

2025-2026

Back-to-School Guide



COUNTRYSIDE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



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Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the Countryside family! We are truly honored that you have entrusted us with the privilege of nurturing your children in an environment where they can grow in their relationship with God and their peers, while receiving the best education to prepare them for the career that God has for their life. Our mission as a God-focused school is centered on this year's theme verse, **Mark 12:29-31**, which reminds us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. As we begin this year, we look forward to witnessing not only academic achievement but spiritual and relational growth in each student — and to partnering with you to see God's purpose unfold in their lives.

-Mr. Jody



Mission

Our mission is to provide a high-quality, Christ-centered education to the children of parents who believe God has entrusted to them the responsibility to educate their own children with a Biblical world-and-life view.

Vision

Our vision is to assist parents in the education of their children by providing a Christ-centered environment that promotes Biblical principles and the pursuit of integrity, moral character, academic excellence, and spiritual growth-the areas of altar, character, and academics.

Statement of Faith



We believe in a loving God who created, and reigns over all. Without beginning or end, God has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:5-6; Genesis 1:1; Matthew 28:19; John 10:30

We believe Jesus Christ to be fully human and fully divine — God in the flesh. His virgin birth and sinless life prepared him to be the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on the cross. He rose from the dead, ascended into Heaven and is now the only mediator between God and man.

John 10:33; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:35; Hebrews 4:15, 7:26; 1 Corinthians 15:4; Mark 16:19

We believe the Holy Spirit is God's active presence in the world today, in the life of the Christian, and in the life of the Church. The Spirit convicts the world about sin and the truth of God, enables each Christian to live a godly life of character and holiness, and empowers the church for unity and ministry.

Romans 8:13-14; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19-20; Ephesians 4:30, 5:18

We believe that the Bible is God's inspired Word to us, without error, absolutely true, reliable, authoritative, and the foundation for all we believe and do in life.

2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21

We believe that we are made in the image of God, but with a natural tendency to rebel against God, to sin and fall short of God's ideals and expectations. This condition has separated all of us from God, and requires that we be "born again" and reunited with God. We believe that God loved us enough to send Jesus Christ to die for our sins to give us the privilege of living with Him forever. We believe God saves us by grace, through our faith and obedience.

John 3:16-19, 5:24; Romans 3:23, 5:8-9; Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:15; John 14

We believe that God created us to live forever! When Christ returns again, those who have truly accepted God's gift of salvation will live with Him in heaven forever. Those who ignore or reject His offer will be doomed to spend eternity in hell separated from God and His love.

John 5:28-29; Acts 1:11; Revelation 19:11

Dress Code



DRESS CODE REFERENCE GUIDE

Countryside's uniform policy exists to clearly define the standard of attire for our school. The goal for each student and family is to meet or exceed the CCS standard. It is not about what any individual student or parent deems appropriate, fashionable, or trendy, but about ensuring each student meets or exceeds the established CCS standard. Final judgment is at the discretion of the CCS administration.

The CCS Standard is defined as:

- Traditional Style-apparel that looks like a traditional school uniform.
- Classic Fit-apparel with a relaxed, loose fit and conservative length.
- Neat Appearance-apparel that is clean and absent of tears, or holes.

UNIFORM GUIDELINES (GRADES PK4-12)

TOPS

- CCS embroidered polo shirt, or CCS hoodie (loose-fitting)
- Undergarments must not clash with uniform color

BOTTOMS

- Solid khaki or black shorts, skirts, or pants
- Shorts/skirts: no shorter than 2" above the knee
- Traditional/classic fit, loose-fitting, no holes, tears, rips, or fraying

OUTERWEAR

- Inside: CCS Jackets, sweaters, hoodies, or sweatshirts only (hoods down)
- Outside/PE: Non-CCS outerwear allowed

FOOTWEAR

- Sneakers or casual dress shoe
- No slippers, high heels, flip-flops, "crocs", slides, or "heelies"

ACCESSORIES

- Boys must wear belts with shirts tucked in
- No hats or beanies
- Accessories must also meet or exceed the CCS standard

PE UNIFORM (3RD-8TH GRADE, AND HS STUDENTS TAKING PE)

- PE shirt (blue or black)
- PE shorts (blue or black)
- Joggers



Dress Code



SPECIAL DRESS CODE ALLOWANCE

PRIVILEGE DAY (THURSDAYS)

On Thursdays, students may wear CCS spirit shirts, PE uniform or modest denim (knee-length shorts, jeans, capris) with no rips/holes. Students in 5th-12th grade must be on “privilege status” to participate.

