



Baldwin
Christian
School
A Classical Academy

Student/Parent Handbook
2019-2020

“Bring your children up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”

-Ephesians 6:4 (b)

Table of Contents

I. Who we are	3
A. Christian	3
• Statement of Faith	3
B. Classical	4
• Trivium	4
• Classic Languages	4
• Western Civilization	4
• Great Books	5
• Socratic Method	5
C. Parent-driven	5
• Volunteer requirements	5
• Ebenezer Society	5
D. Our ultimate goal for our students	6
II. History and Governance	6
A. School History	6
B. Society of Christian instruction	6
C. School Administration	6
D. The Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS)	7
III. Academics	7
A. Homework	7
B. Late Work	7
C. Retakes, Redoes, and Extra Credit	8
D. Report Cards	8
E. Grade Scale	8
F. Graduation Requirements	9
IV. Student Conduct	10
A. School Rules	10
B. Gun Policy	10
C. Sexual Identity and Conduct Policy	10
D. Dress Code	10
• Grammar School	10
• Logic School	11
• Rhetoric School	11

• Additional School-Wide Policies	12
E. Dress Code for Informal and Formal School Events	12
V. Grievance Policy	12
A. Purpose	12
B. Students/Parents and Teachers	13
C. Parents/Patrons and Administration	13
VI. Miscellaneous Information and Policies	13
A. Admission	13
B. Attendance	14
C. Evangelism Policy	14
D. Leaving Campus	14
E. School Closings	14
F. Secondary Doctrines Policy	14
G. Student Drivers	15
H. Student Health Forms	15
I. Study Hall Policy	15
J. Tuition	15
• Tuition Commitment and Assistance	15
• Automatic Tuition Payments	15
• Delinquent Policy	16

Who we are

We are a parent-drive Classical Christian school dedicated to building character by forming the hearts and minds of our students to know, reflect, and express the truth, goodness, and beauty of Jesus Christ.

Christian

In all its levels, programs, and teaching, Baldwin Christian School seeks to:

1. Teach all subjects as parts of an integrated whole with the Scriptures at the center (II Timothy 3:16-17).
2. To consider everything from the perspective of a Christian worldview and judge everything according to Scripture.
3. Provide a clear model of the biblical Christian life through our staff and board (Matthew 22:37-40).
4. Encourage every student to begin and develop his relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20, Matthew 19:13-15).
5. Hold students accountable to Biblical standards and correct them in a Biblical manner when they stray from those standards.
6. Help students to develop and grow in Christian character.
7. Statement of Faith
 - A. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative, inerrant Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21)
 - B. We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:1, Matthew 28:19, John 10:30)
 - C. We believe in the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death, His resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of God, His personal return in power and glory. (John 10:33, Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, Luke 1:35, Hebrews 4:15, Hebrews 7:26, John 2:11, 1 Corinthians 15:3, Ephesians 1:7, Hebrews 2:9, John 11:25, 1 Corinthians 15:4, Mark 16:19, Acts 1:11, Revelation 19:11)
 - D. We believe in the absolute necessity of regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation because of the exceeding sinfulness of human nature; and that we are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Christ and that only by God's grace and through faith alone we are saved. (John 3:16-19, John 5:24, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:8-9, Ephesians 2:8-10, Titus 3:5)
 - E. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost – the saved to the resurrection of life, and the lost to the resurrection of condemnation. (John 5:28-29)

- F. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, Galatians 3:26-28)
- G. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. (Romans 8:13-14, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Ephesians 4:30, Ephesians 5:18)
- H. We believe that God creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

Classical

As a classical school we follow the trivium, teach Latin and Greek, and focus on Western Civilization by using the Great Books.

1. **Trivium.** The trivium matches the dominant educational need and method of instruction with a child's development. In the grammar stage (grade school) students focus on mastering core ideas, concepts, and terms. When students begin to ask more and deeper questions, we enter the logic stage (middle school) where students are trained to think critically and instructed in formal logic. When students have both content knowledge and the ability to think through it critically, they enter the rhetoric stage wherein we train them to speak and write clearly and persuasively. In short, **the trivium imparts content knowledge, equips students to think critically, and prepares them to communicate winsomely.**
2. **Classical Languages.** We instruct our students in Latin and Greek for a couple of reasons. First, both are foundational languages. As such **their study deepens students' understanding of English grammar while expanding their vocabulary,** which helps them develop into stronger readers and better writers. The study of Latin and Greek also equips them to learn other languages later in life. Finally, being able to read these languages allows students to check primary sources themselves instead of having to rely on the authority or interpretation of others. This is particularly important when reading and interpreting the Bible.
3. **Western Civilization.** No matter where our ancestors came from, as Americans we are members of Western Civilization. **We cannot understand the world we live in without understanding the events, people, ideas, etc. that have formed and shaped our civilization.**

