



METROLINA

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

LOWER SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

2020-2021

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

At Metrolina Christian Academy, we are committed to our mission to “**lovingly lead and equip students for Kingdom living.**” In keeping with that mission, we seek to lead our students to personally own their faith and to not only possess but live out a Biblical worldview. It is our belief that we should seek to develop a detailed portrait of what a graduate of Metrolina Christian Academy should look like.

The administration and staff of Metrolina Christian Academy have prayed, sought God, and planned meticulously in the development of this portrait. We have used Luke 2:52 as a guidepost for developing this plan. This verse of scripture describes the maturation of Jesus as a young man in four areas. The Bible says in this verse that Jesus grew in **wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with man.** We seek to follow this model in developing our students.

From this approach, we prayerfully commit to leading our graduates to be true Warriors for Christ who will possess:

Worldview that is Christ-centered and biblically based

Academic foundation that prepares them for God’s open door at the next stage of life

Redemption that is biblically based and personal

Responsibility that is guided by Scripture and encompasses the individual, culture, and evangelism

Integrity that influences all of life’s decisions

Ownership of the Faith that is personal and transformational

Readiness to engage culture, proclaim the Gospel, and live life to the Glory of God

BIBLE COURSE PHILOSOPHY

The Bible curriculum at MCA aligns and supports our Mission, Vision, and Purpose to lovingly lead and equip students for Kingdom living. This is accomplished as MCA graduates are equipped with a Biblical worldview based upon established spiritual disciplines, sound academic thinking, and appropriate skill development. Articulation of a Biblical worldview solidifies the truth; therefore, an immersion of speech and communication arts will be woven into the curriculum. The Biblical worldview at MCA will be based on the principles and resources of:

- An intellectual defense for the truth.
- Biblically-minded administrators, faculty, and staff.
- Applications and implications of truth.
- Biblical saturation in every discipline, classroom, extra-curricular, and school activity.
- The need for ethics and apologetics to address contemporary cultural issues.
- Chapel programs with experts in the field of evangelism, apologetics, Biblical worldview, and discipleship.
- Spiritual retreats in grades 8, 9, and 12 which remove the students from daily responsibilities and distractions to provide intentional and intensive Bible study and corporate worship.
- Expository and persuasive speeches presented in Bible classes which are developmentally appropriate and measured according to a clearly defined rubric.
- Service opportunities through the MCA Project Serve Program and missions trips where students apply the principles of truth through practical service and evangelism.

LOWER SCHOOL BIBLE

Kindergarten through fifth grade will study *Answers in Genesis*. This curriculum is apologetics based and developmentally appropriate for the elementary learner. It delves into issues regarding the Bible, God, and sin in a manner where children can defend their faith against a fallen world. The course highlights the unique collection of question-answer books from Ken Ham and the creative team at Answers in Genesis to help students focus on Scripture memorization and faith-building truth.

Biblical Truths and Key Concepts Covered:

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|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • We Can Trust the Bible | • God's Justice and Mercy | • God is Creator and Redeemer |
| • God Protects and Restores | • God is Faithful | • The Messiah Arrives |
| • God is in Control | • The Authority of Jesus | • Obedience and Disobedience |
| • The Church Begins | • Wisdom from God | • Living as Christians |

UPPER SCHOOL BIBLE

The resources chosen to implement worldview and apologetics instruction are:

- Sixth graders will use *Running the Race* from *Positive Action for Christ*. This is a character development focused curriculum which will be supplemented with the *Answers in Genesis* apologetics text for 6th grade. Students will articulate their faith through quarterly speeches utilizing visual aids and a variety of presentation styles throughout middle school.
- Seventh grade will use *Route 66* from *Positive Action for Christ*. This curriculum provides a basic introduction to the structure and themes of the Word of God. As students' journey through this survey, they will discover the truths and applications that God has provided in each book of the Bible. The 7th grade Bible course will be supplemented with leadership focused modules to enhance their worldview.
- Eighth grade will build foundational knowledge of anchor books of both the Old and New Testament to prepare students for Old Testament and New Testament survey courses in high school. This course will also include *The Secret Battle of Ideas About God* from Summitt Ministries as an apologetics tool for teaching students the foundation of defending their faith.
- Ninth grade Bible classes experience a survey of the New Testament and the 10th grade Bible classes experience a survey of the Old Testament both using a Master Teacher format. This format allows a master teacher in the scripture to teach in the large group setting balanced with small group reflection. An immersion of apologetics and worldview instruction is woven throughout the lectures and discussions.
- Eleventh and twelfth grade students choose between an array of intense Bible courses all taught in the semester format. They will choose a total of four semester courses which analyze specific scriptural text and biblical disciplines. These offerings include yet are not limited to – Acts and the First Church, Discipleship, Finding God's Purpose, Eschatology, Tactics of Evangelism, Worldview and Apologetics, World Religions and a Defense for Truth, and Biblical Leadership.