SPIRIT DAY (FRIDAYS)

ALL students may wear a CCS t-shirt and uniform bottoms or full-length jeans (no jean shorts, no rips/holes)

HONOR ROLL CHAPEL/AWARDS DRESS

Girls: Modest dresses or skirts below the knee, loose-fitting, 2" minimum strap width. No flip-flops or sneakers. pant suits allowed if modest.

Boys: Dress shirt, tie, dress pants/khakis, belt and dress shoes

HAIR GUIDELINES

Girls: Neat, clean, out of eyes, styled to reflect femininity, natural color only

Boys: Neat clean, off shoulders and face, above mid-ear. no ponytails, man buns or accessories

-Grades 9-12 may have facial hair if neat and trimmed (subject to approval/privilege can be revoked)

PIERCINGS AND TATTOOS

Jewelry must be modest

NO earrings for boys

NO nose piercing's at school/events

NO visible tattoos. No new tattoos allowed after enrollment

Arrival and Dismissal



SCHOOL START/END TIMES

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Parking Lot Rules

- 5 MPH SPEED
- One way traffic during arrival and dismissal times

ENTER: East Gate **EXIT:** West Gate

Before School Drop-Off

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

- Preschool students must be walked through the main entrance and to their designated classroom.
- K5-5th grade students may be dropped off at the main entrance.
- Students in 6th -12th grades must be dropped off at the gym until 8:00. Arrivals after 8:00 must enter through the front office.
- Park in a parking space if you need to exit your vehicle. Please keep the drop-off lane clear.

**DO NOT DROP OFF STUDENTS IN THE PARKING LOT AND
ALLOW THEM TO CROSS TRAFFIC**



Front Entrance
Preschool-5th



Gym
6th-12th

Arrival and Dismissal



Late Arrival/Tardies

- Students arriving after 8:05 AM are considered tardy.
- Students arriving late must sign in using our new iPad check-in system in the front office. In addition, students in Preschool-8th grade must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to complete the check-in process.
- Parents will be unable to walk their student to class after 8:05.
- 5 unexcused tardies will result in a conference with the Principal or Dean. Excessive tardies may result in demerits/detentions.

Absences

- At 8:30 AM, students who have not yet arrived on campus will be considered absent unless otherwise communicated.
- Parents of students who are absent will be notified via ParentSquare and will be required to submit a written response stating the reason for the absence.

Early Check-Outs

- Students being checked out early, must be signed out by a parent or guardian using our new iPad check-out system in the front office. **Picture IDs may be required for pickup.**
- Student driver's must have a hand-written note, email, or ParentSquare message from a parent granting permission to leave early.
- Students will not be permitted to be checked out and picked up after 2:30 PM unless it is an emergency or pre-approved by administration.

Arrival and Dismissal

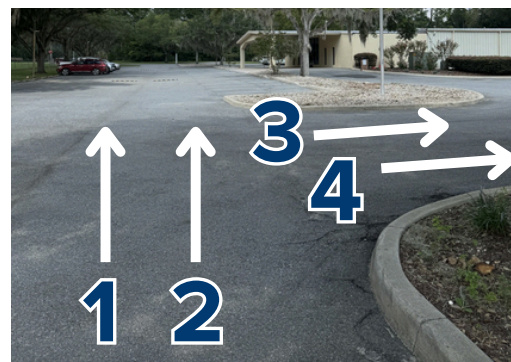


Afterschool Pickup

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (Monday-Thursday) /

12:00 PM-12:30 PM (Fridays)

- Families will be issued a car pickup tag to be used in the carline to facilitate student pickup. Cards should be displayed in the windshield during carline.
- Gates will open at 2:45 PM and students will not be called until 3:00 PM. If the gate is still locked when you arrive, please come to the main entrance to avoid traffic issues.
- There are **4 lanes of traffic in the carline**: 2 in the drive under the awning and 2 in the parking lot. Please choose the next available line.
Do not block the lanes to the awning.
- Parents/Guardians must use one of the 4 pickup lanes. Walkups will not be allowed.**
- Please do not exit your vehicle. If your child needs assistance, please use lane 4 and pull off in the designated **"Buckling Zone"**.