4. **Great Books.** Instead of reading a modern professor’s interpretation of the growth and development of our civilization, **we read the first-hand accounts of those that made and witnessed history.** Our students let the Greeks and Romans themselves speak about their histories; they read the great works of literature from Homer, to Dante, to Shakespeare; and they dive into controversies in economics, philosophy, and theology. In so doing they grow in their ability to both understand and critique modern thoughts and ideas in a wide array of disciplines. Moreover, **an education infused with purpose and focused around great books produces lifelong learners that love to learn.**
5. **Socratic Method.** When possible we seek to equip and lead students to find and discover correct answers themselves. The question and answer method of Socratic instruction promotes an active learning that **teaches students not merely what to learn, but how to learn.** It also helps students to recognize that they play the primary role and responsibility in their education.

Parent-Driven

We believe that Scripture gives parents the primary responsibility for educating their children. As such we do not seek to replace parents, but rather to come alongside them in the education of their children.

Volunteering

Baldwin Christian School cannot operate without parent involvement. We would ask that parents strive to be involved in workdays and other school events helping spread the work across a larger group of people.

Ebenezer Society

“Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, ‘Thus far has the Lord helped us.’”

-1 Samuel 7:12

The word Ebenezer, translated from Hebrew, literally means “Stone of Help.” The Ebenezer Society is a parent support group for Baldwin Christian School. They meet monthly and sponsor a variety of activities to benefit the school.

The ultimate goal for our students

An ideal graduate of Baldwin Christian School would have the following traits.

- (1) Know Christ and understand and live the Christian faith.
- (2) Be a person of mature character: one that tells the truth and keeps one's word, one that works hard and diligently, and one that is pure in thought and deed alike.
- (3) Have a clear understanding of the Western cultural heritage.
- (4) Know how to think critically and communicate persuasively and winsomely.
- (5) Know how to learn, love to learn, and on their way to become a life-long learner.

History and Governance

School History

Our school has been in operation since 1917, and has operated in our present school building since 1954. Today's Baldwin Christian School is the result of a combination of Hammond Christian School and Baldwin Christian School 50 years ago. Hammond Christian School began operating in 1917 as a one-room K-8 school on the west side of Highway 63, one and one-half miles north of our present site. Baldwin Christian School also operated as a one-room K-8 school beginning in 1919, located several miles east of Hammond Christian School. In 1954 the schools combined and began operating as one school at our current site. In 2009 the Society of Christian Instruction voted unanimously to add grades 9-12, as well as use the classical method to educate the students.

Society of Christian Instruction

The school is owned, operated, and maintained by the Society of Christian Instruction.

The members of the Society are people who are in express agreement with Article II of the Constitution, and who are either parents or guardians of children attending the school, or who contribute not less than \$50 annually per person and are 18 years or older.

Administration

The Board of Directors is elected from among Society members. They make budgetary, staffing, and curricula decisions. Day to day operations are handled by the headmaster.

Association of Classical and Christian Schools

We are a member school of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS).

Academics

Homework

Teachers at Baldwin Christian School regularly assign homework. They do so because:

1. Students often need some extra practice and repeated, short periods of practice or study of new information is often a better way to learn than one long period study.
2. Homework can be used as an opportunity for parents to actively assist and be involved in their child's studies.
3. Some students may not be able to complete all assignments during class and may need to finish their work at home.

Students vary in their diligence and focus as well as the speed at which they work. This means that some students will have more homework than others. Likewise, there may be some weeks with larger projects or exams wherein students will need to study more than normal. However, as a general rule, grammar students (grades K-4) should not have more than one hour of homework a night, logic students (5th-8th) should have no more than two hours of homework a night, and rhetoric students (9th-12th) should have no more than three hours of homework per night.

Late Work

All assignments are due the hour the class meets; late assignments will incur a 50% loss in grade. If the late work is not handed in the following day, students will receive no credit for it.

If a student is absent due to illness or family crisis (e.g. funeral) he or she has one day + the day(s) absent to make up the work. If the work is not completed the late work policy will go into effect.

Regarding **vacations**, parents should talk to teachers ahead of time about their plans. Some work may be done ahead of time and other work may need to wait to be

completed until the student returns. The teacher has discretion to set deadlines for work missed during vacation.

In all cases students have the responsibility to find out what work they are missing, how to do it, and when it is due.

Retakes, Redoes, and Extra Credit

All retakes and extra credit are at the teachers' discretion. Students or parents should talk to teachers to make arrangements.

