

Missouri Valley Christian School



*“So then faith cometh by
hearing, and hearing by the
Word of God.”*

—Romans 10:17



Family/Student Handbook 2019-2020

Missouri Valley Christian School Family/Student Handbook

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1. Introduction

Welcome to Missouri Valley Christian School! We are delighted that you have applied for enrollment in Christian education. It is our prayer that every family's experience at MVCS would promote a positive outlook for a child's spiritual, physical, emotional, and social development.

As a newly established organization, we strive to seek out best practices and expect to learn and adapt as we go. Much prayer and thought has gone into the organization of MVCS and we are thankful to be represented by a committed group of five individuals who comprise the MVCS School Board.

2. Mission Statement

The mission of Missouri Valley Christian School is to join with family and church to disciple and educate students on the Biblical foundations, and to assist them in refining a personal and dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ as they grow spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically.

3. Statement of Faith

1. We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God (II Tim. 3:16-17 and II Peter 1:19-21) and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and life (Deut. 8:3 and Matt. 5:18).
2. We believe in one God (Deut. 6:4), eternally existing in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:18-19)
3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary (Matt. 1:16-23), and is true God and true man (John 1:14).
4. We believe that man was created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-28); that man sinned and thereby incurred, not only physical death, but also that spiritual death which is separation from God (Gen. 3), and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature and are sinners in thought, word, and deed (Rom. 5:12-19).
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures (1 Cor. 15:3-4) as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice (Rom. 5:8, 18); and all that believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood (Rom. 4:24-25).
6. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord (I Cor. 15:3-8), in His ascension into heaven (Acts 1:9), where He sits at the right hand of the Father and serves as High Priest and Advocate (Acts 2:33; Heb. 4:14-16).

7. We believe in the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13, I Thess. 4:13-18).
8. We believe that all who repent of their sins and receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are saved. This salvation is a gift through faith alone and not by works of righteousness. We become children of God as the Holy Spirit dwells within us (Titus 3:5 and Rom. 8:14-16).
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting, conscious suffering of the lost (Rev. 20:4-21).

4. Philosophy

Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it. – Proverbs 22:6. A child is created in the image of God, but he also has inherited man's sinful nature. Therefore, to become the person God intends him to be, he must accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, and he must be trained and nurtured in the Light and the Truth, which is the Word of God. Impelled by this premise, Missouri Valley Christian School was founded under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, is God-glorifying and is an extension of the Christian home. Dedicated to biblical truth, the school provides students with the opportunity for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, academic excellence, and guided growth in physical, mental, spiritual and social development. Quality Christian education is achieved when parents, students, teachers, administrators, staff and board members firmly support the school in every aspect and maintain open communication with one another. The following specifics are essential:

- **Parents are responsible for their child's education and spiritual growth.**

- **Teachers must realize a calling for teaching and be spiritually and academically qualified.**

- **Students must have a desire to: learn and to grow mighty in spirit, to strive for excellence in studies and activities, be respectful of others and to serve the school, church and the community in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

- **Board members are mature Christians with a vision of Christian education and must possess strong leadership abilities.**

5. Doctrine

Missouri Valley Christian School is an independent, non-denominational, non-profit, educational, state-chartered corporation. It is governed by a self-perpetuating board of directors, with each member of the board wholeheartedly and unreservedly subscribing to the school's Doctrinal Statement.