LOWER SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS

A strong foundation in literacy and communication is built through a comprehensive and balanced program that includes phonics, reading, handwriting, spelling, grammar and composition. Students practice and apply these skills through hands-on experiences guided by a combination of whole class, small group, and one-on-one instruction within a reading and writing workshop format. All students in kindergarten through fifth grade will focus on writing narrative, persuasive, and informational essays with progressive sophistication.

Kindergarten

- *Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Units of Study*
- *Wilson "Foundations"--reading, phonics, spelling, and handwriting*
- *Fountas and Pinnell leveled readers*
- *RAZ kids*

First Grade

- *Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Units of Study*
- *Wilson "Foundations"-- reading, phonics, spelling, and handwriting*
- *Fountas and Pinnell leveled readers*
- *RAZ kids*

Second Grade

- *Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Units of Study*
- *Wilson "Foundations"--reading, phonics, spelling, and cursive handwriting*
- *Fountas and Pinnell leveled readers*

Third Grade

- *Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Units of Study*
- *Wilson cursive handwriting*
- *Interactive grammar notebooks*
- *Mentor Sentences*
- *Words Their Way*

Fourth Grade

- *Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Units of Study*
- *Interactive grammar notebooks*
- *Mentor Sentences*
- *Novel studies*
- *Scholastic Story Works*

Fifth Grade

- *Lucy Calkins Reading and Writing Units of Study*
- *Interactive grammar notebooks*
- *Mentor Sentences*
- *Novel studies*
- *Scholastic Story Works*

LOWER SCHOOL MATH

The math curriculum allows students to gain a progression of knowledge each year to develop a strong mathematical foundation. Students will utilize a variety of materials, tools, and strategies to deepen their understanding of mathematical domains including operational and algebraic thinking, number and operations in: base ten, number and operations- fractions, measurement and data, and geometry. Interactive learning encourages students to strengthen essential math concepts while enhancing critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Kindergarten

- *Interactive and manipulative-based math lessons and tubs*

First Grade

- *McGraw-Hill My Math*

Second Grade

- *McGraw-Hill My Math*
- *Prodigy*
- *Math 4 Today*

Third Grade

- *McGraw-Hill My Math*
- *Prodigy*
- *Math 4 Today*

Fourth Grade

- *McGraw-Hill My Math*
- *Prodigy*
- *Math 4 Today*

Fifth Grade

- *McGraw-Hill My Math*
- *Prodigy*
- *Math 4 Today*

LOWER SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES

The social studies curriculum and instruction provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to become educated and responsible citizens. The goal is to enable students to understand, participate in, and make informed decisions about their world locally, nationally, and globally with a biblical worldview. The social studies program is created by using quality literature-based units integrated with Biblical concepts.

Kindergarten

- Changes Over Time
- Me On the Map
- Economic Concepts
- Citizenship
- All About Me

Second Grade

- Citizenship
- Timeline of Historical Events
- Historical Figures
- Maps and Symbols
- Economics and Government
- Environmental Awareness

Fourth Grade

- Founding of North Carolina
- Government of North Carolina
- North Carolina's Role in War
- State Symbols and Influential People
- Economics and Commerce

First Grade

- Historical Thinking
- US Holidays
- Map Skills
- Communities & Citizenship
- Economics

Third Grade

- Local History and Government
- Geography
- Cultural Contributions and Influences
- Economics

Fifth Grade

- Colonial America
- American Revolution
- Civil War
- Westward Expansion
- Great Depression
- World Wars I & II
- Cold War
- Civil Rights Movement
- Major Events from 1970's to present

LOWER SCHOOL SCIENCE

Students deepen their understanding and love for our Creator and His creation while engaging in active and meaningful learning experiences working within the areas of physical, earth, and life sciences at each grade level. Through hands-on activities and investigations, children develop increasing sophistication in their scientific thinking that builds from year to year. Students are taught to evaluate scientific learning through God's word. Classroom lessons are enriched through a variety of STEAM activities that extend beyond the classroom.

Kindergarten

FOSS Science Program

- Materials and Motion
- Trees and Weather
- Animals Two by Two

Second Grade

FOSS Science Program

- Solids and Liquids
- Pebbles, Sand and Silt
- Insects and Plants

Fourth Grade

FOSS Science Program

- Energy
- Soil, Rocks and Landforms
- Environments

First Grade

FOSS Science Program

- Sound and Light
- Air and Weather
- Plants and Animals

Third Grade

FOSS Science Program

- Motion and Matter
- Water and Climate
- Structures of Life

Fifth Grade

FOSS Science Program

- Mixtures and Solutions
- Earth and Sun
- Living Systems

LOWER SCHOOL ENRICHMENTS

MCA is fortunate to provide a wide range of enriched learning opportunities for lower school students. Studies show that weaving enrichment courses into school curricula allows students to build on skills that improve their work in math, science, and literacy. In addition, these enrichment classes provide students with further physical and creative outlets throughout their school week.

Kindergarten – Third Grade

- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Spanish
- STEAM
- Communications Art

Fourth – Fifth Grade

- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Spanish
- Technology and STEAM
- Communications Art

NOTES
