

South Christian Student & Parent Handbook 2016-2017

12340 Herndon Oak Grove Road

Herndon, KY 42236

(270) 887-7350

Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents, Students, Guardians, and School Partners,

It is truly an honor to be the South Christian Elementary School principal. South Christian has a wonderful reputation for student academic success. Not only is student achievement a result of dedicated teachers and staff, hard working students, but also committed parents and involved community members. The school motto is Believe Achieve Succeed. In order for every student to actualize our motto, it will take efforts from all of us working together as a team.

One of South Christian's goals is to partner with families to ensure that each student maximizes their learning potential. The new Common Core State Standards are based in the premise that students will be college and career ready by the time they graduate from high school. It is our mission that we lay a strong foundation of knowledge and skills that allow your child to problem solve and critically think.

I encourage you to know your child's teacher, ask questions and be informed. Talk with your child about interesting topics in order to help them discover what they are passionate about. This will ultimately lead to a desire to achieve and succeed.

I look forward to continuing to work together and maintaining our "winning team"!

Sincerely,

Cherise Brummer

Principal

South Christian Elementary

cherise.brummer@christian.kyschools.us

Motto

Believe, Achieve, Succeed

Mission

The mission of South Christian Elementary School is to create a safe, stimulating environment in which each child is motivated to succeed.

Statement of Philosophy

- We at South Christian School believe that each child should have the opportunity to develop to the fullest of his or her potential.
- We believe it is our task to equip the children with the knowledge, appreciation, and social skills necessary to live effectively in our society.
- We believe that in order for the child to acquire these attributes, our school must utilize all available resources.
- We believe that one such resource is the community. There should be close communication and cooperation between school and community.
- We believe that an atmosphere that is conducive to the development of creativity is essential.
- We believe that individuality must be maintained and a climate created that will further develop the talents of each student.

Christian County Public Schools

The mission of the Christian County Public School System is to create an educational culture of continuous growth through shared partnerships and responsibilities.

Vision 2016 - 2017

Transform the educational environment to meet the ongoing demands of 21st Century learning so that all students are engaged in a high quality, equitable education and prepared for community and global responsibilities.

Christian County Public Schools Non-Negotiables for Classroom Learning

In EVERY Christian County Public School classroom,

- Effective, efficient, and equitable **planning** will be reflected in daily instruction.
- **Rigorous & Relevant instruction** will occur bell-to-bell.
- **Learning targets** will be posted, introduced at the onset of each lesson, referred to during the lesson, and assessed at the end of the daily lesson.
- **Instruction** will be **congruent** to the posted learning target and to the standard.
- Daily instructional delivery will include **congruent and research-based strategies** to ensure individual student achievement and growth on all school, district, and state assessments.
- **Data** gathered through **formative and summative assessments** will guide whole group and small group instruction.
- A **safe and orderly classroom environment** that is conducive to learning will be provided.
- Teachers and Leaders will demonstrate professionalism in all aspects of assigned duties and professional responsibilities.

South Christian “Must Haves”

In addition to the non-negotiables determined by the district, South Christian has determined the following items as “must haves” for our school:

- Goal setting with students
- Positive Behavior Support system
- Parent, family, and community involvement
- Data analysis driven instruction
- Differentiation and individualized instruction
- Technology infused lessons
- Writing every day in every subject
- Provide effective feedback that advances learning
- Working collaboratively in professional learning communities

HELPFUL NAMES AND NUMBERS

School Closing Hotline	707-1900
Transportation: Bus Garage	887-1320
School Cafeteria: Faith Brassington	887-7359
Christian County Central Office	887-7000
South Christian Aftercare	484-2097

Christian County Board of Education

The Christian County Board of Education meets monthly in the Board Room at the Central Office on Glass Avenue. Refer to the district website for specific monthly dates at <http://www.christian.kyschools.us/>

The board members are:

Mary Ann Gemmill, Superintendent

Ms. Sara Shepherd , District 1

Ms. Teresa Moss, District 2

Mr. Lindsey Clark, District 3

Ms. Linda Keller, Chair, District 4

Mr. Tom Bell, Vice Chair, District 5

PARTNERSHIPS

At South Christian, we value our partnerships with businesses and the community. Some of our main partners are: Pennyroyal Hospice, Olivet Baptist Church, Oak Grove Fire Department, Navy Federal Credit Union, James E. Bruce Convention Center, and Sam's Club.