- i. In accordance with the clear teaching of God's Word, the school recognizes the local church as God's primary vehicle for edifying the saints, for equipping Christian homes to educate their children, and for evangelizing the unsaved. It is our desire to maintain a position of cooperation and understanding between the school and the churches represented in our student body. In order to do so in all fairness, it is necessary that the following areas be left primarily to the teaching of the home and the local church:
 - a. Church government
 - b. Foreknowledge, election, predestination
 - c. Infant baptism
 - d. Timing of future events (i.e. Sequence of events of the end times)
 - e. Translations of the Bible (i.e. King James Version, English Standard Version)
 - f. Interpretation of the Bible (i.e. age of the Earth)
 - g. Gifts of the Spirit (i.e. The Sacraments, communion, confession)
- ii. For the ease of uniformity and consistency, Missouri Valley Christian School typically uses the King James Version of the Bible. In the above references, there will be readings on said topics from the King James Version of the Bible.
- iii. In honoring this policy concerning the purpose of the school, there shall be no attempt by board members, students, faculty/staff, or parents, to promote their denominational positions concerning the areas listed above within Missouri Valley Christian School. We desire to remain united in the salvation and love of Christ (John 17), avoiding dissension, which may be caused by insisting on theological distinctives. Individuals who do not honor this policy will be warned that further violations will result in being asked to withdraw or resign from MVCS.

6. Admissions Policy

Families who have read the Statement of Faith, Philosophy, Purpose, Mission Statement and the MVCS Student Handbook and believe these align with their faith and goals in Christian education for their child will submit the Family Application form located in the information packet to the board. The board will review the application in an executive session at the next monthly board meeting or a special board meeting if deemed appropriate. If after prayerful consideration the board votes to move the application to the interview phase of the enrollment process, a family interview will be scheduled. This meeting will be attended by the parents and family members who have a spiritual and/or financial investment in the Christian education of the student or students on the application. Attending the interview from MVCS will be two board members and a teacher. The interviewing committee will make a recommendation to the board, and the family will be notified of the board decision.

7. Re-Enrollment

All enrolled students at Missouri Valley Christian School shall be considered re-enrolled for the next school year under the following conditions:

- A.** The proper re-enrollment forms have been completed and submitted in accordance with the stated deadline. Enrollment forms for the next school year will be sent home in March of the preceding year.
- B.** All tuition and fees are current in accordance with the published deadline.
- D.** All fines and fees for damaged or lost property have been paid in full.
- E.** The student is deemed a "student in good standing" by the teacher and school personnel. This includes such aspects as behavior, compliance to a Christian code of conduct, respect for authority, attendance and academic effort. A written letter shall be presented to the parents of a student who does not meet the qualifications for this item not more than one month after the conclusion of the current school year. This determination may be appealed to the Board.

8. New Student Grade Level Assessment

All new MVCS students will be required to complete an initial academic assessment in the areas of language arts and math. This assessment will be conducted by the teacher no later than June 30th prior to the student's fall enrollment.

9. Curriculum

MVCS uses A Beka Christian Curriculum. A Beka is challenging, yet developmentally appropriate. It is a traditional, classical approach to learning that teaches a solid, Biblical worldview in all subject areas.

10. School Hours/Student Supervision

Missouri Valley Christian School's hours of operation are *Monday-Thursday* from 8:20 am-4:00 pm. Teachers utilize Fridays for lesson planning and weekly/monthly preparation.

Teachers are available to students **beginning at 8:00 am** for extra help with assignments and making corrections on previous work. ALL students should arrive at school **no later than 8:20 am** and be picked up **no later than 4:00 pm**. **Student supervision does not begin before 8:00 am or continue after 4:00 pm.**

Due to our extended school day hours, MVCS teachers need student-free time before 8:00 and after 4:00 to focus on preparation for the next day and to perform other duties. Please make alternate transportation arrangements for your child's drop-off or pick-up if you are unable to adhere to the above timeline.

*Hours for Pre-K students are 8:00 am to 11:50 am. Students should arrive at school **no later than 8:20 am** and be picked up **no later than 11:50 am.**

11. Student Drop Off/Pick Up Location

All MVCS students are *required* to be dropped off and picked up on Antelope Drive (the street running parallel with the school) and enter through the door on the north side of the school building.

The door on the south side of the school building will remain locked and will not be utilized during the school day except by MVCS certified staff.

