

GREATER MT. NEBO CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MISSION, PHILOSOPHY, INSPIRATIONAL GOALS

1. What is the mission of the GMNCA? *The Mission of GMNCA is to reinforce Christian principles in the process of educating children while fostering a Christ-centered life. This is accomplished through the combination of Christian teachers, an aggressive Bible-based curriculum and an environment of love and discipline.*
2. What is your philosophy with respect to teaching children? *GMNCA believes that children should be taught the “basics,” reading, writing and arithmetic and should be exposed to art, music, foreign languages, physical education and biblical studies as early as three years old. GMNCA also believes that respect for themselves, others and the communities in which they live should be a philosophical underpinning of any curriculum.*
3. What are your inspirational goals?
To give God glory in all things
To provide high academic standards.
To provide a biblical curriculum that all denominations can trust.
To instill patriotism and respect for authority.
To provide Godly teachers to help train children to be Christ- like

It is the prayer of GMNCA that our children will be a light unto the world and have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ from which they will not depart.

4. Is your school associated with a Church as an outreach ministry or does it operate independently of the Church?
GMNCA is an outreach ministry of Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church. Its Board of Directors and Staff operate independent of the Church.
5. Is there a separate and distinct School Board? *Yes.*
6. Is Chapel lead by an ordained clergy? *Yes.*

TUITUION, FEES, HOT LUNCH, FIELD TRIPS

1. What is the annual tuition?
The annual tuition is \$7,700.
2. Do you offer installment payments?
Yes. GMNCA offer monthly, quarterly and semi-annual payment plans
3. Is there a tuition service that will bill you?

Yes, FACTS is the tuition service we will be using for the 2009-2010 school year .

4. Is there a fee associated with a tuition service?
Yes, \$41 is the fee.
5. Are there other fees?
Yes. There is a \$55.00 fee charged for late payments and a \$35.00 fee for return checks.
6. Is there a discount for early payment in total?
Yes. There is a 5% discount for payment of tuition paid in full on July 1st
7. Is there a discount if you are a member of Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church?
No. However, members of Greater Mt. Nebo A.M.E. Church are admitted under GMNCA's Priority Category I. There are no other discounts beyond those offered for siblings or the Academy's total payment discount.
8. What are the fees for application, enrollment, testing etc.?
*Application Fee - \$50.00
Enrollment Fee (upon acceptance) - \$200.00
Testing Fee (if applicable) \$50.00
Additional School Mailings to Non-Custodial Parent - \$10.00/year
Student Instructional Materials Fee \$225.00*
9. Are there additional fees for field trips?
Yes. A modest fee will be assessed for field trips and for the cost of transportation.
10. Will you offer scholarships, grants or vouchers?
At this time, GMNCA is unable to assist its students with the costs of defraying admissions. The GMNCA Board will explore scholarships and other tuition subsidies in the future.
11. Is there a sibling discount?
Yes. There is a 10% discount for the second child and 15% for the third sibling registered and accepted at GMNCA.
12. Will you offer hot lunch program?
No, not at this time.
13. Are bag lunches required on field trip days?
Yes, each student is to bring a bag lunch on field trip days.

ADMISSIONS & SCHOOL POLICIES

1. What is the admission deadline?
The admissions deadline is May 31st for the 2009-2010 school year. Applications will be reviewed and students will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.
2. What are the emergency forms, medical forms and immunization requirements?

GMNCA will require its students to have up to date vaccinations as required by Maryland State law. All applicable forms will be issued in the student's welcome package and must be submitted at orientation or prior to the beginning of the school year.

3. What are your admission's criteria?

Students are admitted on a first come first serve basis as indicated below. The Admissions' Committee will review a student's application, conduct an interview with student's parents/legal guardian and administer a readiness/age appropriate aptitude test where appropriate (If applicable).

Pre-K3 Admissions - - 3 years old by September 1st

Pre-K4 Admissions - -4 years old by September 1st

Kindergarten Admissions - - 5 years old by September 1st

4. Are references and recommendations required? ***No. We do request a copy of your child's most recent report card and standardized testing results from the previous school.***

5. Is there an appeals process for students who are denied admissions?

The decision of the Admission Committee shall be final.

6. Are you a Member of the Association of Christian Schools International? ***Yes.***

7. Do parents have to be saved in order for their child to be admitted as a student at GMNCA?

Yes. GMNCA believes that both parents must have accepted Jesus Christ as his or her personal savior.