SCHOOL BASED DECISION MAKING

South Christian Elementary School is a school based decision-making school. Our policy has been written and approved.

WHAT IS SCHOOL BASED DECISION MAKING?

The school based decision-making process gives parents, teachers, and principals at each Kentucky school control over how that school operates. Its purpose is to permit each school to refine the Kentucky Education Reform Act of 1990, referred to as KERA.

WHAT DECISIONS ARE MADE AT THE SCHOOL LEVEL?

A school council advised by the school staff will make policies on curriculum, instructional practices, schedules for the school's staff and students, use of space, discipline, classroom management, and extracurricular programs.

To help make these effective, councils will also decide:

- the instructional materials the school will use;
- the support services the school will provide for its students;
- the number of people the school will employ in each job classification;

The principal at each school will direct the implementation of council policies and select people to fill vacancies at the school, after consulting with the council. The council itself will select a new principal when the position comes open. School Based Decision Making meetings are held monthly. These meetings are open to the public. Copies of the SBDM policies are available at the school.

The 2016-17 SBDM council members are:

Cherise Brummer, Principal-Chairperson

Sandy Joiner, Teacher

Catherine Humphries, Teacher

Kelly Bentzel, Teacher

Carrie Stallons, Teacher

Thomas Douthitt, Parent

Cinnamon Watts, Parent

Priscilla Jaseph, Parent

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

The South Christian PTO meets periodically throughout the school year to plan fundraising activities to help support the school. The PTO president is Tabitha Strader.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

2016-17 CCPS Registration Requirements

Parents of a student entering preschool/ kindergarten, or transferring into the Christian County Public School System for the 2016-17 school year, must comply with the necessary documentation and requirements of Kentucky State Regulations. These requirements are strictly enforced.

Each student enrolling must present:

- Certified Birth Certificate from the Vital Statistics Office of the state where the child was born; or other reliable proof of the student's identity and age and an affidavit of the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.
- Student's Social Security Card or copy of the card
- Three proofs of residence (as stated in Board Policy 09.11)
- Kentucky Eye Exam by ophthalmologist or optometrist-not an eye screening (for initial entry into a Kentucky School ages 3-6)
- Dental screening or examination (for initial entry into a Kentucky School ages 5-6)
- An up-to-date Immunization Certificate on a Kentucky form
- A second MMR, complete Hepatitis B series, and a chicken pox vaccination
- Copy of a recent Preventative Health Care Examination form

Students who are enrolling in public school for the first time must provide proof of an eye examination – not an eye screening – conducted by an optometrist or ophthalmologist prior to the first day of school. All students must have on file an up-to-date immunization certificate. All transfer students must present a completed medical examination form and a Kentucky immunization certificate. Parents or guardians of transfer students should sign a release form in order for the school district to obtain records from the school previously attended.

Those students entering the sixth grade must have a second varicella, Tdap, meningitis shot, as well as a recent physical examination. Students enrolled or enrolling in the Christian County School System must comply with all Kentucky health laws, rules and regulations except as provided in KRS 214:036.

Kindergarten students must present these items on registration day: a current Kentucky immunization certificate, a copy of the birth certificate, a copy of the Social Security card number, proof of an eye examination – not an eye screening – conducted by an optometrist or ophthalmologist, and proof of physical examination on a form provided by the Kentucky Department of Education. **A student must be 5 years of age by Oct. 1 of the 2016-17 school year before entering Kindergarten.**

Kentucky law KRS 156.160(1) requires proof of a dental screening or examination by a dentist,

dental hygienist, physician, registered nurse, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. This evidence must be presented to the school no later than Jan. 1 of the first year that a 5- or 6-year-old child is enrolled in public school.

Parents should call immediately to schedule an appointment with their family physician or the Christian County Health Department, as state regulations and local policy mandate strict enforcement of these requirements. The Christian County Health Department is located in Hopkinsville at 1700 Canton Street and can be reached by phoning (270) 887-4160.

