIES

Every child is different. You may find a particular child with an affinity for Botany, another with a love of sports, while a third may be drawn to wildlife management. These are areas in which the parent will not have to motivate their child, but rather the child will be self-motivated. Ballard School will accept up to 2 credits toward graduation for these types of studies. The following is a *suggested* framework for developing this type of course:

- Read 9 or more books on the particular topic during the school year. Written and oral book reports may be required.
- Develop a research project in the topic area. This could be for the purpose of entering in the Jewel Fair.
- A research paper should be written based on the hands-on work and research the student has done.
- A work-study period of 4 or more weeks with a professional in that particular field of study might take place. A log of all activities and observations should be kept.

SUPPORT GROUP LEADER DESCRIPTION

Ballard Christian School has a vision to reach families within a 60+ mile radius of the Auburn-Opelika area, but we understand that it is impractical to expect our families to make the sacrifice of a long drive to participate in every activity we offer. Therefore, we have established local support groups to better serve your needs. There is a designated home schooling family in each represented area who serves as the local support group leader. Their responsibilities to the families in their support group are to:

- Represent Ballard Christian School
- Maintain open lines of communication between local families and the Administration, either by phone or e-mail.
- Be available for curriculum decision making
- Approve curriculum logs of families
- Check lesson plan books at the designated times
- Review and file a copy at Ballard of each family's Student Academic form(s) and Attendance Form(s) at the end of each semester
- File a copy of each Student Report Card at the end of the school year at Ballard
- Attend the Support Group Leader work days at the end of the school year and through the summer to fill out permanent records of families and assist with other duties
- Try to attend any functions (i.e. workshops) held by Ballard
- Take charge of one major event or activity each year
- Communicate problems or suggestions for improvement to Academic Administrator or School Principal

SECTION 3

BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ACCESS PROGRAM

STRUCTURE OF THE ACCESS PROGRAM

ACCESS FAMILY:

- To Enroll:
 - Be enrolled in a covering group for academic accountability unless a certified teacher or child is under legal school age
 - Meet Requirements for Admission (see Section 1), and follow Application Procedure for Extra-curricular Families
 - Pay the Annual family fee
 - Conform to the policies and procedures of Ballard Christian School (Section 1 , pp. 5-7)
 - All Options listed for Academic Families (see page 3) are available with the following exceptions:
 - Additional fee for the JEWEL Fair
 - Maintain academic records for students participating in JV and Varsity level sports
 - Resource Room check-out priority is given to Academic Families

APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR ACCESS FAMILIES

1. Apply for admission by July 15th.
2. Complete Access Family Application Form, and Teacher's Application Form.
3. Turn in to the school office all completed forms along with a copy of a student's birth certificate, accident insurance policy number, and the annual family fee. A recommendation from the applying family's pastor is required for enrollment. A Certificate of Immunization can be turned in for each student, but is not required.
4. Enrollment with Home School Legal Defense Association is available, but not required. (discount group # 293296)
5. When a student enters the MS and Varsity level of participation in Ballard athletics, an attendance and academic report will need to be turned in to the family's support group leader at the end of each semester.

SECTION 4

HELP SUPPORT THE **BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** ATHLETIC PROGRAM

BY JOINING THE **BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** BOOSTER CLUB

A **\$ 150.00** donation to the Ballard Booster Club each year will entitle, each family (in a single household) admission to all home games, Football, Basketball & Volleyball. Donations should be made during August of each year.

BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL **ATHLETIC MOTTO & MASCOT**



J - Jesus John 14:6

T - Trust Prov. 3:5,6

M - Mercy Psa. 23:6

E - Eternity Deut. 33:27

E - Eagle Isa. 40:31

E - Encouragement Deut. 31:6
Endurance James 5:11

S - Salvation Rom. 1:16
John 15:7,16

A - Agreement Matt. 18:19

U - Unity Psa. 133:1
Eph. 4:3

M - Meekness Col. 3:12
Psa. 25:9,10

S - Strength Psa. 27:1

STRUCTURE OF THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

ATHLETIC POLICY OF BALLARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

24 – Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but {only} one receives the prize? So run {your race} that you may lay hold {of the prize} and make it yours.