Accommodation and Modification Policies

Minor accommodations may be made at the **teacher's** discretion.

Examples of minor accommodations are: putting a student in the first row, allowing a student to use a "fidget", copying problems for a student, etc.)

Intermediate accommodations are to be made at the **Headmaster's** discretion after consulting with the student's teacher(s) and parents. **These accommodations will be noted on the student's report card, transcripts, and recorded in their permanent record.**

These types of accommodations include making moderate changes in assignments to the number of problems/questions or to the content or method of assessments.

Major accommodations and modifications are to be made at the **Board of Directors'** discretion. **Major accommodations or modifications will only be made to students who have been tested by a licensed practitioner and shown to have a learning disability or processing disorder.**

Examples of these types of modifications include making significant changes to assignments in terms of the number of problems/questions or making significant changes to the content or method of assessments, and/or accepting outside coursework for credit at Baldwin Christian School.

Accommodations will be offered only to students who are failing a class because of academic issues, yet have demonstrated excellent work habits, work ethic, and overall positive behavior. We cannot accommodate students that cannot or will not control their behavior or are making insufficient effort to succeed academically. Finally, all levels of accommodations will be implemented based on other factors such as, but not limited to, class size, teachers' abilities, and the number of students needing accommodations.

Report Cards

Report cards are sent home with the students at the end of each quarter. Teachers will contact parents mid-quarter if a student is in danger of receiving a failing grade.

All academic grading in BCS uses a criterion-referenced base for evaluation, (i.e. the students' work is evaluated against an objective standard in each class, not based on a curve). Grades earned in elective courses, independent study courses, college and/or correspondence courses, and work completed in home school settings apply toward graduation requirements but are not factored into cumulative GPAs. Only semester grades appear on the student's high-school transcript.

Grade Scale

The following percentages, grades, and grade points are used school-wide:

<u>%</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Grade Point</u>
100-94	A	4.0
93-90	A-	3.7
89-87	B+	3.3
86-84	B	3.0
83-80	B-	2.7
79-77	C+	2.3
76-74	C	2.0
73-70	C-	1.7
60-69	D	1.0
59-0	F	0.0

Rhetoric School Graduation Requirements

There is a minimum requirement of 26 credits to graduate from the BCS Rhetoric School. Additionally students are required to complete:

4 credits Bible/Theology

- 2 credits Latin or Koina Greek
- 1 credit Logic
- 2 credits Rhetoric
- 4 credits English
- 3 credits Science
- 3 credits Math
- 3 credits History
- 1.5 credits Physical Education
- 0.5 credits Health (unless completed in 7-8th grade)

Student Conduct

Baldwin Christian School students are expected to live and conduct themselves in a manner that will be pleasing to God and glorifying to the name of Jesus Christ (II Thessalonians 1:11-12)

School Rules

Students are expected to cooperate with Christian standards of behavior and conversation. As such they should:

1. **Respect the staff.** Students do this by being diligent and active learners, by abiding by the classroom rules of their teachers', and by respectfully and immediately obeying when corrected. Students must also address all adults formally (i.e. Mr., Mrs., or Miss).
2. **Respect their school mates.** Students do this by speaking and acting kindly and purely, by listening to their classmates when they speak and treating their opinions seriously, by coming to class on time and prepared, by taking their seat when class begins, and by remaining seated and quietly engaged throughout class. Young men are encouraged to act chivalrously towards young ladies by preferring them and older students are encouraged to model Christian behavior and humility by preferring younger students.
3. **Respect themselves.** Students do this by doing the assigned reading and work and turning in their own work. Cheating in any form, whether it be internet plagiarism or copying from a classmate, impedes academic development and bends and corrupts character.
4. **Respect the school.** Students do this by picking up after themselves, by keeping their lockers tidy, and by being thoughtful when using school equipment.

Additionally, students should leave all electronic devices at home (if a student must bring a cell phone to school, it should remain in his or her backpack) and public displays of affection are not permitted at school or school activities.

Most discipline will take place in the classroom by the teacher; serious behavior infractions will be referred to the headmaster. The classroom teacher and/or headmaster will determine the appropriate punishment.

Gun Policy

All students are prohibited from bringing guns into the school or church or onto school or church grounds.

Sexual Identity and Conduct Policies

In conformity with our Statement of Faith and to further our school's mission, Baldwin Christian School has the following policies:

1. Students at Baldwin Christian School are to dress in conformity to their biological sex.
2. Students at Baldwin Christian School are to use locker rooms and bathrooms in conformity to their biological sex.