This policy will help us to ensure the safety of our students by streamlining the drop-off and pick-up processes and by alleviating the concern of a larger volume of vehicles backing up simultaneously.

Parents are always welcome to drop by during the school day. When you do, please park on the street on the North side of the building (Antelope Drive).

12. Homework Policy

Students at MVCS will be expected to complete any unfinished work from the school day at home and, unless otherwise noted, return it completed the next school day. Each student will be supplied with an organizational binder at the beginning of the school year, which will include (among other items) the following: a schedule of his/her school assignments for each new week, a take-home pocket folder for parent/teacher communication, and a homework pocket for papers that need to be completed and returned. On the paper schedule of weekly assignments, there will be a homework box where homework assignments will be noted. At the end of each day, students will be responsible for taking home materials related to these assignments.

(For 3rd-6th Grade Students: Each student will receive an assignment notebook at the beginning of the year. Students will be instructed on how to utilize the notebook in relation to the paper schedule). Completed homework should be returned the next day. Unfinished homework is not to become a habit. It is imperative to teach responsibility for one's learning. Repeatedly missing homework will be addressed by the teacher with the student and parent(s).

13. Grading/Grading Scale

Grades are intended to be a measure of student learning and an indicator of progress toward mastery in a particular subject area. MVCS will use a traditional grading scale for all grade levels except Pre-K and Kindergarten, which utilizes a skills checklist and 1st Grade, which uses the following scale: Superior (90-100%), Improving (80-89%), Needs Improvement (75-79%), and Unacceptable (74% and below).

Letter Grade	Percentage
Excellent	
A+	99-100%
A	96-98%
A-	94-95%
Above Average	
B+	92-93%
B	89-91%
B-	87-88%
Average	
C+	85-86%
C	82-84%
C-	80-81%
Below Average	
D+	78-79%
D	75-77%
D-	73-74%
F	72% and below

14. Report Cards

Report Cards will be sent home at the end of each quarter (8-10 weeks). You will receive a copy of the report card in your child's take-home folder. Report Cards may also be sent home at Parent-Teacher conferences in November and March.

15. Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled twice per year—in November and March. Parent attendance at these conferences is expected. Parents or teachers may request a conference at other times in the year as necessary. It is important to keep parents informed concerning the needs of their child. If a child's grades, behavior, or attitude become problematic, the teacher will contact the parent/guardian.

16. Attendance/Tardies

Daily attendance at MVCS is crucial to your child's learning. Students who miss an excessive number of school days (greater than 5 absences each quarter) will be considered truant. If absences continue after proper notification of truancy has been given, the child's enrollment at MVCS may be discontinued. Special circumstances may apply.

Attendance will be taken promptly at 8:20 a.m. every day. **Any student who arrives after 8:20 a.m. will be counted tardy.** Tardies will be recorded on quarterly report cards and kept on file for future reference in regards to student standing at MVCS. Regular tardies are impermissible, distracting to students who have arrived on time, and a poor example of responsibility. Any student who is tardy more than 3 times per quarter will be given notice by the school.

17. Absence from School/Contacting School About Illness

Parents should make every effort to schedule medical/dental appointments for students *on Fridays* or *after school hours*. If it is necessary for a student to miss any portion of the school day (8:20-4:00 pm), a written or electronic request must be made and presented to the teacher at least one day in advance. **(Please give more advanced notice if multiple days will be missed for family reasons, etc.)** Emergency situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Parents will be responsible to help their child complete any necessary make-up work at home and to ensure the completed work is sent with the child upon his/her return to school.

If your child stays home due to illness, please contact his/her teacher **by phone, text, or email NO LATER THAN 8:20 a.m.** Attendance will be taken promptly at 8:20 a.m. every day. Communication between parent and teacher as to the whereabouts of students is vital to your child's safety. Thank you for complying in this matter.

If your child was absent from school due to illness, he/she is not allowed to participate in school programs or events that occur on the same day/evening.