8. Do you have to be a member of a bible-believing church?

Yes, we require parents to be active members in their church.

9. Will you permit time for students to do homework in the PM Academic Enrichment Program?

Yes, students will be permitted to begin homework during the PM program. However, GMNCA believes that parental involvement is a critical component to student achievement. Parents are expected to check and sign the homework assignment before returning it to the teacher.

10. Is the kindergarten program a full day or half a day program? ***Full day.***

11. Do you provide nutritious morning and afternoon snacks?

No. We request that all parents provide a morning snack. If your child is attending the PM Academic Enrichment Program a second healthy snack must be supplied by the parent as well.

12. Can I visit my child's classroom unannounced?

Yes. GMNCA welcomes active parent participation. However, for security reasons, all parents are requested to register at the Office and receive a visitor's pass before entering the classroom.

13. Does my child have to be fully potty trained? ***Yes.***

CURRICULUM, STAFF & CLASSROOM POLICIES

1. What are the educational credentials of your teachers? ***All teachers must be degreed. Our goal is that all our teachers are certified by Maryland State Standards.***
2. Are your teachers and staff trained in CPR and first aid? ***There will be a CPR certified and First Aid Staff member on the premises at all times.***
3. How many children are in each class? ***There will be no more than 15 students per class.***
4. What subjects will be taught? ***Reading/Language Arts, Math, Bible Study, Social Studies, Science, Health, Computer Skills, Spanish, and Art will be taught.***
5. How much homework can we expect? ***Homework assignments will be age appropriate.***
6. What do you estimate is the amount of time that will be required for homework? ***Approximately 15-30 minutes per night for Pre-k and primary grades and one hour for intermediate grades. Homework will not be assigned on P/FTO night and Friday nights.***
7. Will there be library visits? ***Field trips will be planned to include library visits. The students will also visit and check out books from the school library.***
8. Will you give letter grades? ***No letter grades will be given for pre-k3, pre-k 4, and kindergarten. Letter grades will be given beginning in first grade.***
9. How often will report cards be issued? ***Report cards will be issued twice a year for the Pre-K classes and four times a year beginning with kindergarten.***
10. When will interim reports or progress report be issued? ***Progress reports will be issued mid-quarter four times per year for all grades.***
11. Will there be behavior grades for Christ-like attitude, respect, obedience, staying on task, respect for others, and respect for property? ***Yes***
12. Will attendance and tardiness be monitored? ***Yes***
13. Will you permit excused absences for health reasons or family emergencies? ***Yes.***

Students will not be excused for family trips during scheduled class time. Teachers are also not required to provide make up work for days missed during that time. Please plan vacations around the school schedule.

14. Do children take naps in the Pre-K classes? *Yes*
15. How will you communicate with parents? *Conferences, newsletters, phone calls, email, website, and through the P/FTO Team meetings.*
16. Will there be a newsletter? *Yes, each teacher will send home a monthly newsletter or bi-monthly news letter.*
17. Will there be a school calendar? *Yes*
18. What time does school begin and end? *Students will receive direct instruction between the hours of 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Extended school hours will run from 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM.*
19. How do you handle time missed for snow days? *Snow days will be made up according to state school board requirements.*
20. How many Parent Meetings will there be? *The dates and times of Parent – Teacher Meetings will be indicated on the school calendar.*
21. Will there be parent committees (e.g. playground, office assistance, Harvest Fest, Spring Fest, and Fundraising)? *Yes.*
22. Will you have fundraisers? *Yes. All families are required to participate in all fund raisers by active participation or by providing a donation of \$500.00.*
23. Will you use a Student Agenda book to send home assignments and for daily communications? *Not this year, instead a homework packet will be sent home weekly and all communications will be done through newsletters, e-mail, announcement notices, and telephone calls, etc.*
24. Will children have Bible memory verses? *Yes.*
25. Will there be a Fall Program? Christmas Program? Spring Program? *There will be a Christmas and Spring Program. There will be other opportunities throughout the school year for students to showcase what they have learned i.e. Grandparents Day, Parent’s Day, etc.*
26. When will the standardized test be administered? *Late April – Early May.*
27. Will you use a nationally recognized standardized test? *Yes, the Stanford 10.*
28. Will you offer after school tutoring? *Yes, tutoring can be offered for an additional fee if there is an interest.*

