# STEP ONE, PART B

# CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

First Baptist Christian Academy, Troy, MO

Throughout the 2013-2014 school year, faculty at First Baptist Christian Academy worked together in both small and large groups to clearly write philosophy statements for each subject area taught at FBCA. This work was completed with the goal of having precise guidelines and goals for teachers as they educate children while fulfilling the STARS vision of FBCA.

**Philosophy of Teaching Bible**

First Baptist Christian Academy of Troy teaches Bible at all grade levels so that students will understand that the purpose of biblical education at FBCA is:

1. To reveal that God’s Word is the beginning and the end authority for all knowledge and truth (Genesis 1:1, Proverbs 1:7).
2. To provide an environment that would lead students to a saving knowledge of Christ as Savior (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).
3. To promote a biblical worldview encouraging innate godly actions and attitudes within the daily lives of students (Proverbs 3:5-6).
4. To reveal to students their need for God and to encourage a personal relationship with God beyond the classroom setting (John 3:16).

Within the framework of grade-level objectives, our school strives to implement the following broad objectives.

Students will:

1. Value the Bible as God’s authoritative Word.
2. Recognize one’s need of Christ as personal Savior.
3. Develop Christlikeness in mind, word, and deed.
4. Desire to know more about God.
5. Apply Bible knowledge to one’s daily life.
6. Practice Bible skills learned.
7. Connect Bible events with other historical events.
8. Correlate all academic learning with Bible teaching.

Scripture references: (stated above)

**Philosophy of Teaching Language Arts**

First Baptist Christian Academy of Troy teaches Language Arts at all grade levels from a biblical worldview so that students will understand:

1. Language Arts is based on the truth that God is the supreme communicator. He spoke the universe into being, and He speaks to His people. He has presented us with the gift of communication, and so allows us to hear, listen, speak, write, and read (Nehemiah 8:8, 12).
2. God wants us to communicate with him and with each other. Therefore, our every utilization of the language arts should reflect our recognition of the patterns and principles of communication He has given us (1 Corinthians 14:40).
3. In our multi-media expressive world, the ability to convey thoughts effectively—spoken and written—enables students to be successful in life (2 Timothy 3:15-17).

Within the framework of grade-level objectives, our school strives to implement the following broad objectives.

Students will:

1. **Reading:** The student will develop an appreciation and enjoyment for reading and build skills for lifelong learning through silent and oral reading, through teacher-directed reading instruction geared to build higher-level comprehension skills, and through vocabulary, phonics, structural analysis, and study skills development.
2. **Spelling:** The student will apply spelling skills and patterns in order to produce accurate, God-honoring written communication.
3. **Penmanship:** The student will establish a foundation of legible, attractive penmanship that enables him to effectively communicate with others.
4. **Grammar:** The student will learn parts of speech, capitalization and punctuation rules, sentence structure, and other aspects of grammar.
5. **Writing:** The student will follow a writing process to write effectively in various forms and types of writing.
6. **Listening and Speaking:** The student will develop and apply effective listening and speaking skills and strategies.
7. **Research:** The student will develop and apply effective research process skills to gather, analyze, and evaluate information.

Scripture references: (stated above)

**Philosophy of Teaching Mathematics**

First Baptist Christian Academy of Troy teaches mathematics at all grade levels from a biblical worldview so that students:

1. Recognize God’s infinite wisdom in designing patterns, order, and processes within a solution.
2. Understand that communicating the awesome power of mathematics reflects back to the absolute power of God, the Creator of all.
3. Connect that the design and order of mathematics reflects the intricacies of God’s perfection in the creation of the world and mathematics.

We believe that the subject of mathematics is taught in order to comprehend that God is a God of order and pattern, and His desire for His children is to be number literate and competent in order to function well in adult life within society—so giving glory to God. God requires and charges us to impart to students the ability to manage and use numbers successfully which are skills required for life. Such knowledge of number usage can become a skill for having the kind of dominion that helps others and glorifies God.

 Within the framework of grade-level objectives, our school strives to implement the following broad objectives.