18. Tuition Payment

Each month's tuition is due promptly on the first day of the previous month. (For example, September's tuition is due on August 1). There are 12 monthly tuition payments per child per year (includes summer months). Each new school year, you will receive the MVCS master calendar, which denotes tuition payment due dates in green. Payments should be submitted by the following method:

At the MVCS Open House event in August, you will receive a large brown manila envelope with your child(ren)'s payment schedule on the front. The payment schedule will show the amount due and the date it is due.

Inside the large brown envelope will be 9 smaller envelopes, each marked for tuition payments 1-9 [Sept.-May] during the school year. **Please note: tuition payments 10-12 during the summer months will be requested by text and/or mailed to you as statements.**

Payments are due the first of the month (exact dates are listed on the payment schedule). Use the payment schedule on the front of the large brown envelope to keep track of the payments you have submitted. Enclose your check in the envelope for that month. There will be a locked drop box inside the North door of the school. Please drop your tuition envelope inside the drop box on the payment due date. Tuition envelopes will be collected by the MVCS Treasurer the next day. Late payments are highly discouraged, as they present multiple problems for the MVCS Treasurer & MVCS itself.

Missouri Valley Christian School relies upon student tuition as a means of operation. Prompt tuition payments are vital to the success and longevity of MVCS. Please communicate promptly with the school if a situation arises that prevents your payment from being received on time. Continual delinquency in tuition payments may result in discontinuation of your child's enrollment at MVCS.

19. Change of Address/Phone Number

Please contact the school if your address and/or home phone OR cell phone number changes during the course of the school year or summer. We appreciate your communication.

20. Family Code of Conduct

The behavior of every student should be in accordance with the classroom rules and overall school rules. We strive to have a school in which our Lord Jesus Christ is uplifted and honored. Our personal behavior should mirror that of Christ.

All students are to exhibit Christ-like conduct at school, during, before, and after school programs, and on school-related field trips and activities. All students must abstain from the use of inappropriate language, including vulgarity and swearing. Fighting, temper tantrums, verbal or physical threats toward others, or other disrespectful behaviors are not tolerated. Lying,

stealing, cheating, and willful destruction of property are considered to be very serious offenses and will be disciplined at the discretion of the teacher and school personnel.

Our standard of behavior is centered on the respect of our Lord, others, and ourselves.

“Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, and honor the king.” –I Peter 2:17

Students at MVCS are expected to read and consent to the behavioral standards outlined below.

1. I will have and show respect at all times for God and all things holy.
2. I will have and show respect at all times for our parents, teachers, assistants, and those with authority over me.
3. I will have and show respect at all times for our fellow classmates and anyone visiting our school.
4. I will have and show respect at all times for myself.
5. I will have and show respect at all times for all school property, the property of others, and for my own belongings.

Attending MVCS is a privilege which is extended on the condition that students and parents accept and support School policies, including the behavioral Code of Conduct. When used in this document, the term "parents" will be considered to include legal guardians. Students and parents are expected to be familiar with the School's conduct policies and to willingly abide by them. If any student or parent violates the School's conduct policies, there will be a disciplinary response by the School Board. The School Board, in its sole discretion, will make the final determination of whether there has been a violation of the School's conduct policies. Serious violations may result in exclusion (defined later), a request that the student be withdrawn from school. If a student is withdrawn or expelled, there will be no refund of tuition or waiver of financial obligations.

21. Discipline Policy

“Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best, but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces the harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”

–Hebrews 12:10-11

Students will be expected to abide by the aforementioned code of conduct (MVCS HB #20). **The following procedure for correcting a child will be implemented by all authority figures, including teachers and classroom assistants, at MVCS:**

1. **First offense:** a warning of the rule is given
2. **2nd offense:** a consequence is given to fit the offense and the child is reminded of God's law of right and wrong
3. **3rd offense:** another consequence is given. Parent/guardian is informed of the students' behavior by the teacher. Home and school cooperate to correct the behavior and restore the child to proper state of heart and conduct.
4. **4th offense:** the school board is notified by the teacher of the inability to resolve the behavioral problems with consequences. The school board president will arrange a meeting with the parent/guardian, student, teacher, and school board to discuss conditions of further attendance at MVCS.