*According to the Christian County Board of Education, the students must attend school in the zone in which their parents/guardians live. Residence shall be where the child is actually residing. Parents must provide three proofs of a pupil's legal residence, and shall be verifiable through utility statements; home visits by the Office of Pupil Personnel; statements of neighbors and/or landlords, etc. Statements of verification may be requested from the Superintendent's office in any given case.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

All pupils shall undergo a medical examination within a period of twelve (12) months prior to or one (1) month following initial admission to school, regardless of grade, except as otherwise provided in KRS 214.035, all pupils shall present a valid immunization certificate upon enrollment in school.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Each pupil shall be required to provide a valid, certified immunization certificate on a Kentucky form. A second mumps, measles, and rubella shot, as well as a Hepatitis B series (3 injections) is required before enrolling into kindergarten. Fifth graders will be asked to get a second physical to prepare for enrollment in sixth grade. A valid immunization certificate shall be on file within two (2) weeks of the child's enrollment in school.

DENTAL SCREENING

Pupils entering school for the first time must undergo a dental screening or examination by a dentist, dental hygienist, physician, registered nurse, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant which must be documented on a Kentucky Dental Screening Form.

EYE EXAMINATION

House Bill 706, the Early Childhood Development law, requires all children entering public preschool, Head Start or public school for the first time to have evidence of an eye examination (NOT A SCREENING) by an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

All students entering school (public) for the first time, beginning with 4 year preschool must have a social security card on file with the school.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Any student enrolled for the first time in a Kentucky school, including preschool, shall have a certified copy of the student's birth certificate.

LEGAL DOCUMENT CONCERNING CUSTODY OR GUARDIANSHIP

If there are any documents that concern custody or guardianship of your child (documents signed by a judge) a copy **must be on file** in your child's record.

VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCE

First time enrollees must provide **three (3)** proofs of residence. Listed below are acceptable forms of proof:

- Current utility (electric, water) bill
- Bill of sale/lease agreement

PRESCHOOL

South Christian Elementary provides preschool services for children three and four years old who meet the following eligibility requirements:

1. Child must live in Christian County
2. Child must be four years of age before August 1, 2016 and meets income guidelines and/or have suspected delay.
3. Child must be three years of age before March 1, 2016 and have suspected delay.

CHANGE OF STUDENT ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER

Students and parents should ALWAYS report any changes of address or telephone number to the teacher and to the school office. It is necessary to have a current and accurate telephone number on file in case of emergency and to receive district wide phone calls.

PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS WITHDRAWING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL

In order to ensure proper handling of school records and to facilitate proper entrance into another school, a student withdrawing to another school should:

- Inform the school office as soon as you know that your child is leaving.
- Turn in all textbooks to the teacher.
- Turn in all library books.
- Make sure you take all personal items with you as you leave.
- Allow at least one week for records to be sent.

STUDENTS TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL SYSTEM

Parents should ask the school to send all pertinent records to the school where their child will be attending; otherwise, the new school will request the records. Please make sure you have the name and complete address of the last school your child attended available to your new school.

ATTENDANCE

The Kentucky Compulsory Attendance Laws, RKS 159.010 and KRS 159.180 state that the parent/guardian is responsible for keeping his/her child in regular school attendance.

1. School hours are from 7:20 AM until 2:20 PM. Students are expected to be in their classrooms by 7:20 AM. Students arriving after 7:20 and checking out prior to 2:20 will receive a tardy.
2. **Three (3) unexcused tardies are equivalent to one (1) unexcused absence.**
3. Students should arrive no earlier than 6:55 AM, but no later than 7:20 AM when transported by car.
4. Late students must be signed in at the office by a parent or guardian. (This does not apply to late buses.)
5. Students leaving school before regular dismissal time must be signed out in the office by a parent or guardian. Only authorized persons designated by a parent or guardian may check a child out. **A picture ID is required for identification.**
6. A signed parent note is required upon return from each absence. The following reasons will be accepted for excused absences:
 - a. Illness of pupil
 - b. Death in family
 - c. Appointment with health professional (student only)

d. Driver's test (A statement from driver's test administrator must be presented for the student to be excused for a reasonable amount of time.)

e. Court order (A statement from the court system must be presented for the student to be excused for a reasonable amount of time.)

f. One day for the attendance of the Kentucky State Fair

g. Other valid reasons as determined by the principal

7. Children running a fever of 100 degrees or more should not return to school until they have been fever free for a 24-hour period.

8. Checking in late or checking out early will generate a tardy.

A student who is absent must bring a note signed by his/her parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence when they return. Please put your child's first and last name on the excuse, along with the teacher's name. **This note shall be presented upon the student's return or within Five (5) days or the absence will be unexcused.**

A student who is absent because of personal illness and goes to a health professional shall present the health professional's statement within a reasonable time not to exceed **five days**. A health professional's statement will be accepted for the student's personal illness only, not for the illness of any member of his/her family.

