



Facts about the Cornerstone Schools

Religious Dimension -- Cornerstone is a Christ-centered school open to children of all faiths. Through prayer services, community services, and religious instruction, we emphasize the life and essential teachings of Jesus as found in the Gospels, as well as those characteristics that are highlighted throughout the Bible and in the lives of historical individuals. We encourage families to remain involved in their own church as well as at school: religion and faith should not be elements that are taught at school alone.

Yearly Schedule -- Cornerstone is an eleven-month school. Our students attend approximately 200 school days each year. The school year begins before Labor Day (usually the last week of August) and ends near the middle of July. Since registration at Cornerstone is a year-round commitment, we ask that only those who can commit to attend the entire school year to proceed with the application process.

Tuition and Financial Aid -- Tuition for the 2010-2011 school year is \$3,950. Within each tuition amount, a non-refundable enrollment fee of \$500 is included. However, this is not the true cost to educate a child at Cornerstone. Because of the financial support of others in the Cornerstone community, we do not pass on the per student cost of \$9,900 to educate a child at our schools.

*Scholarships and tuition assistance may be available.

*Please check to learn more about tuition payment incentives.

Parent Commitments -- True success requires considerable effort from both the school and parents. All parents are expected to attend scheduled meetings of the Parent-Teacher Organization, and all Parent-Teacher Conferences. Before admission, parents must sign a Covenant detailing their commitment to their child's education, which includes volunteering at least 10 hours of service per year.

Fund-Raising Activities -- Cornerstone is fortunate to have a Partnership Program that helps offset the costs of educating our students. The true cost of educating each child is \$9,900.00. Regardless of a family's financial circumstances, Cornerstone expects each family to contribute in some way to the tuition cost. One of the best ways to acquire needed money to operate the school is through the fund-raising projects that are undertaken. Each campus usually has one or two major fund-raising drives per school year, and all families are expected to be involved. In order to fulfill our school mission, and to keep our tuition fees low without cutting back on the services and programs provided, this is an essential part of our school life.

Curriculum -- The school focuses on serious academics. Our curriculum is designed to encourage a life filled with the joy of learning. An excellent education encourages a student to seek truth, to know love, to develop a disciplined mind and a wise, kind, courageous, joyful, and discerning heart, to serve humbly, to respect and work with others, to pursue excellence, to develop good judgment, to seek what is good, to do what is right, and to accept responsibility for one's actions. All students will receive concentrated instruction in The Life and Teachings of Jesus, Reading, Writing, Phonics and /or Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and History/Social Studies. In addition, students will study Art, Music, Computers, Spanish, Chinese, and Physical Education.



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Homework -- Cornerstone is committed to academic excellence in order to enable our students to push themselves to their own personal limits. This level of performance requires nightly homework. While students may have a few evenings with no work, they can expect an average of about 30 minutes to one hour of homework (depending on grade level) at least four nights per week. Homework must be completed as described by the teacher in order to keep up with the class and maintain a passing grade.

Behavioral Expectations and Discipline -- The Cornerstone faculty and staff strive to provide an atmosphere that is supportive, friendly, and productive. Cornerstone students must speak respectfully to adults and other students and follow instructions. Those students who are unable to meet behavioral standards as set by our school will be asked to leave the school.

Daily Schedule –Middle School- Students start the day at 7:45 AM and are expected in their seats with all materials by 8:00AM. The school day ends at 3:00 PM and parents are expected to pick up their children by 3:30 PM unless they attend Study Hall. (see below).

Primary School- Students must be in the school building by 8:10 AM and in their seats in their classrooms with required materials by 8:25 AM. The school day ends at 3:15 PM and parents are expected to pick up their children by 3:30 PM unless they attend the After School Care program.

Attendance and Punctuality -- Great emphasis is placed on academics at our school, and it is imperative for students to be in attendance each day. Where this is not possible, it is the responsibility of the parent to both notify the school and arrange for missed schoolwork to be collected. An absence does not excuse a student from fulfilling work requirements. Also, parents are asked to take the morning start time seriously. We expect both staff and students to arrive at school by the required time. Habitual and frequent late-arrivals will result in suspension from school, and may result in the student being asked to leave the school.

After School Care – After School Tutorial Program is available to parents who cannot pick up their children because of employment. The YWCA runs our After School Tutorial Program. They provide programs during the after-school hours. The programming and staffing that the YWCA is able to bring to our program makes a large difference in the quality of our After School Tutorial program.

Uniforms -- Cornerstone students wear uniforms five days per week, except on special days. Additional uniform information will be given at the time of registration.

Lunch Program -- Hot lunches are available for a cost of \$2.95 per day (except for those who qualify for reduced-price or free lunches). Federal Guidelines are used. Lunches must be paid monthly, in advance. Application forms are available from the school office. Applications for free and reduced-price lunches must be completed each year.