Please note: One of the foremost goals of MVCS is to safeguard an environment where Godly love and respect is continually demonstrated among staff and students. Any behavior that continually disregards this principle will not be tolerated at MVCS and could result in further disciplinary action or expulsion from MVCS.

22. Dress Policy

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”-Romans 12:1

The primary goal of our dress policy at Missouri Valley Christian School is to ensure that the Lord our God is honored first and foremost. Parents are responsible to take a good look at what is being worn to school every day and to ask questions such as, “Are these clothes seeking to glorify the Lord?” “Do these clothes promote a respect for God and all things holy?” and “Will these clothes distract from my child's learning or the learning of others?”

The Bible says that “Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7). The Lord knows the spiritual condition of our hearts, but people

initially see only the physical body and how it is attired. As such, our dress and grooming policy has two intents:

- A. To honor the Lord Jesus Christ in our appearance and every area of our lives. (“So...whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God” (1 Cor. 10:31)
- B. To encourage students to learn discernment in this and every area of life and to reflect favorably on the Christian nature of our school (*Phil. 4:8-9*)

General Guidelines for everyday dress at MVCS and all school-related events:

- 1. Modesty is key.** Clothes should be in good repair (no holes or stains), appropriately sized, and not revealing. When in doubt, err on the conservative side.
- 2. Extremes should be avoided.** Any extreme in hairstyle or hair color (red, purple, etc.), clothes design, and accessories that attract attention will be seen as a distraction to learning.
- 3. Appropriate, God-honoring clothing.** Any attire, jewelry, or accessories that advertise, promote, or depict alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, drugs, worldly sayings or ideas, secular music groups, sex, or profanity are prohibited. **Shirts or pants without print are the most likely to fall within the dress policy guidelines.**

Dress Policy Enforcement

We do not anticipate huge problems with families honoring the dress code. However, in the event that a student's attire is inappropriate, the teacher will speak directly to the parents and ask that a different piece of clothing be worn in the future. In the meantime, the child may be asked to change into something more appropriate if the teacher deems the clothing dishonoring to God or a distraction to learning.

23. Lunch Program

Students will need to bring a sack lunch to school daily, Monday through Thursday. A microwave will be available for student use, but please keep in mind that noon lunch and recess is a combined 40-minute break. Hot lunch will be provided on a voluntary basis by parents on special occasions throughout the school year. If your family would like to provide hot lunch, please inform a teacher at least one week in advance to allow families to be given notice. Thank you for your cooperation!

24. Donation of Items

Outdoor and indoor recess activities and resources are provided for students by MVCS. Those who wish to donate gifts of this nature (and for other purposes) may do so under the discretion of the staff and/or school board. These gifts become property of the school and available to all students. This policy ensures that students are immersed in appropriate activities that do not violate a Godly conscience.

25. Weather-Related Dismissals/School Closings

MVCS will follow Chamberlain School District's plan for weather conditions. If CSD releases early or cancels school due to poor or deteriorating weather conditions, MVCS will do the same.

26. Bible Version used at MVCS

There are many versions of the Bible in print. People and churches have their own preference when reading Scripture. In an effort to coordinate with A Beka curriculum, MVCS has adopted the King James Version as the official Bible version used at the school. Students will use their Bibles during morning Scripture reading and for biblical reference. Maintaining the same Bible version across students and grade levels will maximize students' understanding of God's Word and unify readers with the same text. *A one-time \$40 new student fee, submitted with your child's enrollment form, will cover the cost of the KJV Kids' Study Bible, Missouri Valley Christian School shirt and pants/skirt. Children will wear their outfits for public appearances and special school events. The Bible and outfit will be given to each student at the beginning of his/her MVCS career.*

27. Emergency Preparedness Plan/School Doors Locked

Students will be instructed how to handle emergency situations such as fire, tornado, and lockdown during the first month of school and will practice periodically throughout the school year to maximize safety efforts.

