



Student Handbook

BILINGUAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY & TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Parent / Student Handbook

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BCAT MISSION

Our **Mission** is to teach and develop academic skills to the maximum potential to achieve academic excellence, while nurturing the spiritual area, planting values and Christian bases needed to improve the student's life, as well as the society.

BCAT VISION

Our **Vision** is to establish schools that are engage in changing the world through Christian values, academic excellence, sports, arts and technology.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

BCAT Sports works in partnership with BCAT Schools. Therefore, by becoming part of BCAT Sports, you voluntarily chose to abide and accept the "BCAT Statement of Faith" and believes.

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible authoritative Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16; John 5:39)
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:4-6; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Matthew 28:19; John 10:30, John 14:9-11; John 15:26)
3. We believe in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 16:16; Mark 8:27-29; Luke 9:18-20; Romans 1:3-6), in His virgin birth (Luke 1:27-35; Isaiah 7:14), in His sinless life (1 John 3:5), in His miracles (Acts 2:22; John 3:2), in His vicarious and atoning death (Romans 3:25; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 2:2), through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection (Romans 6:9; 1 Corinthians 15:3-5), and in His ascension to the right hand of the Father (Luke 24:50-53; Act 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 3:16), and His personal future return to this earth in power and glory (Act 1:11; John 14:2-3; Philippians 2:6; Hebrews 1:1-4).
4. We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Chris. (Luke 24:47; Romans 8:16; Matthew 10:13-15; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).
5. We believe in the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body, in answer to believing in Prayer (Isaiah 53:4-5; Mathew 8:15-17; James 5:14-16).
6. We believe that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is available to all believers (Act 2:4).
7. We believe in the sanctifying power of the holy Spirit by who is indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Holy life (Romans 6:3-14; 8:1-2, 11). We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 John 3:16; Galatians 6:10; 1 Corinthians 12:13; 1 Peter3:8; Ephesians 4:1-6, 13-16)
8. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: those who are saved unto the resurrection of life, and those who are lost unto the resurrection of damnation. (2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:12; Hebrews 9:27; Acts 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18; 1 John 5:11).
9. We believe that God created only male and female and were created to praise him and to multiply forming a family, the man, the woman, and the descendants. Only this can be possible by the union of a man and woman (Genesis 2:21-24; 2:18-20).

10. We believe that God created marriage in the blessing, as a blessing for both man and woman, before any sin or rebellion entered the world, and the He created marriage to be between a man and a woman, who entered into a covenant relationship, complement one another, serve one another, and sanctify one another for as long they both shall live. Accordingly, we reject any attempt to redefine marriage as a union of people of the same sex, or between more than one man o woman. We believe that the homosexual lifestyle and alternative gender identities are contrary to the Holy Bible (Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 2:15-24; Leviticus 18:22; Leviticus 20:7-22; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1: 26-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 7:14; 1 Timothy 1:9-11). We believe that God created the human race male and female and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one’s birth gender is immoral and therefore sin. (Genesis1:27; Deuteronomy 22:5). Therefore, Students will use the bathroom in accordance to their birth gender and will be referred to as he or she only.
11. We believe that because God created all human life it is sacred and of inestimable worth and to be valued and protected, including pre-born babies, the aged, physically, and mentally challenged, and every other staged and condition in all its dimensions from conception through natural death (Psalms 139). We are called to defend, protect, and value human life and all form of life.

This Statement of Faith does not encompass the full extent of our beliefs. The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inerrant and inspired Word of God. and speak with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind. For purposes of this school’s faith, doctrine, educational philosophy, beliefs, core values, policies, practices, and discipline, the Board of Directors has final interpretive authority on the meaning and application of the Bible.

BCAT Sports is a non-profit Christian based program, therefore we do pray with our members, as described on the scriptures, and to worship God. BCAT Schools and BCAT Sports, Inc., reserve the right of admission and to terminate the enrollment in the Sports Program of anyone who violates or challenges their believes.

