



N E W S L E T T E R

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December

2015



ADMINISTRATOR AGENDA

Pastor Dennis D. Campbell
D. Min., M. Div., Central Baptist
Theological Seminary
B.S., South Dakota State Univ.
Bob Jones University 2 years

This school year is rolling along at a very rapid pace. The fall program was a special blessing as was the play "A Christmas Discovery." Praise the Lord for the hard work of the students and the excellent supervision of the Moellers, Mrs. Webber and Mrs. Hugg. It was a blessing to have several visitors and a good attendance. It was great to have a Marine Color Guard as well.

Wrestling has started and we are continuing to co-op with Tech High School. Last week, we wrestled at Mound Westonka and Tech took second out of eight teams. Tyler Hugg took first for the varsity, Micah Mangel took third, and Taylor Hugg won three matches for the junior varsity. Pray for this outreach as I have opportunity to give a challenge, pray, witness, and pass out Ben Peterson tracts.

GCBA will be Christmas caroling the last day of school December, 18th. Then Christmas recess will be December 21st thru January 1st. School will resume January 4th. We praise the Lord that we have maintained all of our students and we are working hard to educate and influence several other Christian families on Christian Education.

Dr. Charles Walker wrote an article in the *Parent Update* "Is a Christian Education a Biblical Mandate?" Christian parents are responsible to God for their decision on education for their children. "In today's culture of changing values and shifting morals, unpredictable violence, and worldly philosophies, parents need to cautiously guard against the worldly influences that can harm their children's belief system. A great Christian ally to the Christian home is the Christian school."

Parents need faith and courage to believe and obey God's directions in the Word of God as opposed to leaning on their own understanding. This logic is explained in Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Public School students are taught humanism and evolution from secular textbooks. Because of this many public school teachers send their children to Christian schools.

Administrator Agenda continued P. 2



Philosophy of Music

Mrs. Tresa Hugg
Music Teacher
Teaching since 1995

Our philosophy in the area of music at Granite City Baptist Academy is the same as in every other area. Do the very best you can for the glory of God.

Our goal in music is threefold. First of all, we want our students to know how to identify godly music. Secondly, we want our students to use music as a means to worship and serve the Lord. Thirdly, we want our students to be equipped with a basic knowledge of music theory, history, and performance, so they can pursue further study if they so desire.

The Accelerated Christian Education Regional and International Student Conventions provide a wonderful means to accomplish these goals. Their guidelines for selecting music helps our students identify godly music.

ELEMENTS OF MUSIC

Melody – a good melody has a definite high place near its conclusion so that there is a sense of climax and resolution.

Harmony – Harmony should support the melody and play a subservient role.

Rhythm – The rhythm of a song has much to do with the overall integrity of the piece. A subtle rhythm or sense of pulsation with a balance of regular accent patterns and occasional syncopation for variety and interest is acceptable. The rhythm must not overtake the melody, harmony, message, or overall flow of a song. Avoid musical compositions with excessive repetition of a melodic phrase, harmonic pattern, rhythmic pattern, or any combination of these three. Music with continuous syncopation, dominant beat, highly accented backbeat, and/or break beat is not acceptable.

Worldly Identification – The message carried by a musical style does not change by simply adding religious or scriptural lyrics.

A musical composition should have a definite beginning, to build to a **climax point**, and communicate a definite sense of **conclusion**. **The musical sound must not detract from the message of the words.**

TEXT

Accuracy – Good lyrics must be Biblically accurate both in definition and associative meaning. The key to a truthful

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Administrator Agenda cont.

Scripture clearly instructs parents to train their children in the ways of the Lord and NOT Secular Humanism. Isaiah 38:19 “The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.” Ephesians 6:4 “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” Deuteronomy 6:6-9 “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.” Christian parents are to give Jesus Christ first place in everything they do, and that includes education for their children. Parents are to distinguish between two philosophies of life – God’s way (theism) or man’s way (humanism). Parents are mandated to follow Christ, not the ways of the world. “God is jealous for His children; He wants them to be educated His way. God thinks in view of eternity, but man thinks in view of the here and now.”

Christian education has an emphasis on Jesus Christ, the Bible, and prayer. All academic facts and knowledge are interpreted within the confines of a Biblical worldview of education. “Christian school teachers are committed and dedicated to helping their students grow academically and spiritually and to work hand in hand with the Christian home.”