Doors to the school building will be locked during school hours (8:20-4:00 pm). Please knock and someone will unlock the door for you. If no one is available to unlock the door, please call the school phone (605) 234-1818, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Timmerman, or the classroom assistant who is working to alert one of them. Thank you for cooperating with this important safety measure.

28. School Supplies

Below is the 2019-2020 School Supply List by grade level.

Pre-K	Kindergarten	2nd-3rd	4th-6th
Backpack (full-sized; at least 9"x12") 1 Pencil Box 3 large glue sticks 4 large Expo Brand dry erase markers 24-#2 lead pencils 2-(24 pack) CRAYOLA crayons (no scented or glitter) 1 pink pearl eraser Fiskars pointed scissors 1 Elmer's Glue-8oz, white Colored pencils-box of 12 Crayola Markers-box of 10 (wide tip) 1- 2-pocket folder	Backpack (full-sized; at least 9"x12") 1 Pencil Box 3 large glue sticks 4 large Expo Brand dry erase markers 24-#2 lead pencils 2-(24 pack) CRAYOLA crayons (no scented or glitter) Colored pencils-box of 12 Crayola Markers-box of 10 (fine tip) 1 pink pearl eraser 1-spiral bound notebook (wide-ruled) Fiskars pointed scissors 1 box of quart-sized Ziploc bags 1-spiral bound notebook (wide-ruled) 1- 2-pocket folder	Backpack 1 Pencil Box 2 large glue sticks 4 large Expo Brand dry erase markers 24-#2 lead pencils 2-(24 pack) CRAYOLA crayons (no scented or glitter) Colored pencils-box of 12 Crayola Markers-box of 10 (fine tip) 1 pink pearl eraser Pointed scissors 1-spiral bound notebook (wide-ruled) Wooden ruler with metrics 4 (thin) yellow highlighters 1 pack wide-ruled loose-leaf paper 2 packs blank 3x5 notecards (<u>2nd Grade only</u>) 1 small basic hand-held calculator (<u>3rd grade only</u>)	Backpack 1 Pencil Box 4 dry erase markers 24-#2 lead pencils 1 box of colored pencils 2 pink pearl erasers Cap erasers (recommended) Pointed scissors Crayola Markers-box of 10 (fine tip or wide tip) Wooden ruler with metrics 1 small basic handheld calculator 4 yellow highlighters

MVCS FAMILY School Supply List

These are supplies each MVCS family brings at the start of every new school year.

- 4 large rolls of paper towels
- 12 single rolls or 6 double rolls of toilet paper
- 2 large boxes of tissues
- 1 box of sandwich-sized Ziploc bags
- 1 box of gallon-sized Ziploc bags

29. Parent Involvement/Volunteer Expectations

Parents of MVCS students are expected to volunteer readily in any capacity possible. This includes, but is not limited to the following: assisting in the classroom during the school day, chaperoning field trips, preparing and serving hot lunch meals, bringing seasonal party treats, donating snacks or other needed supplies, cleaning the classrooms and other occupied areas within the church, and communicating with the teacher and school about any and all questions or concerns. Parent involvement is welcome and encouraged at MVCS. An opportunity to sign up for volunteering tasks will be provided each year before school starts at the Open House event in August. Parents are asked to bring their personal calendars along on the night of the event to help them plan and sign up to volunteer in various ways throughout the school year.