Request for an excused absence other than stated above must be made in **advance** to the principal or assistant principal.

Any child who has been absent from school without a valid excuse for three (3) days or tardy on three (3) or more days, is a truant. Any child who has been reported absent two (2) or more times is a habitual truant. Truancy procedures will be implemented.

ARMED FORCES DAY

If a student's parent, de facto custodian or other person with legal custody or control of the student is a member of the United States Armed Forces is deployed or is returning from deployment, the student shall be granted an excused absence for each day. The parents shall provide official documentation stating the arrival or departure dates of parent/guardian.

ARMED FORCES RECUPERATION LEAVE

If a student's parent is stationed out of the country and is granted rest and recuperation leave, excused absences for up to five days will be given for visitation. Documentation should be on file prior to students taking AFD day(s) and AFR day(s). Without documentation, the absence(s) shall be marked absent.

TRUANCY COURT/DISTRICT COURT

If a student has six (6) or more unexcused absences and/or combination of unexcused absences and tardies, his/her parent may be summoned to District Court to appear before the Christian County District Judge.

Please refer to the Christian County Public Schools Code of Acceptable Behavior for the rules, regulations, and procedures concerning truancy.

TRANSPORTATION - BUS & CAR RIDERS

- Each child must have **one permanent afternoon destination**. *This is for the safety of your child.*
- If a transportation change is necessary, a note must be submitted to the school requesting the change.
- Students should be at their bus stop on time.

RIDING THE SCHOOL BUS

Riding the school bus is a privilege. Students in the Christian County School District have that privilege provided they listen and obey the directions from the driver. If a student does not cooperate with the driver, the driver will report this to the principal for disciplinary action.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

Transportation changes must be submitted in writing. Please provide the following information regarding the change:

1. Student's name
2. Specific change regarding transportation
3. Telephone number
4. Person meeting the child

5. Teacher's name

Phone requests are discouraged after 1:00 p.m. and are only allowed under emergency circumstances.

CAR RIDERS

SCES uses a number system for Car Rider Pick Up. Each student who is a regular car rider will be issued a pick up number that is to be displayed in the windshield of your vehicle. The person on car rider duty will call your child out by NUMBER ONLY. Therefore, it is vital that your child remembers his or her number. If you have more than one child at SCES, only one number will be assigned per household.

If you are carpooling or having someone else pick up your child, please send a note or call the school before 1:00PM. Please indicate on the note the name of the person picking up your child. A valid ID will be required of the person picking up the child.

Regular car riders will be given two copies of your child's number. Please cut these apart and post one on the right hand corner in your car that will be used on a regular basis. The other, keep as a spare or post in your secondary pick up vehicle.

***WE ASK THAT OUR PARENTS WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE STUDENT PICKUP IS AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE.**

PROCEDURES FOR MORNING STUDENT DROPOFF

If you bring your child to school we ask that you use the student loading/unloading zone located in the front circle. Personnel will be there to supervise them from 6:55 AM until 7:20 AM. If you arrive after this time you will be required to bring your child to the front office and sign them in. **Please note there is no parking in the loading or unloading zone. If you have to enter the school to take care of business, please park your car in the parking lot.**

PROCEDURES FOR AFTERNOON STUDENT PICKUP

1. Cars should not line up prior to 1:45 PM.
2. All cars must enter through the designated entrance.
3. Upon entering the designated entrance vehicles will be lined up in the order they arrive.
4. Vehicles will be lined up into two lines. Additional lines will be used if necessary.
5. Upon the buses departure, each line will be dismissed to pull up to the unloading zone.
6. Please remain in your car. A school employee will deliver your child to you.

7. After receiving your child, depart promptly through the designated exit.

NUTRITION - CAFETERIA INFORMATION

All students will receive free breakfast and lunch this year because we are a CEO school. Students eating breakfast, who are transported by their parents, **MUST** be at school by 7:10 AM.

Adult Breakfast	\$2.25	Adult Lunch	\$2.75
-----------------	--------	-------------	--------

Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their child, but federal law prohibits bringing food in from outside establishments.