I. ATTENDANCE/TARDY POLICY EXCUSED ABSENCES

Absences shall be excused for the following reasons only:

- Illness or injury of the student verified by a doctor.
- Illness, injury, or death in the immediate family of the student, with funeral home or hospital evidence.
- Educational Opportunities which are deemed by the principal.
- Pre-arranged Excused Absences.

All others will be considered an Unexcused Absence.

Twenty unexcused absences during the school year equals grade retention. Not only grades matter, but absences play a big role in grade level promotion. A student should not have more than ten unexcused absences during each semester.

*****TRUANCY*****

The statute defines a “habitual truant” as a student who has 15 or more unexcused absences within 90 calendar days with or without the knowledge or consent of the student’s parent or guardian, and who is

subject to compulsory school education. If a student is identified as a truant, and the school has exhausted all possible solutions to this situation, including parent's meetings, parent/student contracts, etc., then the school may file a truancy petition pursuant to **Section 984.141** of the Florida Statutes, in juvenile court. If the court determines that the student was truant, the court will order the student to attend school, the parent to ensure the student attends school, and implement alternative sanctions such as mandatory community service hours for up to 6 months, mandatory counseling, mandatory mental health services, or mandatory vocational, job training, or employment services. If a student does not obey the court orders the case will be referred to the case staffing committee under **Section 984.12** of the Florida Statutes with a recommendation to file a child-in-need-of-services petition pursuant to **Section 984.15** of the Florida Statutes. If a student continues to disobey the courts orders, they may face additional punishment including juvenile detention.

- **10 unexcused absences in 1 semester** = the student will be suspended from participation in any sport program event, dance program event or practice, until he/she **shows 30 days of interrupted attendance**.
- **20 unexcused absences during the year** = the student will be **retained** in the same grade level. The student no longer qualifies for the BCAT Sport Program.
- **4 unexcused tardiness = 1 unexcused absence**

TARDY POLICY

Students must be in the classroom when the tardy bell rings, which is 5 minutes after the start time. If the student is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings, or 5 minutes after their start time, the student will be considered tardy to class. Students who violate this policy can expect one or more of the following responses:

- Parent's meeting with a dean or principal
- Student In-School Suspension (\$50.00 fee)
- Student after school detention (\$25.00 fee)
- Administrative Act
- Student lunch detention (\$25.00 fee)

All students must report to class whether they are tardy or late. Teachers will allow the student in the class and the teacher will mark the student Tardy or Late in Praxi. **Four unexcused tardies equals to one unexcused absence.**

II. BCAT STANDARDS OF PARTICIPATION

At Bilingual Christian Academy & Technology, Inc., we believe that students should maintain high standards in academics, behavior, and attendance. The following Standards of Participation should be met by all BCAT students to maintain eligibility for extra-curricular events and activities.

1. **2.5 Grade Point Average (weighted)**
2. **Less than 10 absences for Semester 1 events.**
3. **0 days of out of school suspension**

Events and activities included under the Osceola High School Standards of Participation include, but are not limited to:

- Homecoming Events
- Field Trips
- Prom
- Gradventure / Grad Bash

III. Dress Code

All students at BCAT are expected to adhere to the BCAT Dress Code Policy.

TOPS:

- Collared polo shirt with the **school logo**, in a color according to the grade level of the student:
 - red – elementary
 - orange polo – Middle School
 - Black polo – High School
- School athletic or club sponsored T-shirts may be worn on the assigned days of the week.
- Spirit Shirt and PE T-shirts are allowed on Tuesdays unless another day is announced by the administration.
- **NO DESIGNS, STRIPES, SHEER**, short shirts that shows the student's belly button, **SWEATSHIRTS** on top of your polo school shirt (Unless is a school provided sweatshirt with the logo).
- **Jackets must be purchased at the same place of uniforms and should have the school logo.**

BOTTOMS:

