



Southwest Florida Christian Academy

# Middle School Program

## MISSION STATEMENT

*As a ministry of McGregor Baptist Church, Southwest Florida Christian Academy will partner with Christian parents in providing their children with a distinctively biblical and academically excellent education that will equip students to be godly leaders and to successfully engage the culture for Christ.*

## CORE VALUES

In order to fulfill its mission, Southwest Florida Christian Academy will honor the following core values:

- |                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>The Bible</i>                      | <i>The Christian</i>     |
| <i>Quality, Bible-based Education</i> | <i>The Family Church</i> |
| <i>Qualified, Christian Staff</i>     | <i>Stewardship</i>       |
| <i>Discipleship of Students</i>       |                          |

## OPERATING PRINCIPLES

SFCA's daily operation will be guided by the following operating principles in an effort to fulfill its mission in accordance with its core values:

Core Value #1 - The Bible (2 Timothy 3:15-17)

*The Bible is the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God that is the authority for all that is done at SFCA.*

SFCA will:

- Teach the Bible as the source of absolute truth.
- Integrate the Bible into all aspects of SFCA life.
- Form the basis of its philosophy of education on the principles of God's Word.
- Develop and implement policies and procedures that are consistent with God's Word.
- Expect all faculty, board, and staff to study the Bible and apply its principles to everyday life.
- Implement a comprehensive Bible curriculum (K-12) that will lead students to study, memorize and apply God's Word to their life.

Core Value #2- The Christian Family (Ephesians 5; Genesis 1)

*The Christian family is the foundational unit for society that is based on the biblical pattern for marriage and family in accordance with God's will.*

SFCA will:

- Develop policies and procedures that honor the Christian family.
- Develop strong home-school relationships through clear and effective communication with parents.
- Develop and maintain unity between home and school by encouraging mutual respect between home and school authorities.
- Teach all students God's ideal for the marriage relationship and the family.
- Pray for and with SFCA's families.
- Help parents understand and fulfill their biblical responsibilities as presented in *Kingdom Education*.

Core Value #3- Quality, Bible-based Education (Proverbs 9:10)

*A quality education encompasses the total educational program based upon the foundation that all knowledge and wisdom are from God.*

SFCA will:

- Design an educational program that will meet the spiritual, mental, physical and social needs of each student.
- Design and use curriculum and teaching methods that are grounded in God's absolute truth.
- Challenge all students to reach their full potential in all aspects of their school life.
- Employ, develop and retain godly teachers who strive for excellence in all areas of their lives.
- Develop a comprehensive K-12 Bible curriculum that will effectively lead the students in a thorough study and application of God's Word.
- Provide teachers with the training necessary for them to effectively plan and implement biblical worldview integration in the classroom instruction.

Provide teachers with the necessary training on the biblical philosophy of education found in *Kingdom Education*.

Teach all students that man is born with a sin nature and in need of Christ. Encourage students to seek God's plan for their life.

Develop an educational program that will equip students to engage all areas of the culture for Christ by utilizing the gifts and talents they have received from God.

**Core Value #4- The Church (1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Ephesians 4:12-13)**

*The church is the body of believers whose purpose is to fulfill the Great Commission.*

SFCA will:

Develop policies and procedures that will honor the purpose of the local church.

Recognize that it is a ministry of McGregor Baptist Church and submit to the church's spiritual authority.

Require all board members, administration, faculty and staff to be active members of a local, Bible-believing church.

Encourage all school families to become active members of a local, Bible-believing church.

Teach all students God's purpose for the church so that students will understand the importance of being an active member of and serving in a local church.

Continually work at developing strong relationships with local churches in the Ft. Myers area.

**Core Value #5- Qualified, Christian staff (Luke 6:40; 1 Timothy 3:1)**

*A qualified, Christian staff is comprised of born again Christians who have a calling to Christian education and the training necessary to fulfill their responsibilities.*

SFCA will:

Develop a staff selection process that will ensure that all staff have a calling to Christian education, possess the skills necessary to fulfill their responsibilities and can effectively communicate the plan of salvation to others.