PARTIES

In keeping with the district wellness policy, birthday party celebrations must be in line with the nutrition guidelines. At this time, parents may provide games as a celebration or treat bags for students to take home. **Cupcakes and other sweets are not acceptable according to the nutritional guidelines. Homemade baked goods will not be permitted.** Please contact your teacher for details on how parties will be celebrated in their classroom.

HEALTH – SICKNESS & FIRST AID

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES AND PARASITES

No pupil who has a contagious or infectious disease or parasite (head lice) shall be permitted to attend school. If a pupil is known to have such a disease or parasite, he/she shall be sent home as soon as arrangements can be made with the parent. The pupil shall remain away from school until a physician or county health officer provides satisfactory evidence that the pupil is free from disease, or that the pupil poses no threat to the health of other pupils or staff.

FIRST AID

1. If a child is hurt at school, the child will be taken to the nurse's office. First aid will be given for minor injuries. Parents will be contacted if any injury or illness may require further medical attention.
2. Any medication administered must have a note and directions signed by a doctor. Medication administration forms are available in the office. The nurse cannot dispense Tylenol and other over the counter medications.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS & DISCIPLINE

The Christian County Public Schools are dedicated to providing a positive educational environment in which our teachers and administrators can effectively help all students achieve their maximum learning potential.

The Christian County Code of Acceptable Student Behavior contains specific standards of behavior expected and required of all students in the system, grades K-12. Every student and parent is furnished a copy of this code of student conduct.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & SUPPORT (PBIS)

Positive Behavior Support is the style of discipline used at South Christian. We teach the desired expectations and provide positive feedback and reinforcement when those behaviors are exhibited.

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to model good behavior. Each teacher has classroom expectations and rules. Ongoing communication between the parent and teacher is encouraged. If a problem should arise, the teacher and leadership will problem solve with the parent to resolve the problem. Parents are encouraged to email and set up face-to-face conferences as often as needed.

Zero tolerance behaviors will require a parent conference. All consequences will be determined by the district approved Code of Conduct.

STUDY AREA FOR EDUCATION (SAFE) PROGRAM

It is crucial that our students are in an environment where learning can take place. The S.A.F.E. program is designed to help control unacceptable behavior and enable students to complete their work in a small setting with a controlled environment.

Students may be assigned to the S.A.F.E room for appropriate amounts of time. If unacceptable behavior occurs in the S.A.F.E. room, students may be assigned additional time by the administration or assigned additional consequences. Teachers will provide daily assignments for students assigned to the S.A.F.E. room, and students will be expected to complete their classwork. Any child placed in the S.A.F.E. room may lose field trip privileges.

RULES IN COMMON AREAS

HALL

W – Walk on the Right Side

A – Always Look Forward

L – Level 0

K – Keep Hands & Feet to Self

CAFETERIA

C – Come In & Leave Quietly

A – Always Sit in Line up Order

F – Follow Table Manners

E – Eat Your Food

ASSEMBLY

E – Enter & Exit Quietly

V – Value Personal Space

E – Eyes on Speaker

N – Never stop listening

T – Think First

RESTROOMS

F – Finish Quickly

L – Leave Area Clean

U – Use Soap

S – Shhh

H – Hands to Self

PLAYGROUND

P – Play Nicely

L – Leave Area Clean

A – Always Include Others

Y – YES to FUN!

Schoolwide Expectations

D – Distinguish Yourself

R – Respect Everyone

E – Expect Excellence

A – Achieve Success

M – Motivate Others

EMERGENCY PLAN

In the event of bad weather, the district makes a decision regarding closing school and notifies the local radio and TV stations. School closings are also posted on the CCPS Facebook page and the district website. Parents can sign up for Notify Me, an automated notification system that will send important updates by phone, email, or text. To sign up for Notify Me, go to the district website at www.christian.kyschools.us

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

In inclement weather, it may be necessary to move students to an Alternate Building Location rather than using the typical Outdoor Assembly area. The offsite location within walking distance from the school is the Herndon Fire Department.

In the event of an evacuation from the school site to an alternative site, the location would be (1) Stadium of Champions (2) Hopkinsville High School or parents would report to alternative site for check-out procedures. The automated phone system will notify parents with specific information.

VISITORS

Parents and visitors are always welcome at South Christian Elementary School. As a safety precaution, there is a buzzer system that allows controlled access to our building. Upon arriving, please press the call button and state your business. You will then report to the office and obtain a visitor's pass. All doors to the building remain locked during the day.