25 – Now every athlete who goes into training conducts himself temperately and restricts himself in all things. They do it to win a wreath that will soon wither, but we {do it to receive a crown of eternal blessedness} that cannot wither.

Purpose of Athletics – According to the Word of God, the primary purpose of athletics is to compete. There are two kinds of competition: 1. Godly, which is based on the Word of God, and 2. Ungodly, which is based on the world system of achievement. Our purpose at Ballard Christian School is to give the student an awareness that competition is of God, that there is a way to compete in a godly manner. Without godly competition, accomplishments will not be made in the Kingdom of God.

Two Kinds of Competition

1. Competition with compassion – This type of competition is based on the zeal to win without the zeal to destroy. It also has the motivation of self improvement combined with temperance and a desire to win the prize. (1 Corinthians 9:24)

There are specific character traits all athletes should strive to obtain when competing with compassion: 1. A godly winner receives his prize with joy, but has compassion on the loser. 2. A godly competitor does not strive to win at all costs. 3. His question is not has he won, but has he done his best. Winning should be the fruit of the athlete doing his best. If competition without character development occurs, it is not of God.

2. Competition with greed – This type of competition is based on competing to out do the opponent rather than the athlete doing his best. Certain character traits are prevalent in this type of competition. First, the athlete competes with his focus solely on winning the prize. Also, there is a desire to be destructive either by inflicting mental or physical pain on the opponent. Anytime there is no character development in competing, the competition is not of God.

Basic Philosophy: Leaders vs. Followers

All aspects of life deal with competition. For example, the Christian is competing in overcoming Satan. The godly competitive spirit within a man causes him to become a man of God, capable of catching a vision and implementing it to its completion. Without this nature, he would have no motivation to perform in any capacity. The fallen nature of man distorts what God has placed within him and can make sports competition evil. The key in overcoming this is that all athletes should be leaders at all times. Leaders are teachers and godly competition can only be performed by leaders not followers. If teaching is not occurring during competition, then leaders are not teaching, and the athlete ceases to be a competitor and/or leader and therefore becomes a loser. The athlete will either have a godly impact on his teammates and opponent and be a competitor, or have an ungodly impact and become a loser. The determining factor is how the athlete affects others around him. His actions will be based on the heart motivation of either competing with compassion or competing with greed. “But only one receives the prize and make it yours.” (1 Corinthians 9:24)

The key to winning is **HOW TO RUN THE RACE**. If the race is not run correctly, God does not give the prize, regardless of what the scoreboard reads at the competition. The prize without a properly run race is of no value, and will be accompanied by an emptiness and lack of fulfillment. So there must be a godly run race before there is a godly prize. A prize accompanied by lasting joy and fulfillment.

Temperance:

“Now every athlete who goes into training conducts himself temperately.” (1 Corinthians 9:25)

Temperance should be demonstrated in all situations by athletes, coaches, directors and PE teachers. God’s way is not in demonstration of anger, hollering, or emulations. All leaders must conduct themselves at all times in attitudes of Christian principles. “And restricts himself in all things.” (1 Corinthians 9:25) Temperance should also be a part of victory. Excessive displays of emotion during times of individual and group of victory successes are to be held within acceptable responses. Responses can be exerted during appropriate times but must not go beyond demonstration of godly competition with compassion. Emotions overly expressed will neutralize leadership characteristics. Moderation is God’s way.

The Prize:

“They do it to win a wreath that will soon wither.” (1 Corinthians 9:25) Any victory that is won without properly running the race will immediately wither the prize. The victory will not be accompanied with lasting joy and fulfillment, but rather an emptiness and lack of gratification. “But we do it to receive a crown of eternal blessedness that cannot wither.” (1 Corinthians 9:25) The overall purpose of athletics at Ballard Christian School is to contribute to the process of attaining a crown that will not wither. Any deviation from the proper process of attaining that crown is unacceptable.