29. Will you use Highlights, Scholastic Book Club or Weekly Readers? ***Yes, beginning in kindergarten.***
30. What types of P.E. activities are included (e.g. soccer, basketball, kick ball)? ***P.E. will be age appropriate.***
31. Will my child learn a musical instrument? ***Instrumental music and keyboard lessons will be offered in grades 3 and up for an additional fee through AIMA.***
32. Will there be a Black History component to your Social Studies/History Program? ***Yes The social studies/history programs will feature Black History as well other cultures (Hispanic, Asian, etc.).***
33. Do you offer a foreign language? ***Yes, students in grades K through 5 will receive Spanish instruction as part of the curriculum.***
34. Do you offer computer classes? ***Students will have opportunities to use computers in the classroom.***
35. Do you accept children with learning disabilities, physical handicaps or other special needs? ***We do not have the staffing at this time to accommodate children with special needs.***
36. What is the daily schedule? ***The daily schedule will be issued during Orientation/Back to School Night.***
37. How long is recess? ***30 minutes.***
38. Is Bible a subject? ***Yes, Bible is a subject and students are graded accordingly.***
39. Is there a Chapel Day? ***Yes, Chapel is held each Thursday mornings at 8:15 am.***

UNIFORMS

1. What are the uniforms for boys and girls?
GMNCA students will wear their uniforms daily as follows:

***Boys: Blue Khaki Slacks or Shorts (weather appropriate)
White Golf Shirts (Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve) or Oxford Shirt with Blue Tie
Cardinal colored Cardigan
All black Shoes***

***Chapel Day: Blue Khaki Slacks with White Oxford Shirt and Blue Tie.
Black Shoes (must wear)***

***Girls: Blue Khaki Slacks or Shorts (weather appropriate)
White Golf Shirt (Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve)***

Cardinal colored Cardigan
Plaid Jumper w/White Peter Pan Collar Blouse, Blue Cross Tie
All Black shoes
Chapel Day: Plaid Jumper, Peter Pan Collar Blouse and Blue Cross Tie
Black Shoes (must wear)

Note: Students must wear navy (only) socks or navy (only) tights (girls) on any given day
Students must wear all black sneakers or all black rubber bottomed shoes on any given day.

2. Is there a PE Uniform? *No*
3. Where can uniforms be purchased? Uniforms can be purchased at *Flynn & O'Hara Uniforms, Inc.*
Do you offer a mobile uniform van? *No, the Company is located in Prince George's County (Lanham, MD) and is accessible.*

EXTENDED DAY, VOLUNTEER HOURS, TRANSPORTATION, SNOW DAYS

1. Do you offer extended day? *Yes, our school hours begin at 6:30 am and end at 6:00 pm.*
2. What time will carpool begin? *At 7:50 AM the children arriving in cars will be permitted to enter the building and children in the AM Academic Program will be dismissed to their classroom at that time. Classroom instruction will begin each morning promptly at 8:00 AM. Arrival after 8:05 am will result in a tardiness slip.*
3. What are the volunteer service hour requirements for families? *Requirements have not been established for service hours at this time. We welcome and expect parent/family involvement on all levels.*
4. How do you handle snow days and inclement weather?
GMNCA will follow the Prince George's County Public School closing schedule for inclement weather only. When Prince George's County schools are closed, we will be closed. When Prince George's County schools open one or two hours late, GMNCA and the AM Academic Program will also open one or two hours late. When Prince George's County schools close early due to inclement weather, GMNCA will close early and the PM Academic Program will not be offered.

Please refer to your local television or radio station or access the Prince George County School website. School closing information for the County can be accessed at www.schoolsout.com or www.pgcps.org.

5. Do you offer before and after care? *GMNCA offers extended school hours. Parents who are interested in extending their child's instructional day may do so through our Academic Enrichment Program which is offered in the morning beginning at 6:30 am through 8:00 am and in the afternoon beginning at 3:00 pm through 6:00 pm.*

6. Do you offer bus transportation? *The school does not offer bus transportation but we may be able to provide information listing private companies that provide transportation for students.*
7. Do you have a website? *Yes, our website is www.neboacademy.com*
8. How will you notify parents in the event of an emergency closing other than inclement weather (no heat, air, electricity, etc.)? *Via website, e-mail, and telephone*