VISITING CLASSROOMS

We have an Open Door policy; however, we want to protect instructional time. If you would like to visit your child's classroom, please contact the teacher to schedule a time and date. Since

visitors in the classroom can be a distraction to some of our students, we ask that you limit visits to one hour.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

We take great pride in the appearance of our students. Dress reflects the quality of the school. We encourage students to dress for success every day. We expect students to maintain the type of appearance that is not distracting to other students and does not disturb the orderly instructional process of the school.

Listed below are items of clothing that are not acceptable at South Christian Elementary School:

- Clothing with spaghetti straps
- Midriff shirts
- Low rider pants/jeans
- Sagging pants – a belt **MUST** be worn
- Mini-skirts or Short- shorts
- Shirts with logos or advertisement that are inappropriate for school setting

REPORT CARDS/PROGRESS REPORTS

1. Report cards or progress reports will be sent home one week after the grading period ends. A grading period consists of four nine-week periods.
2. Monitor your child's progress closely through their report card or progress report, conferences with teachers, and his/her daily work. Parents may access their child's grades at anytime via the Internet using the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. On the Parent Portal, parents have access to their child's grades, assignments, attendance, and behavior. Contact the Family Resource Center for more information.
3. If there is a need for a parent-teacher conference, please call the school during your child's teacher's planning period for a conference time (270-887-7350). When necessary, teachers will contact parents to request a conference.

HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK

Students need to use time wisely to complete class work and homework. The teacher will communicate closely with the family to ensure that the student is meeting expectations.

CELL PHONES

1. Devices shall not be used in a manner that disrupts the educational process.
2. Devices shall be turned on and operated only during appropriate times, as designated by the teacher.
3. An administrator may confiscate the device, and a parent contact will be made.

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER SERVICES

The purpose of the Family Resource Center is to provide resources to families who need assistance. The Family Resource Coordinator is available to meet individually with families who may need a referral to specific agencies.

Family Resource Centers are funded through a state grant. The funding is based on the number of students eligible for free meals. However, once a center is established, ALL students and their families may use its services. For detailed information on how the Family Resource Center can assist you, please contact our Family Resource Coordinator at (270) 887-7353.

VOLUNTEERS

The goal of the parent volunteer program is to enable you as a parent/ community member to be involved in your child's education. **If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, a yearly background check must be completed and the cost is \$10.00.** All volunteers must sign in with the Family Resource Center. Serving as a volunteer is a rewarding experience. For more information on the volunteer program please contact the Family Resource Coordinator at (270) 887-7353.

TITLE I SCHOOL WIDE PROGRAM

South Christian Elementary School has adopted a parent involvement policy and plan. This policy and plan has been collaboratively developed with all stakeholders and will be distributed to all parents. During Open House, the school will convene an annual meeting to inform parents of the school's participation in a Title I program. During this meeting, Title I budget and funded positions will be shared. Parents will be informed of their right to be involved in their child's education.

Particular attention will be given to reaching those parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of a minority background. Multiple Family Academic Nights and Parent Coffee and Conversation events are planned to encourage parent involvement and provide information.

The school will involve parents in the Title I planning, review, and improvement of programs, including the joint development of the school parent involvement policy and school wide plan.

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT

South Christian Elementary School shall build the capacity for strong parent involvement by providing assistance to parents on how to use internal and external resources to improve the education of all students.

The full policy can be accessed on the School's website: www.christian.kyschools.us

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIGH STUDENT PERFORMANCE

South Christian Elementary School has collaboratively developed a parent-school learning compact that describes the school's responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that will enable all students to meet the state's academic expectations. Each parent will be responsible for supporting his or her child's learning. The student, teacher, parent, and principal will sign the compact. Federal guidelines require 100% participation.

GRIEVANCE POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to clarify for parents a process by which concerns can be addressed. The school board encourages active parent participation, and hopes parents feel empowered to voice their opinions.

If you feel you or your children have been treated unfairly, discriminated against, or in a manner that is a violation of state or federal law, you may file a written complaint and schedule an appointment with the principal, or assistant principal to discuss the issue. Forms may be obtained at the front office and must be completed and submitted before a conference will be held.

Programs Making the Difference

6th Grade Showcase (Academic Team) is a Kentucky academic event designated to provide a competitive opportunity for sixth graders.