Students will:

1. Develop problem-solving strategies reflected in math and everyday life.
2. Learn to think and communicate mathematically.
3. Develop number sense and mathematical reasoning.
4. Understand that the value of numbers and the use of math facts, concepts, and formulas are essential for successful functioning in life.
5. Recognize that the skills afforded in the application and in the understanding of mathematics are essential to both management of life and wider career fields.

Scripture references: Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 24:1; Matthew 5:16; John 1:1-3; Romans 1:20, 10:17, 11:36; II Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 2:10; Colossians 1:16-17, 3:23; Hebrews 1:1-3, 11:6; James 1:17.

**Philosophy of Teaching Social Studies**

First Baptist Christian Academy of Troy teaches social studies at all grades levels from a biblical world view so that students:

1. Recognize God is the infinite ruler of the universe, and that people are to be finite rulers of his earth.
2. Adam and Eve disobeyed and failed to exercise the dominion to them; however, God did not abandon his image bearers.
3. The story of the human race is the story of God’s redemptive acts to rescue his people and destroy his enemies.

We believe that the subject of social studies is taught in order to help students understand their physical, aesthetic, social, economic, institutional, and religious environments and how they came about. Social studies also help students consider the values that guide society and encourage them to act on biblically based ones. Such social values include human dignity, responsibility, economic fairness, and environmental integrity.

Within the framework of grade-level objectives, our school strives to implement the following broad objectives:

1. Develop interest in history, geography, citizenship, economics, and culture.
2. Present a balanced overview of American and World Heritage.
3. Promote an understanding and an ability to discern connections between events.
4. Organize information in chronological order.

Scripture References: Romans 1:20-21, Genesis 1:1, Genesis 1:28. Acts 1:8, Psalms 81:11-12, Job 12:23, Genesis 3:6

**Philosophy of Teaching Science**

First Baptist Christian Academy of Troy teaches science at all grade levels from a biblical worldview so that students:

1. Recognize God as the creator and sustainer of all things pertaining to scientific study (John 1:3).
2. Understand that both the glory and power of God are revealed in and through the Sciences (Romans 1:20).
3. Know that God knows and cares for all animals (Psalm 147:9).

We believe that Science is taught in order to comprehend God, creation, mankind, moral order, and purpose.

Within the framework of grade-level objectives, our school strives to implement the following broad objectives.

Students will:

1. Establish foundational science facts and skills for further science instruction.
2. Know that Science is an observation of God’s revelation of Himself through His creation.
3. Identify the orderliness and precision of God’s creation (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).
4. Understand that God is the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe (Colossians 1:16-17).
5. Be challenged to be good stewards of God’s creation (Genesis 2:1-5).

Scripture references: (stated above)

**Philosophy of Teaching Physical Education**

First Baptist Christian Academy of Troy teaches Physical Education at all grade levels so that students:

1. Recognize that God is the designer and creator of the male and female human body (Genesis 2:7, 21-22).
2. Understand that the continuing existence of the human body is God’s doing, and He sustains every human breath (Colossians 1:16-17).
3. Know that all human bodies belong to God (Psalm 24:1).
4. Apply the knowledge that our eating and drinking is to be done in such a manner that God is glorified (1 Corinthians 10:31).
5. Participate in exercise and athletic activities through the name of the Lord Jesus, with thankfulness to God, the Father (Colossians 3:17).

We believe P.E. is taught in order to comprehend the way God wants us to keep our bodies fit, healthy, and active, watching what we eat and exercising regularly to keep our bodies healthy and strong so we can live for the glory of God.

*“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from? Therefore honor God with your body” 1 Corinthians 6:19.*

Therefore, if one is not able to get up and move around, how is such a student supposed to live to his/her fullest potential of what God has in-store for life?

Within the framework of grade-level objectives, our school strives to implement the following broad objectives.

Students will:

1. Understand what it means to be fit and identify activities that develop fitness.
2. Recognize the components of cardio respiratory endurance, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility and body composition.
3. Demonstrate manipulative skills (throwing, catching, kicking, dribbling, juggling, etc.)
4. Demonstrate proper techniques for a variety of fundamental skills.
5. Apply fundamental and sequential skills in game situations with increased proficiency.

Scripture references: Colossians 1:16-17; Psalm 24:1; 1 Timothy 4:8; Colossians 3:17