- **Elementary** – Navy blue pants. No jeans. Shorts/Skirts/Skortts must extend to mid-thigh. Must be worn at the natural waistline (all students). **NO side lines, logos or any designs on the pants.**
- **Middle School** – Black pants. Shorts/Skirts/Skortts must extend to mid-thigh. Must be worn at the natural waistline (all students). **NO side lines, logos or any designs on the pants.**
- **High School** – Khaki pants. Shorts/Skirts/Skortts must extend to mid-thigh. Must be worn at the natural waistline (all students). **NO side lines, logos or any designs on the pants.**
- **Absolutely NO: Leggings, sweatpants, jersey joggers, yoga pants, dresses, gym shorts, track pants, athletic pants, pajama pants, NO ripped or frayed pants.**

SHOES:

- Sneakers, closed flats, or flat boots may be worn provided they do not interfere with the safety and welfare of the student and do not interfere with classroom policies (ex. Science, PE, etc.)
- **NO SLIPPERS, SANDALS, high heels, sneakers resembling crocks or sleeping shoes.**

HEADWEAR:

- **NO hats, hoods, durags, headgear, bandanas, combs, scarves, headwraps, bonnets or any head covering unless approved by the principal. Religious head covering must be accompanied by a parent-signed affidavit.**

****Student I.D.'s must be worn on front where is always visible** The fee for not having your ID is \$2.00 daily. ID will be needed for attendance records.**

If a student is not in dress code, the parents will be contacted so they can bring the appropriate uniform. If the parent is unable to bring the uniform, the school may provide a suitable uniform for the student to wear during the school day, subject to availability. The student is responsible for returning the uniform

the following day. Failure to do so will result in the student being required to pay \$15.00 for the shirt and \$15.00 for the pants.

1st out of Dress Code violation will receive a warning, any other dress code violations after the first one, could face afterschool detention or lunch detention, with a \$25.00 penalty fee.

*Game day attire is approved by Mrs. J. Rodriguez or school Principal, prior to the start of the season and will be communicated to players by the coaches. *

IV. CELL PHONE POLICY

- Students must surrender their cell phone at the front office upon arrival to the school.
- At BCAT, students are not allowed to talk on the phone or on Face Time during school hours.
- **Apple Watches, Android Watches, and all other related watches** will be considered as cellphones, therefore, they will be collected at the school entrance. If you don't want your student to turn them in, please refrain from using them to school.

***** Refusal to Surrender the Phone to a Teacher or Administration = 2 Days After School Detention (\$25.00 Penalty Fee Per Day). *****

V. TECHNOLOGY USAGE

- BCAT provides laptops and/or Desktop Computers for the students to complete their assignments at school. It is the student's responsibility to always remain in the Digital Curriculum or authorized websites.
- Students are NOT ALLOWED to use the school computers for social media, such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Tick Tock, or any other.
- Students are NOT ALLOWED to use the computers' cameras to record personal videos, or make any kind of video calls, or regular calls from them.

***** Using the school computers inappropriately may result in a School Suspension, IN-School Suspension (\$50.00 Penalty per day) or Expulsion. If after a thoroughly evaluation of the case, the student is not expelled, the student may be banned from using the school's digital curriculum again. The student will be responsible for paying for the any damage caused to any school equipment *****

VI. STUDENT'S APPEARANCE: TATTOOS

BCAT does not accept tattoos on students. If an exception is granted and a student with a visible tattoo is admitted, the student agrees not to get any additional tattoos while enrolled at Bilingual Christian Academy and Technology, Inc. **If the student obtains a new tattoo during their enrollment at BCAT, their enrollment will be revoked without further notice.**

Boy's hair is to be neat, clean, and not extend beyond the shirt collar. Cuts must be age appropriate, and no unusual coloring is allowed (examples: green, yellow, purple, electric blue, pink).

A girl's hair must be neat, clean, and not interfere with her vision. No unusual coloring is allowed. Unusual colors are defined as yellow, green, purple, or blue. Students who arrive out of uniform will not be admitted to class until dress code requirements are met. **The administration reserves the right to have students remove excessive jewelry or makeup.** Excessive jewelry, loop earrings, pen or marker drawings on the body are unacceptable. No body piercing is allowed.

Boys: Absolutely no piercing jewelry at all. No loop earrings while in school or representing the school in any activity, including but not limited to basketball games, football games, school parties, school fieldtrips, etc.