Academic Team is an academic competition for students in grades 4-5. Elementary students compete in district and regional competition in Quick Recall, Future Problem Solving, and content specific assessments.

Advanced Art is a group of 5th / 6th graders based on an Interest Inventory. Students create artwork for school and community exhibits.

Band is offered for students in 6th grade. The 6th grade band is designed for beginners and provides students the opportunity to play in a large ensemble with full instrumentation. The focus is on learning the basics of the instrument of their choice.

Book Club is an opportunity for 5/6th graders to select and read books with their peers. They create projects based on the books they read.

Chorus is a select group of 5th /6th graders based on an Interest Inventory. Students meet weekly for one semester. They practice and perform for the school and community.

Dinosaur Dig is a project developed by the art teacher that allows intermediate students create the fossilized bones of a dinosaur in which the primary students get to discover through an archeological dig.

Do the Math Software is a Tier III intervention that builds foundational math skills and problem solving strategies.

Fast Math Software helps improve math fact fluency and accuracy for all students in grades 1-6.

Fitness Club is a group of 5th / 6th graders based on an Interest Inventory. Students choose a sport and study it in-depth for a semester.

iRead is a digital foundational reading program designed to close the achievement gap before it begins and place ALL K-2 children on a predictable path to college and career.

Read 180 provides a comprehensive literacy support program for students in grades 4-5 who are more than two years below grade level in reading.

System 44 is a new foundational reading program for struggling readers. System 44 Next Generation is proven to help students master the foundational reading skills required for success with the new standards, college, and career through explicit instruction in phonics, comprehension, and writing.

Seed Project allows students to plant seeds during the month of a military child to beautiful the school grounds.

STLP (Student Technology Leadership Program) uses project-based learning principles to empower student learning and achievement through the utilization and creation of technology based solutions to school and community needs. STLP provides a means for students to design, create, collaborate, and learn. A school coordinator guides students to create products, provide services, or carry out projects that help the school and community.

10 Ways to Help Your Child Succeed in School

1. **Model a love for learning.** Show that you believe that education is important by reading at home, and supporting your child at school activities, such as open houses, academic nights, parent/teacher conferences, and other events.
2. **Talk with your child.** Talking and listening play major roles in children's school success. It's through hearing parents and family members talk and through responding to that talk that young children begin to pick up the language skills they will need if they are to do well.
3. **Build Good Relationships.** Initiate a positive relationship with your child's teacher and principal before conflicts occur. It's better to take one day off work to create a good relationship than two days off repairing damage from a bad one.
4. **Give the teacher information.** Share information about your child's favorite subject and special interests with his/her teacher.
5. **Monitor homework, schoolwork, TV viewing, and video game playing.** Let your child know that you think education is important and so homework and classwork has to be done. Have a special place for your child to study. Set a regular time for homework. Remove distractions. Don't expect or demand perfection. American children on average spend far more time watching TV or playing video games than they do completing homework or other school related activities. Model good TV viewing habits. Limit the time that you let your child watch TV and play video games.
6. **Encourage your child to use the library.** Libraries are places of learning and discovery for everyone. Take advantage of the public library as well as the school media center.
7. **Distinguish studying from learning.** Often children have completed their work, but that may not be good enough. Parents need to verify that the child has learned the concept of the lesson.
8. **Encourage your child to be responsible and to work independently.** Taking responsibility and working independently are important qualities for school success. Establish rules. Make it clear to your child that he/she has to take responsibility for what he/she does, both at home and at school. Develop a reasonable, consistent schedule of jobs around the house. Show your child how to break a job down into small steps. Monitor what your child does after school. Encourage your child to visit enrichment websites such as Khan Academy, Moby Max, and Study Island. Visit the SC website for additional site suggestions.
9. **Encourage active learning.** Children need active learning as well as quiet learning, such as reading and doing homework. Active learning involves asking and answering questions, solving problems, and exploring interests. Active learning also can take place when your child plays sports, spends time with friends, acts in a school play, plays a musical instrument, or visits museums and bookstores.
10. **Let them figure things out on their own.** Have your child think about problems at length before asking for help. Remember that every time you tell answer to a question, you have deprived him/her of the opportunity to figure out the answer on his/her own.

The Right Way to Praise Your Child

Praising children is an important part of building their self-esteem and confidence.