Hire staff that have a personal relationship with Christ and live a life in support of the School's statement of faith.

Provide all staff with a continuing staff development program that will enable them to develop professionally and meet certification requirements.

Provide all faculty with training in the principles of *Kingdom Education* and effective biblical worldview integration.

Select, develop and retain board members, administration, faculty and staff who exhibit Christ-like attitudes and behaviors.

Encourage administration, faculty, staff and students to model Christ by serving others in the school and community.

**Core Value #6- Stewardship (James 1:17)**

*Stewardship is the awareness that everything one has belongs to God and must be effectively managed for His glory.*

SFCA will:

See, appreciate, and effectively manage everything, everyone, and every day as a stewardship responsibility from God.

Model and train students to appreciate and effectively manage all that God provides.

Establish policies and procedures that reflect biblical principles of stewardship.

Implement and manage a budget based on biblical principles of stewardship.

Hold the board, administration, faculty and staff accountable to fulfill their duties in a way that will honor the Lord and assist the school in achieving its mission.

**Core Value #7- Discipleship (John 8:31; 1 John 2:6)**

*Discipleship is demonstrated by a commitment to a consistent application of the Word of God to all of life.*

SFCA will:

Encourage staff and students to exemplify the fruit of the Spirit.

Strive to instill godly character in all students through all of the school's educational programs.

Develop and enforce the school's discipline policies that will emphasize the importance of Christ-like behavior.

Commit itself to the absolute authority of the Bible.

Train students in daily Bible study, prayer, devotion and application of biblical principles in every area of life.

Encourage discipleship relationships across all levels of the school.

Integrate the Bible into all subjects and areas of the school.

## Qualifications for Admissions to Middle School

### Preliminary Information

The family should be actively involved in a Bible teaching church and must support SFCA's doctrinal position and Statement of Faith.

The student must demonstrate a pattern of achievement on standardized testing that indicates that he/she is prepared to succeed in the grade level at which they are applying by providing the last two years test results.

Applicants must score at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on an approved standardized achievement test.

The student must have a "C" average, or 2.0 GPA, in the present school year as indicated on a current report card or transcript.

The student must have a satisfactory citizenship record in the school they are presently attending as indicated on a current report card and educational reference form.

The student must have provided three completed recommendation forms (one reference from the current language arts teacher, one from the current math teacher, and one spiritual reference).

The student must have a desire to attend Southwest Florida Christian Academy and be willing to comply with the school's standards as printed in the Student Handbook and on the application for enrollment.

### *Nondiscriminatory Policy:*

*Southwest Florida Christian Academy admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and financial aid programs, athletics and other school administered programs.*

## Admissions Procedures

The following procedures must be followed for the application to be processed in a timely fashion. Before you begin, be sure you understand the admissions guidelines, the basic purposes and objectives of our school, and our Statement of Faith.

- Complete an online application at swfca.com.
- Distribute the reference forms to the appropriate people.
- Fill out all information as indicated on the application and submit it along with the matriculation fee. (No application will be processed without this fee.)
- Submit a copy of your child's current report card with your application. Home schooled students should submit a summary of the student's grades in each subject along with the curriculum being used. A Home School Transcript Form should be requested from the SFCA registrar and completed by the parent.
- If a student's natural parents are divorced, a copy of custody papers must be provided.
- Submit a copy of the last two years' standardized test scores. The Administration will review the student's completed file, and if necessary will contact you to set up an admission testing appointment date.
- The final step in this process will be a family interview, This will be scheduled for the parents and student with Administration.
- Each student will be required to furnish the school with valid immunization records, a physical exam form, and a copy of his/her birth certificate prior to the first day of school. All HRS requirements for immunizations must be met.
- If SFCA does not have a program to meet the needs of a student, his/her request for admission will be denied and all monies paid, except for a \$75.00 fee per student, will be refunded. In any other circumstance, the fee and/or tuition paid are not refundable.
- A limited amount of scholarship and financial aid is available. See the financial aid guidelines included in this package, or contact the school office for more information.