30. School Leadership/Grievance Policy

Missouri Valley Christian School is board-operated. We seek to follow the Scriptural principals of Matthew 18. In this chapter of the Bible, Jesus speaks of first resolving issues at the level of person to person. If your child is having trouble at school or you are experiencing any difficulty that directly falls under the teacher's realm of involvement, please be sure to speak to the teacher first. If the issue remains unresolved at the two-person level, you may bring your concerns to the school board. Our desire for interpersonal relationships is to honor God above all things.

31. Teacher Qualification/Testimony of Faith

All teachers serving at MVCS will be highly qualified teachers who maintain teacher certification in the state of South Dakota.

As part of the application process, prospective teachers will be required to submit a testimony of faith describing their personal relationship with Jesus Christ and how they were led to teach in a Christian School.

The following is a sample submitted by Mrs. Layne Timmerman, MVCS Teacher:

Teacher Qualifications:

I attended Baylor University in Waco, Texas and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Northern State University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in K-8 Elementary Education and a minor in K-12 Music Education. I taught 1st Grade in the Chamberlain School District for six years. I hold current teacher certification in the state of South Dakota.

Testimony of Faith:

I am thankful to have heard the Gospel as a young girl through a Bible-believing church, Christian school, and AWANAS club. I accepted Jesus as my personal Savior when I was 7 years old but find that my relationship with Him has grown with time and maturity. After a period of time in my early 20's when my own will took precedence over God's will for me, I learned the power of His forgiveness and desire to work in my life. Since that time, He has been faithful to show me exactly how He wants to use my abilities for His glory alone. I am overjoyed at the opportunity to teach children and to foster a high quality education that is rooted in a love for Christ and His Word.

32. Classroom Assistant Qualifications

All classroom assistants at MVCS will be required to complete a brief questionnaire, agree to MVCS's teaching philosophies and procedures, and attend a 2.5 hour training in August facilitated by the teachers of MVCS.

If a classroom assistant cannot volunteer on the day he/she has signed up to do so, he/she must personally contact another classroom assistant on the official list to trade days or take his/her place. To preserve the integrity and continuity of instruction, only approved assistants may be contacted as replacements.

33. Student Use of Electronics at MVCS

Students at MVCS are not permitted to bring or utilize any electronic devices at school, except a simple handheld calculator as mentioned on the school supply list and designed only for that specific purpose.

Electronics are classified as, but not limited to the following: **laptops, ipads, ipods, smart phones, androids, cell phones with or without internet capability, gaming devices, handheld video games, etc.** It is our belief that electronics have their place and purpose but are not a necessary part of student curriculum at this developmental stage. Research projects, keyboarding class, and other learning activities which require the usage of a computer or other electronic device will be directly facilitated by teachers at MVCS.

34. Early Withdrawal

It is never the desire of MVCS to have a student withdraw during the school year. We will make every attempt possible to resolve situations.

In the event that parents decide to withdraw their student from instruction at MVCS prior to the completion of the academic year, the following steps will be taken:

1. Parents will meet with the student's teacher and express their concerns in an attempt to resolve any conflicts. The teacher will inform the board if withdrawal is being considered.
2. Parents will notify the school board if they are considering early withdrawal of their student. This will allow the board to review the situation in an attempt to better serve the present and future direction of MVCS.
3. If parents still decide to withdraw their student, they will send the board a written notification of their decision stating the reason or reasons for their decision and the date of the last day of attendance.
4. Tuition balances will be calculated on a per semester cost. Staffing and budgets are determined by the number of students enrolled, and therefore the financial commitment must be fulfilled.

If the student/students begin the school year and withdraw any time before December 31st the cost will be 50% of the cost for the entire year. If the

withdrawal occurs any time after January 1st of the current school year, the cost will be the full cost of the entire year. (For example, if a student attends through October 1st and withdraws, tuition will be \$2,280.00 plus \$300.00 book fee, for a total of \$2,580.00. If the student attends any days after January 1st, the total cost will be \$4,560.00 plus \$300.00 for a total cost of \$4,860.00.) Books are the property of the student and they must be paid in full regardless of the withdrawal time.