- **Be specific.** Instead of saying, “You’re a good baseball player,” say “You hit the ball really hard and you’re an excellent first baseman.” Being specific is much better and helps kids identify with their special skill.
- **Be genuine.** Praise should always be genuine. If your praise is insincere, they will know and you will lose trust. Worse yet, they become insecure because they don’t believe your positive words, and find difficulty telling the difference between when you really mean it and when you don’t.
- **Encourage new activities.** Praise kids for trying new things and for not being afraid to make mistakes.
- **Don’t praise the obvious.** Try not to overdo praise about a child’s attributes. If kids hear a constant litany of praise, it will begin to sound empty and have little meaning.
- **Say it when you mean it.** Recognize the value of their hard work and efforts. It tells them that you know the difference between when they work hard at something and when it comes easy.
- **Focus on the process.** Praise children for their effort and hard work, not for their inherent talents. Children who learn to work hard and persevere have a special talent.

Monthly quotes

“Today I shall behave, as if this is the day I will be remembered.” - *Dr. Seuss*

"All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them." -- *Walt Disney*

"Always chase your dreams instead of running from your fears." -- *Anonymous*

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will." -- *Vince Lombardi*

"You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." -- *A.A. Milne / Christopher Robin*

“You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.” - **Dr. Seuss**

“I did then what I knew how to do. Now that I know better, I do better.” - *Maya Angelou*

"No kid is un-smart. Every kid's a genius at something. Our job is to find it. And then encourage it." - *Robin Sharma*

"Pulling someone down will never help you reach the top." -- *Kushandwizdom*

"Before you act, listen. Before you react, think. Before you spend, earn. Before you criticise, wait. Before you pray, forgive. Before you quit, try." -- *Ernest Hemingway*

"Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere." - Chinese Proverb

"Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference." - *Claire Fagan*

"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young." - Henry Ford

"Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known." - *Carl Sagan*

"You don't have to be great to start but you have to start to be great." -- *Zig Ziglar*

Excellence is a habit, not an act. It takes practice and perseverance.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you know, the more places you'll go." - *Dr. Seuss*

As a parent or guardian, your involvement in your child's education is the most important factor in your child's success in school.

"Learning gives creativity, Creativity leads to thinking, Thinking provides knowledge, Knowledge makes you great." - *Abdul Kalam*

Reading is a skill, not a natural talent. To learn any skill, children need: Opportunity, Support, & Time

You are **STRONGER** than you seem, **BRAVER** than you believe, and **SMARTER** than you think you are.

Before you speak, **THINK**... Is it **True**? Is it **Helpful**? Is it **Inspiring**? Is it **Necessary**? Is it **Kind**?

"Every child has a different learning style and pace. Each child is unique, not only capable of learning but also capable of succeeding." - *Robert John Meehan*

"Failure is success if we learn from it." - *Malcolm Forbes*

"If you can dream it, you can do it." - *Walt Disney*

“Cultivation of a GROWTH mindset STARTS with an UNDERSTANDING that GREATNESS is largely ABOUT WORK.” - *Jonathan Fields*

It's not who you are that holds you back, it's who you think you're not.

Don't let failure be an ending. Make it a beginning.

In this school, we don't do EASY... we make easy happen through HARD WORK.

“The BIGGER your challenges, the BIGGER your opportunity for GROWTH!” – *Karen Salmansohm*

A Growth Mindset means that you believe INTELLIGENCE can be DEVELOPED.

People with a Growth Mind-set believes that intelligence can be developed. A growth mind-set leads to a desire to learn and therefore a tendency to embrace changes, persist in the face of setbacks, see effort as the path to mastery, learn from criticism, find lessons and inspiration in the success of others. As a result, they reach ever-higher levels of achievement. All this gives them a greater sense of free will.

Add this information in a text box on May:

Check the school website and class newsletters for specific end of the year dates.

- Field Days
- Award Ceremonies
- Award Parties
- Last Day for Students

Activity Descriptions:

Lunch & Learn: An opportunity for parents to engage in learning more about programs and curriculum, followed by lunch with their child.

Coffee & Conversation: The Parent Coffee is an opportunity for parents to speak with the principal and leadership to informally discuss any concerns, questions, and new ideas. It allows parents to have a voice in the school, as well as gain an in-depth knowledge of the programs offered at the school.

Family Academic Night: Fun filled night where parents learn about new topics in content areas alongside their child.