3:30 PM - 5:30 PM (Monday-Thursday) /

12:30 PM - 5:30 PM (Fridays)

- Students not picked up by 3:30 PM will go to afterschool care and will be charged a drop-in fee of \$25/day.
- Elementary students registered for afterschool care will attend clubs 3:30PM - 4:30PM (\$65 per club-prepaid) and Extended Care 4:30PM- 5:30PM (\$7/hour). There are no clubs on Fridays and registered elementary students will be charged \$7/hour 12:30 PM - 5:30 PM.
- Middle and High school students registered for afterschool care will be charged \$7/hour 3:30-5:30(M-TH)/12:30-5:30 (F)

Discipline

Our school uses progressive and assertive discipline principles that place the responsibility for behavior on the student. We believe there are acceptable and unacceptable forms of behavior. In an assertive discipline program, children are presented with a set of rules and consequences if those rules are violated.

Behavior Notification

Level 1, 2, 3, and 4 infractions will be documented in FACTS. Parents/Guardians will receive a weekly email summarizing their child's behavior. However, for Level 2-4 infractions, an email notification will be sent to parents on the same day the incident occurs. A response to this email is required to acknowledge receipt and to ensure collaboration between home and school in addressing the behavior. Failure to respond may result in follow-up communication from school administration.

Classroom Rules

PRESCHOOL-5TH GRADE

1. Listen and follow directions
2. Use hand signals
3. Stay on task
4. Keep your hands and feet to yourself
5. Respect your classmates, school, and teacher

6TH-12TH GRADE

1. Listen and follow directions
2. Be prepared
3. Stay on task
4. Be in the right place at the right time
5. Respect your classmates, school, and teacher

Demerits

A demerit system will be implemented for students in grades 3–12. Demerits are issued for Level I, II, and III infractions, with the number of demerits determined by the severity of the offense and any prior disciplinary history. In grades 6–12, every 3 demerits will result in a detention.

Discipline

Level 1

These are the lowest degree of violations. These violations disrupt the normal flow of learning in the classroom. Offenses at this level are usually addressed by the teacher using a variety classroom management techniques.

Examples of Level 1 infractions:

- Aggressive Behavior
- Class Disruption
- Dress Code Violation
- Failure to follow school rules (Classroom, playground, bathroom, etc.)

Actions for Level 1 infractions may include:

- 1 demerit
- Record of Infraction
- Time Out
- Silent Lunch
- Counseling
- Verbal Reprimand

Level 2

Level Two infractions may include continued Level One infractions which are not corrected by the previous listed consequences.

Examples of Level 2 infractions:

- Accumulation of 6 demerits from Level 1 offenses in one week
- Chronic Level 1 OR accumulating 3 demerits in one school day
- Cheating/Scoring Violation
- Defiance/Disrespect to adults
- Electronics Violation
- Forgery/Lying
- Incomplete Goals
- Language Infraction (Name calling, slander, gossip, offensive slang, etc.)
- Profanity
- Shoving/pushing
- Violation of 6-inch rule

Actions for Level 2 infractions may include:

- Level 1 Consequence
- Detention: 1st offense = 30-minute detention
2nd offense = 60-minute detention
3rd offense = office referral
- Loss of privilege status
- Silent lunch
- Written Apology

Discipline



Level 3

Level Three infractions are of a more serious nature. The consequences of this level are more serious and could result in any combination of the Level One and Level Two consequences as well as in school and/or out of school suspension, loss of sports participation, probation and possible expulsion.