Dress Code

Baldwin Christian School students are expected to live and conduct themselves in a manner that will be pleasing to God and glorifying to the name of Jesus Christ (II Thessalonians 1:11-12); this includes how they dress.

Grammar School (Grades K-4) Dress Code

1. **Shorts, skirts, dresses, and pants**
 - Shorts must be mid-thigh length or longer.
 - Dresses and skirts must be knee length or longer.
 - No unrepaired holes in pants or shorts.
2. **Shirts, blouses, and sweaters**
 - No obscene, vulgar, or inappropriate images or words.
 - No low-neck lines (i.e. one hand width below the neckline maximum.)
 - No uncovered spaghetti straps—uncovered straps must be at least an inch wide.
 - No skin should show when hands are raised or while sitting.
 - Shirts with tails should be tucked in.
3. **Shoes**
 - Students should have a pair of outside shoes or boots.
 - Tied athletic shoes are required for Physical Education.
 - Flip flops are prohibited at all times.

Lower Logic School (Grades 5-6) Dress Code

1. **Shorts, skirts, dresses, and pants**

- Shorts must be mid-thigh length or longer.
 - Dresses and skirts must be knee length or longer.
 - No unrepaired holes in pants or shorts.
2. **Shirts, blouses, and sweaters**
- No images, words, logos or writing larger than the student’s hand.
 - Students must wear collared shirts or sweater: no t-shirts or sweatshirts.
 - No low-neck lines (i.e. one hand width below the neckline maximum).
 - No uncovered spaghetti straps—uncovered straps must be at least an inch wide.
 - No skin should show when hands are raised or while sitting.
 - No tight shirts or blouses.
 - No cleavage or bare midriff should be exposed.
 - Shirts with tails should be tucked in.
3. **Shoes**
- Students should have a pair of outside shoes or boots.
 - Tied athletic shoes are required for Physical Education.
 - Flip flops are prohibited at all times.

Upper Logic and Rhetoric School (Grades 7-12) Dress Code

1. **Skirts, dresses, and pants**
- Gentlemen must wear dress slacks; slacks should be worn with a belt.
 - Ladies skirts or dresses must be at least knee length.
 - If ladies would prefer to wear slacks, they must wear the approved school uniform of khaki slacks and navy polo with the school logo.
2. **Shirts, blouses, and sweaters**
- No images, words, logos or writing larger than the student’s hand.
 - Students must wear collared shirts or sweater: no t-shirts or sweatshirts.
 - No low-neck lines (i.e. one hand width below the neckline maximum).
 - No uncovered spaghetti straps—uncovered straps must be at least an inch wide.
 - No skin should show when hands are raised or while sitting.
 - No tight shirts or blouses.
 - No cleavage or bare midriff should be exposed.
 - Shirts with tails should be tucked in.
3. **Shoes**
- Students should wear dress shoes.

Additional School-Wide Policies

Unnatural hair colors, facial piercings, and visible tattoos are prohibited in all grades.

Required Uniform Code for Informal School Functions (e.g. field trips)

- Short sleeve navy interlock polo shirt
- Khaki pants or skirt

If you choose to shop at Lands' End for your school uniform, go to www.landsend.com. You are welcome, but not required to purchase BCS logo items as well. Our preferred school number when ordering is 900133158.

Required Uniform Code for Formal School Functions (e.g. music programs)

- Long sleeve white oxford (tucked in) for boys
- Long sleeve white blouse or button down for girls
- Black pants or black skirt
- Black or dark brown belt if belt loops are present
- Black or dark brown shoes

Grievance Policy

In keeping with I Cor. 6:1-8 and Matt. 18:15-20, all parties formally affiliated with BCS agree that the Bible commands them to make every effort to live at peace and to resolve disputes with each other in private or within the Christian Church.

Purpose

The objective of this policy is to establish biblical guidelines for the resolution of disputes and grievances in the operation of BCS. These guidelines are to be followed whenever there is a dispute or grievance concerning any aspect of BCS's operations between any two parties connected in a direct way to the school. This includes students, parents, staff, volunteers, administration, and board.

Students/parents and teachers

1. **All concerns about the classroom must first be presented to the teacher by the parents, or if the student is mature enough, by the student** himself. If the student presents the concern, a respectful demeanor is required at all times.
2. If the problem is not resolved, the parents or student may bring the concern to the headmaster.
3. If there is still no resolution, they should request a hearing from the Baldwin Christian School Board.

Parents/patrons and administrator:

1. If parents or patrons have a grievance or dispute about the general operation of the school (apart from the operation of the classrooms), they should bring their concerns to the headmaster.
2. If there is no resolution, they should request a hearing from the Baldwin Christian School Board.
3. This procedure also applies to board members who are acting in their capacity as parents/patrons.