# Middle School Curriculum

## Language Arts

Literature (Houghton Mifflin and Pearson)  
Vocabulary (Sadlier)  
Grammar (Shurley English)  
Various Novels

## Math

Math 6 (McGraw Hill)  
Pre-Algebra (McGraw Hill)  
Algebra I (McGraw Hill)  
Algebra 1 Honors (McGraw Hill)  
*\*Students take Pre-Algebra in 7th grade. In 8th grade, students take either Algebra I or Algebra I Honors. Both receive one high school math credit.*

## Science

6th grade: Earth Science (Purposeful Design)  
7th grade: Life Science (McGraw Hill)\*  
8th grade: Physical Science (McGraw Hill)  
*\*Seventh graders complete Science Fair projects each year.*

## Social Studies

6th Grade: World History (McGraw-Hill)  
7th grade: U.S. History (McGraw-Hill)  
8th grade: Civics and Economics (McGraw-Hill)

## Bible

6th grade: *ACSI Bible (Purposeful Design)*  
7th grade: *Building on the Rock* (Summit)  
8th grade: *Lightbearers* (Summit)

# Middle School Electives

*It is our goal to develop each student's God-given talents through our elective courses. We do this through classroom instruction, as well as through participation in competitions and performances. Students receive instruction from teachers who specialize in each area.*

## **Art**

Students in Art 1 and 2 are given opportunities to develop their creativity through several mediums. Students will learn a variety of two and three-dimensional techniques including painting, drawing, collage, printmaking, and sculpting.

## **Band**

We have Beginning, Concert, and Symphonic Bands. Students learn techniques, form and analysis, music history and composers, with continued emphasis on performance. Students will participate in performances, as well as band festivals and competitions.

## **Career Development**

Students will discuss various careers while learning how to budget, plan for high school coursework, and study effectively across multiple disciplines. Students will discover how they can use their spiritual gifts and personal skill set to become the person God desires for them to be.

## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish**

This course establishes a foundation of basic Spanish vocabulary and grammar concepts, preparing the students for Spanish 1. Students explore the Spanish language and culture in a variety of ways.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish 1**

This Spanish course develops the four language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Vocabulary is also emphasized to give the student a basis for communicating. In addition to the actual study of the language, a secondary goal is to further enrich the student's knowledge of the culture, history and geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

*\*Students who take this course and get a passing grade will receive one High School Foreign Language credit.*

## **Speech/Creative Writing**

Students will learn various components of public speaking and formal writing. This includes how to overcome stage fright, preparing and presenting a speech, communicating to an audience through pantomime, improvisation, demonstration, humorous interpretation, and informative and dramatic presentation.

## **Study Hall**

In study hall, students are provided time to study and complete homework assignments.

## **Choir**

Students learn vocalization, music theory and composition, self-evaluation and analysis, performance, and music history. The students will participate in performances, as well as choral festivals and competitions.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade P.E.**

This program heavily incorporates cooperation in team activities and utilizes dynamic movements to improve coordination, agility, balance and reaction time. The 6th grade curriculum is meant to prepare the students to properly adapt to the challenges of 7th and 8th grade PE class.

## **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade PE/ Weight Training**

The upper middle school PE curriculum focuses on a holistic approach to wellness. Dynamic movement is incorporated every day to improve coordination, balance and agility. An individualized weightlifting program is designed for each student to improve strength, decrease stress, and prevent injuries. Students are taught lifetime wellness skills to be taken well past their high school years.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology**

Students will demonstrate understanding of basic technology concepts and will master basic operations in applications such as Word®, PowerPoint®, Excel® and OneNote®.

## **7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology**

In this **survey** course, students will explore how media software from Adobe is used in the print, video and web mediums. Students are to have a comfortable working knowledge of basic computer operations and is flexible in developing his/her technological abilities.

## **Drama**

Students will engage in learning experiences that will enhance their ability to perform on stage. They will learn costuming, make-up, staging, reader's theatre, lighting and various components of theatre production.