Examples of Level 3 Infractions:

- Chronic Level 2
- Harassment/Bullying
- Cheating on a test
- False Alarms set off/report
- Fighting (punching, pushing, kicking)
- Harassment
- Honor Code Violation
- Stealing
- Threatening Remarks
- Tobacco Use
- Vandalism/Property Abuse
- Vaping

Actions for Level 3 Infractions may include:

- Immediate Office Referral
- Level 1 or 2 Consequence
- In School Suspension
- Out of School Suspension
- Probation
- No Sports

Level 4

Level 4 infractions go beyond Level 3 in regards to the severity or repetition of the offense. At this level, parents, administration, and possibly law enforcement will become involved.

Examples of Level 4 infractions:

- Alcohol Use
- Drugs
- Gang Activity
- Immorality
- Misdemeanor/Felony
- Pornography
- Sexting
- Violent Behavior
- Weapons on Campus

Actions for Level 4 may include:

- Immediate Office Referral
- Level 1/2/3 Consequence
- Expulsion
- School Board Hearing

Lunch



Students have the option to pack a lunch or use our lunch ordering service.

Packed Lunches

Microwaves are available in most classrooms. However, please limit the heating of lunches to 30 seconds to 1 minute maximum. Please use a thermos if you are sending food that needs to stay warm.

Lunch Orders

This year we will be using FACTS to order lunches. Please see step-by-step instructions below:

Instructions

#1 Login to Facts, on the left-hand side of the screen, click on Student, then Lunch

#2 From the drop-down menu, select the student you'd like to order lunch for, select the lunch week desired and click CREATE WEB ORDER

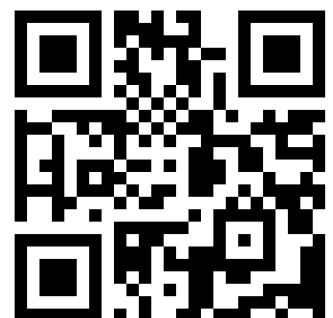
#3 Click on the student's name

#4 Click on the school day(s) of your choice, enter how many lunches you'd like for your student(s), then click SUBMIT ORDER.

#5 Your order will pop up for review, then click CONFIRM and PAY

#6 Continue to follow the payment prompts, submit and you will receive an email confirmation of your lunch order/payment.

**Missed/Late Orders, Credits,
Changes/Cancellations, Technical Support :**
Email info@ccsgainesville.net or call 352-332-1493



Stay Connected



To keep families informed and engaged, we have established the following communication schedule:

Weekly “Minutemen Minute” Email



- **Frequency:** Every Sunday
- **Format:** ParentSquare Post
- **Purpose:** To provide school-wide updates, important dates, announcements, and general information

Teacher Communication



- **Frequency:** Weekly
- **Format:** ParentSquare Post or Direct Message
- **Purpose:** To share class/student-specific updates, upcoming assignments, and student progress

Behavior Summary



- **Frequency:** Every Friday Afternoon
- **Contents:** Behavior counts or summaries for your child
- **Purpose:** To help track and support behavioral growth and consistency

Academic Progress



- **Frequency:** Every Friday Afternoon
- **Contents:** Current grades and academic performance updates
- **Purpose:** To ensure parents are aware of their child’s academic standings throughout the term

Quick Links



FACTS MANAGEMENT
WWW.FACTSMGT.COM



FACEBOOK
COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



INSTAGRAM
COUNTRYSIDECHRISTIANGNV



SCHOOL WEBSITE
WWW.MYCCS.NET



To-Do



Documents to Return

- Financial Agreement (per student)
- Acceptance and Acknowledgement of Statement of Faith, Handbook, and Code of Conduct (per student)
- Medication form (if needed)

Handbook Review

- Discipline Policies (p.11-15)
- Electronic Device Policy (p. 17)
- Attendance Policy (p. 22-23)
- Emergency Drills (p. 25-26)
- School closings for weather - follow Alachua County (p. 26)
- Parent/Teacher Communications and Visitor/Volunteer Procedures (p. 26-27)

Before School Starts

- Sign up in ParentSquare
- Review drop off and pick up procedures
- Purchase School Supplies
- Order lunches (if needed)
- Register for Afterschool Care (if needed)
- Place pickup number in car windshield