Is Christian education a Biblical directive? First, reread the Scriptures in this article. Second, you need to realize that Jesus Christ should occupy first place in everything Christian parents do for their children. Third, Christ is to have the preeminence in the classrooms where Christian parents send their children to be taught. Colossians 1:18 “And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.” Is Christian education a Biblical mandate? The answer for Christians is an unquestionable YES!

Philosophy of Music continued

presentation of text is balance and careful examination under the Holy Spirit’s direction that the words are “pure.”

Implications – Any implied ideas must be examined to make sure that nothing unacceptable is implied and that the intent of Scriptural teaching and principle is satisfied. A wise performer will always check the implied communication of a song’s message to verify its total accuracy.

Crossover Songs – The lyrics must CLEARLY state at some point whom the song is about. Avoid songs that have no direct reference to the Lord and others that are written to reference only “He” or “Him” whenever God’s name is only mentioned – “crossover songs.” (Such songs are acceptable in both the secular and Christian communities, as the song could easily be sung in the context of a secular love song.) The attributes of God should be maintained in the highest regard anytime He is addressed.

Message – Good lyrics say something of value. Not every song needs to be as profound as our richest hymns, but good

lyrics never include trite phrases just for the sake of rhyme. Such phrases are designed for entertainment rather than edification. Good lyrics fulfill a definite purpose. If a text is sung as a hymn, it should express some Godly attribute that helps us worship the Lord. If the text is sung as a gospel song, it should be a message that encourages us. The message should also be simple enough that almost anyone can easily understand it, relate to it, and apply it.

PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUES

Presentation – Give careful attention that the musical presentation does not reflect secular styles (breathy, sensual, and so on.) “Crooning,” “sliding,” “sagging,” or other such terms are vocal crutches and should be avoided. Use caution that the presentation is not done in an “entertainment” attitude or style.

Movement – No choreography, planned or unnecessary bodily movement (including hand clapping, food stomping, deaf signing, finger snapping, etc.), will be permitted. Occasional movements of the hands/arms for dramatic affect (i.e. placing hand to heart, raising hand toward Heaven) is permitted but should be used sparingly. Competitors should stand erect; bend knees slightly to relax rigid leg muscles, with arms and shoulders relaxed and thumbs resting at the side-seam of clothing.

Questions to Evaluate Musical Selections/Performances

1. Does the music glorify God, not the performer or composer?
2. Does the music reflect Biblical doctrine and Godly living?
3. Is the rhythm a subservient feature that does not dominate the music?
4. Does the background music play a subservient role to the lyrics as to not distract the listener from the message?
5. Are the lyrics Biblically accurate?
6. Is the performance a straightforward presentation, focusing on vocal technique that employs proper breathing, (avoiding breathy tones, sagging and sliding pitches, and/or choreographed movement)?
7. Is the music easily identifiable as a Christ-honoring piece as opposed to a “new sound” as in secular entertainment styles?
8. Does the music invoke positive responses?
9. Does the selection draw the listener closer to God and uplift his/her spirit?
10. Does the music praise the Lord, focus on God, or deliver a clear spiritual message?

Our students have opportunity not only to perform their music for competition, but also to use it to minister in churches and nursing homes.

COMING EVENTS	
School Resumes	Jan. 4
Weight Lifting	Jan. 13
Second Quarter Ends	Jan. 15
Kind./JLC 2 nd Qrt. Rew. Activ. Eagle Mountain	Jan. 18
Parent Orientation @ 7pm	Jan. 18
Student Lead. Conference (4 th Bap., Plymouth)	Jan. 22
GCBA @ Sterling Park Commons	Jan. 26
Acad. Rew. Activ. Ice Skating @ MACS	Jan. 29

Christmas at Granite City Baptist
1425 CR 134, St Cloud – 320-251-2801



SUNDAY-SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 13th 9:30a.m.

- Songs & Scripture by Nursery thru ESL Classes
- Vocal/instrumental Music
- Dramatization of the **True** Christmas Story

CANTATA ~ Sunday Dec. 20th
“Let Us Adore Him”

- 10:30a.m. ~ Choir & Instrumental Music
- 6:00p.m. ~ Complete Cantata: Choir, Instruments, and Narration

