**Grace Academy
Step 1: Philosophy & Objectives**
STEP ONE A. Philosophy and Objectives

 MISSION STATEMENT The mission of Grace Academy is to provide an environment of academic excellence and Biblical teaching that will develop an educated citizen with a Biblical world and life view and a desire to represent our Jesus Christ in all walks of life.

 PHILOSOPHY OF GRACE ACADEMY

1. The priority, among all other educational goals, is to develop godly Christian character. When a student accelerates in spiritual growth, they will automatically accelerate in academic growth. Phil. 1:6, 9-11

2. Practicing the Christian character traits, as given in the Bible, produces a good self-image and a feeling of self-worth. Psalm 139:14

3. A good self-image and a feeling of self worth come about when a student practices the Christian character traits as given in the Bible. Psalm 139:14

4. Teaching spiritual values and Biblical principles will enable a student to develop a godly world and life view. Psalms 119:98 – 100

5. Provision for the student’s spiritual, mental, physical and social growth must be part of the curriculum. Proverbs 22:6

6. Teachers must be Christians who are rooted and grounded in sound Biblical principles so they can be living examples and models of the spiritual qualities taught in the scriptures. I Timothy 4:6 – 8

7. Maximum growth in students occurs when teachers present a stimulating environment coupled with a warm accepting attitude.

8. The mastery of reading skills is of great importance because God has chosen the written language as His method of communicating Special revelation. II Timothy 2:15; 3:16 & 17

9. Students do not respond equally to any one method of teaching because they are unique in their gifts, talents and potentials. Therefore, in order to apply the most effective method of teaching, the teacher must be skilled in using a combination of methods. This is especially true in reading, which is one of the most complex subjects taught. Psalms 139:13 – 16

10. The natural method by which a child develops their language patterns (which precedes reading ability) is a method designed by God. By following this method, the teacher will be successful in teaching phonics, reading skills and comprehension.

11. Parents have the God-given responsibility for the education of their children. Therefore, the school will not behave as a usurper but as a supporter of the family role by encouraging family participation in school activities. Deut. 6:6, 7; Eph. 6:4

12. Discipline administered as early as possible and in positive ways will lead to self-discipline in the life of a student.

13. The ingredients for learning are self-discipline, concentration and application. Therefore, the achievements and levels of learning for normal students are in a large extent based upon the student’s self-discipline, and their desire and will to learn.

 OBJECTIVES:

1. To help each student desire a godly Christian temperament; this includes a good self-image and a feeling of self-worth. Psalms 139:14; II Peter 3:18

2. To discover where each student is in their total development and stimulate them to grow and develop as much as their abilities will allow, without undue pressure or frustration.

3. To help each student attain scholastic excellence, commensurate with their abilities, in every area of the academic world. These areas include reading, math, spelling, writing, science, geography, history, economics, government, and art; all of which have their source in God and His word.

4. To help each student practice good health habits and to help them maintain or develop physical fitness and physical skills, conducive to healthy living.

5. To help each student discover their role in their family and in society based on Biblical principles.

6. To help each student develop self-discipline by administering a system of discipline that contains both positive and correctional aspects.

 7. To help each student discover their own unique talents, gifts, abilities, and potentials.

8. To help students discover their life goals and ministry through godly guidance and exhibited godly life styles. To motivate every student with a desire, a determination and the will to study and learn.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of Grace Academy is to help Christian families in this local community to raise their children “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). This is accomplished by doing the following:

1. By guiding students through character training and by administering a discipline system based on obedience, respect and responsibility.

 2. By providing an excellent academic challenging curriculum that prepares young people for college, career and ministry after school.

3. By providing functional extracurricular activities and sports programs which assist in the social and physical training of our students. We desire that our students develop in the same pattern of our Lord Jesus Christ as mentioned in Luke 2:52: “and Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.”