VII. BCAT POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

At Bilingual Christian Academy and Technology, we hold academy integrity in high regard and strive to maintain a culture of honesty, fairness, and ethical behavior. Our policies regarding academy integrity are designed to promote academic excellence, character development, and a positive learning environment. Here are some key aspects of our policy:

***Academy Honesty:** We expect all students to uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. This includes submitting their own work, properly citing sources, and refraining from plagiarism or cheating in any form. Students are encouraged to develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills through their own efforts and seek guidance when needed.

*** Code of Conduct:** We have a comprehensive code of conduct that outlines the expected behavior and values of our students. This includes respecting others, demonstrating integrity in all actions, and adhering to ethical standards both inside and outside the classroom.

*** Disciplinary Actions:** In the event a student violates the academy's integrity policy, disciplinary actions will be taken based on the severity of the offense. **These actions may include warnings, academic penalties, parent conferences, community service, loss of privileges, or in extreme cases, suspension, or expulsion.** The intention is to teach students about the consequences of their actions while offering and opportunity for growth and improvement.

*** Education and Awareness:** We believe in educating our students about the importance of integrity and its role in personal and professional development. We provide regular workshops, discussions, and educational materials to help students understand the significance of honesty, trustworthiness, and ethical behavior.

***Reporting Breaches:** We have a confidential reporting system in place that allows students, staff and parents to report any suspected breaches of academic integrity. All reports are taken seriously, and appropriate investigations are conducted to ensure fairness and justice.

*** Parental Involvement:** We actively engage parents in promoting academic integrity by keeping them informed about our policies, conducting parent-teacher conferences, and encouraging open communication. Parents are encouraged to reinforce the importance of integrity at home and support their children in upholding these values.

By implementing and consistently reinforcing these policies, Bilingual Christian Academy and Technology aims to foster a community where integrity is valued and upheld by all the school community.

VIII. ABIGAIL BORRERO SPONSORSHIP

BCAT Schools accept all Florida School Choice Scholarships. The Abigail Borrero Sponsorship Program is an internal scholarship available exclusively to students who have been approved for any Step-Up or AAA Scholarships, serving as secondary sponsorship. Not all scholarship students will qualify for this internal scholarship. Eligibility for this scholarship is contingent upon the student maintaining attendance through the end of the school year and having no more than 20 absences.

At the end of the school year, the Abigail Borrero Sponsorship Program will cover any remaining balance related to tuition fees, as outlined in the School's Tuition Fee Schedule. If the student is disenrolled before the end of the school year, any uncovered balances for the months attended will be billed to the parents

or legal guardians, who will have 30 days to pay the invoice. After 30 days, the invoice will be submitted to a collection agency.

IX. DRUGS OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

By enrolling to Bilingual Christian Academy & Technology, Inc., parents acknowledge that we are a drug free place. Therefore, BCAT performs random drug tests to their Middle School and High School students without previous notification to the parents. BCAT assigned personnel also perform random bag searches.

If a parent doesn't want their child to be drug tested without them being present, please, submit a written letter to the administration requesting to be notified of the testing day and committing to be present during the testing. In the event a student comes positive to a drug test, he/she will be suspended and referred to receive the appropriate help from a health professional, only then, he/she will be re-evaluated for readmission.

X. STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

At BCAT we offer the 24 Credits Standard Diploma. The Department of Education established the following requirements to obtain a standard High School Diploma:

Standard Diploma Requirements
Academic Advisement – What Students and Parents Need to Know

What are the diploma options?
Students must successfully complete one of the following diploma options:

- 24-credit standard diploma
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum

What are the state assessment requirements?
Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) or a concordant score
- Algebra 1 end of course (EOC) or a comparative score

Refer to [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#) for concordant and comparative scores.

Students enrolled in the following courses must participate in the corresponding EOC assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the final course grade:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Biology 1
- U.S. History

[†]Special note: Thirty percent not applicable if not enrolled in the course but passed the EOC (credit acceleration program [CAP]).