Goals:

1. To build good Christian character that will be a testimony on and off the playing field
2. To present our church and school as a testimony to those whom we compete with and all spectators
3. To build a sound and healthy temple of the Holy Ghost.
4. To teach the difference between competition with compassion and competition with greed
5. To teach the scriptural principles of winning and losing

SPORT PARTICIPATION

For any child to be eligible to participate in practice or games in the Ballard Christian School Athletic program, he or she must be enrolled with Ballard, and fill out an Athletic Registration Form– 100, and a Liability Release Form-101. Access families whose children are participating in MS and Varsity level sports will be required to turn in academic and attendance reports for them at the end of each semester to their support group leader.

IN THE FALL:

Football – Boys – Youth Football, Middle School & Varsity
Volleyball - Girls - C-Team, Middle School, Varsity

IN THE WINTER:

Basketball - Boys & Girls - C-Team, Middle School, Varsity

QUALIFICATIONS OF COACHES

Any person desiring to coach in the Ballard Christian School Athletic Program must be approved by the Athletic Director and the school board prior to the first practice. The coach will be required to fill out a Ballard Christian School Teacher’s Application. A coach will need to have his or her pastor fill out a Pastor’s Leadership Report annually before the first of August. (see Section 1, page 7)

ATHLETIC CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION – (Member of GICAA)

Member of GICAA (Georgia Independent Christian Athletic Association). Ballard can also compete in the NACA (National Association of Christian Athletes) Tournament. A varsity team must Win the GICAA State Tournament or Win the Regular Season Conference Championship to Qualify for the NACA National Tournament.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

1. Maintain at least a "C" average in all subjects in the semester prior to competition.
2. Maintain a full workload during the semester of competition.
3. Complete ½ of the total year's required number of PACES each semester in ACE & Alpha Omega courses with at least a "C" average. In textbook type courses (ABeka, Bob Jones, etc.) 60 lesson plans must be completed with a "C" average each semester.
4. Physical examinations by a physician are recommended for all athletes at the MS and Varsity level. If parents desire to be exempt from this, they must sign a Liability Release Form.

PRACTICE/PARTICIPATION RULES

1. Everyone is expected to attend every team practice and game.
2. If a student misses a practice session or game, he/she will automatically lose eligibility to participate in the next scheduled competition. The only exceptions to this rule will be:
 - 1) Sickness - excused only with doctor's excuse
 - 2) A pre-arranged absence with prior notice being given to the coach by the parents
 - 3) Cases of family emergencies and/or crisis.
3. We ask that parents commit to not removing a student from the team for disciplinary reasons, except for academics. When a child is disciplined by removal from the team, the whole team is also disciplined. This is not fair to the coaches or other players.
4. Hair:
Boys: Length of hair will be determined by the coach. Sideburns and facial hair should be kept neat and trim, so as to not affect the athletes ability to play.
Girls: Hair should be kept neat. Hair styles will be approved by the coach.
Boys & Girls: Unnatural coloring of hair (such as green, purple, pink, orange, blue, etc.) is not permitted.
5. Tattoos of any kind are not allowed.
6. Jewelry:
Boys & Girls: No jewelry of any kind is permitted to be worn during practice or games.
7. Caps:
Boys & Girls: No caps or hats of any kind are permitted to be worn inside of any building.
8. Cassettes, CD's, or VCR's are not to be listened to or watched during travel to and from an athletic event unless approved by the Athletic Director.
9. Uniforms:
All uniforms are the property of Ballard Christian School, and should be washed and repaired after each game. Uniforms should be washed in cold water and hung up to drip dry. Uniforms should never be ironed or put in dryer. Uniforms should be turned in to the Athletic Director within 2 weeks after completion of each sport.
Travel Dress Code:
Team windsuits and t-shirts are appropriate.

10. The use of drugs, alcohol, smoking or using tobacco of any kind will not be permitted.

11. Athletic Awards:

The Ballard Christian School Athletic Awards will be held in March or April of each year. Athletes who compete on the M.S. and Varsity level and their family's are invited. Alumni athletes and their family's are also invited.

Thanks for Your Support of Ballard Christian School