Miscellaneous Information and Policies

Admission

1. The student should understand that his parents have delegated their authority to the school. Therefore, he or she is subject to the instruction and discipline of the teachers in their prescribed roles at Baldwin Christian School.
2. In general practice, if the student and parents comply with the requirements outlined here, Baldwin Christian School will admit students to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities. Baldwin Christian School does not unbiblically discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, or national origin in the administration of its policies, admissions, scholarships, athletic, and other school-directed programs.
3. Parents should be willing to cooperate with the policies of Baldwin Christian School.
4. All students are admitted on provisional basis contingent on their behavior and academic performance.

Attendance

1. Students enrolled in BCS are expected to attend all prescribed classes, i.e. parents and/or students may not choose how many classes to attend.
2. A record of attendance for each student will be kept in accordance with Wisconsin state law. The total number of days absent and days present will be recorded on the student's quarterly report card and on his rhetoric school transcript.
3. A student must complete all work before a semester grade will be given. A student that misses work due to an absence will receive an Incomplete until the missed work is completed.
4. In the event the total number of planned absences is equal to or exceeds fifteen days in one semester, the student will not receive credit for that semester. The student will need to retake the classes. (Unless the planned absences have a

distinct educational component. In that case parents may talk to the headmaster about completing alternative work.)

5. Five unexcused absences in any semester constitute truancy and is subject to Wisconsin State law.
6. Students should be to class on time and ready to learn; students late to class will be marked tardy.

Evangelism Policy

BCS teachers are encouraged to freely declare the Gospel in the normal flow of classroom instruction, in line with the curricular objectives of that course.

Leaving Campus

BCS is a closed campus; students may not leave without a parent's permission.

School Closings

The school will be closed or delayed whenever the Baldwin-Woodville public schools are closed or delayed due to inclement weather. For school closings or delays call (715)684-2200. You may also go to the following websites or TV stations: WCCO (4), FOX (9), KSTP (5), KARE (11), or W1EAU (13). Each of these websites makes it possible for you to automatically receive emails if there is a change in the school schedule.

Secondary Doctrine Policy

Classroom discussion of secondary doctrine will be on an informative, non-partisan level. Teachers are told to be careful not to speak to the students in a manner that will cause offense to the parents. To this end presentation of all sides of an issue is encouraged. Teachers are instructed to refer students to follow up any questions they have with their parents and pastor.

Student Drivers

Students who drive to school are expected to do so responsibly. Special attention should be paid to elementary students in the parking lot before and after school. Driving to school is a privilege which may be revoked if necessary.

Student Health Records

1. **All students attending Baldwin Christian School must have on record with the school office either a current immunization record or an exemption statement according to Wisconsin Code before entering school in the fall.** Standard immunization record forms may be obtained from the family doctor and a copy given to the school office.

2. **Before the school will issue any medication to a student, we must receive written parental permission.**
3. All families must fill out an **emergency form** with the names and phone numbers of people who may need notification in a medical emergency.

Study Hall Policy

Students in study hall must work quietly on homework or read. There is to be no talking during study hall. Students are to remain in the designated study area until released.

Tuition

There is an annual registration fee of \$150.00/student to be paid during the summer prior to the school year; rates are set yearly each spring.

Tuition commitment and assistance

When enrolling, parents commit to pay the entire tuition for the year regardless of attendance. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Board. In the event a family encounters financial difficulty to the extent it is not possible to make tuition payments on time, parents are encouraged to notify the BCS board. Depending on funds and circumstances, it may be possible for the school to financially assist a struggling family. Even if assistance cannot be offered, the BCS board appreciates being notified of such situations and is often amenable to alternative payment arrangements.

Automatic Tuition Payments

Parents have the option to pay tuition payments through automatic monthly transfers from their own bank account. Any family desiring to pay in this manner should notify the school's treasurer, who can provide a form to enable automatic payments.

Delinquent Policy

Parents are expected to make tuition payments in a timely manner. When the school treasurer determines that a family is two (2) months delinquent, the parents will receive written notice from the BCS board. The parents will then have one month to make their account current or make alternate payment arrangements with the BCS board. If a family is three (3) or more months delinquent in tuition payments, and has not made alternate payment arrangements with the BCS board, the parents will need to make other arrangements for the education of their children. All previous financial obligations must be paid before a student will be enrolled for the following school year. Likewise, parents are responsible for reimbursing the school for any bank fees incurred

as a result of bad checks.

SIGN AND RETURN

Please tear out this page and return to your teacher by the end of the first week of class.

I have read and understand the policies in this handbook.

Signed _____

Dated _____