What is the difference between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?

- 3 elective credits instead of 8
- Physical Education is not required
- Online course is not required

What is the difference between the CTE Pathway option and the 24-credit option?

- At least 18 credits are required
- 4 elective credits instead of 8
 - 2 credits in CTE courses, must result in completion and industry certification
 - 2 credits in work-based learning programs or up to 2 elective credits including financial literacy
- Physical Education is not required
- Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts is not required
- Online course is not required

24 Credit Standard Diploma

4 Credits ELA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELA 1, 2, 3, 4 • ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), AICE, IB and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement
4 Credits Mathematics*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry) • An identified computer science** credit may substitute for up to one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)
3 Credits Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses • Two of the three required course credits must have a laboratory component • Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1) • An identified computer science** credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)
3 Credits Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 credit in World History • 1 credit in U.S. History • 0.5 credit in U.S. Government • 0.5 credit in Economics
1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts*
1 Credit Physical Education*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To include the integration of health
8 Elective Credits
1 Online Course

Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all cohort years and pass statewide, standardized assessments unless a waiver of assessment results is granted by the IEP team for students with disabilities.

* Eligible courses are specified in the [Florida Course Code Directory](#).

**A computer science credit may not be used to substitute for both a mathematics and science credit.

XI. GRADUATION

BCAT celebrates a graduation ceremony for the following grade levels: Kindergarten, 5th grade, 8th grade, and Seniors (12th grade). Graduation fees are not covered by any scholarship. It is the parent's responsibility to pay for that fee. The Graduation fee will be announced in August. **Parents must ensure that payment of the graduation fee is covered by December of the current school year.**

If the student fails the grade level and can't graduate, the school will only reimburse 50% of the paid graduation fees. If the student decides not to attend the graduation ceremony for any reason, the school will reimburse the student the graduation fee according to the time that the school was provided a written notice of the student's decision of not attending the school graduation ceremony:

Graduation Non-attending written notification received by...	Reimburse Percentage	<i>Example of Reimbursement % Using a Graduation Fee of \$200</i>
1. On or before February 1 st	100%	\$200
2. On or after February 2 nd to March 1	75%	\$150
3. On or after March 2 nd to April 2 nd	50%	\$100
4. On or after April 3 rd to May 2 nd	25%	\$50
5. On or after May 3 rd	0	0

IF the student doesn't show up at the graduation ceremony for any reason, there will be NO Graduation FEE REIMBURSEMENT.

UNIVERSAL GRADVENTURE AND GRAD BASH

Gradventure (8th Grade) and Grad Bash (Seniors) are activities planned by Universal Studios, Orlando, not by BCAT. Therefore, the fee to assist at any of these events is not included in the School Graduation Fee. These are optional graduation activities; therefore, the student is not obligated to attend. Payment for Gradventure or Grad Bash. If a student submits payment for any of these activities and doesn't show up the day of the activity, there is no reimbursement for the paid ticket, nor can he/she transfer the ticket to another student. If the student cancels a month prior to the activity, there is NO REIMBURSEMENT as tickets are bought a month prior to the events.

XII. END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

BCAT is always in constant communication with our parents. It is imperative that parents pay any outstanding fees on a weekly basis. If at the end of the school year there is an outstanding balance for any reasons such as detention fees, snacks, lunch, field trips, transportation, after school, before school, athletic fee, or any other, **the school will retain any report cards or transcripts, until payment is made, and the student account shows no outstanding balance.**

XIII. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

BCAT School Campuses and BCAT Sports Inc. do not discriminate with regard to ethnicity, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, or sex in admission to or employment or participation in its education programs, services, and activities. By becoming part of any BCAT School Campuses and BCAT Sports you agree with our "Statement of Faith".

XV. DISCLOSURE: BCAT RESERVES THE RIGHT OF ADMISSION

BCAT also reserves the right to change anything established in this Student handbook as deemed necessary, without any prior written notification.

By continuing to enroll in BCAT you are accepting and agreeing to every rule, and stipulation of this handbook.