

FOUNDATIONS

Our Mission

StoneBridge is a classical Christian school
established to restore
the Christian character
of the Republic.

We serve Christian families,
enabling each child
to reach the fullest expression
of his value in Christ
through a Biblical
Principle Approach[®] Education.

Family and Personal Emphasis

The school is committed to the enrollment of families with whom is shared a unity of purpose in the education of their children. A diversity of abilities, gifts, race, social, and economic backgrounds are included in the student body. Students are admitted without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national, or ethnic origin. A Christian standard of peer relationships, respect for self and others, and unselfish attitudes are promoted. The Sovereignty of God in all of life and in personal accountability through the knowledge of Christ and the ministry of the Holy Spirit are emphasized. The standards of Christian character and self-government are held as the gauge of behavior, attitude, and performance. Through the inculcation of a sense of responsibility, the student is held accountable for his own actions, obligations, and learning. The school purposes to identify the best in each student and assist him to build upon that foundation a character and competence which will make him a productive, purposeful, fulfilled individual; the fullest expression of his unique value in Christ.

The StoneBridge Logo

Our beautiful logo was designed by Keith Andrus, graphic artist and StoneBridge alumni father.

The Logo Scripture

*Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge,
that I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth;
that thou mightiest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?
Proverbs 22:20-21*

At StoneBridge, we believe with certainty the excellent things in “counsels and knowledge” that are found in the Scripture can realize excellence for our children by the application of Biblical principles in education.

The scripture in the StoneBridge logo expresses our mission in acknowledging the supremacy of the Word of God, the certainty of its affect, and the service exacted of the American Christian – to answer to a needy world for the liberty with which Christ has made us free.

The StoneBridge Tree

In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bore twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22:2

We believe that as we consecrate our children to instruction in the Word of God and its excellent certainty, our children will be instruments of the “healing of the nations,” beginning with our own nation.

I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life...

*And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free
...If the son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.*

John 8

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Master Teacher, the source of truth and light, the source of liberty and of all excellence.

StoneBridge Colors

StoneBridge students chose royal blue and gold as their school colors in 1983.

The Cavalier Mascot

StoneBridge chose the cavalier as the mascot for our athletic teams. It is a symbol of the spirit of Christian leadership that spawned the founding generations. Cavaliers were English royalists loyal to Charles I during the 1500s at the time of the English wars of religion. They took part in the 1607 landing at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay and were the first Englishmen to permanently plant both the cross of Christ and the standard of England on the North American continent. Confronted with the anvil of headship, they practiced a Biblical faith while hammering a livelihood out of the wilderness. As colonists they were characterized by the spirit of enterprise and independence. As Christians they built churches, declared fast days, knew and lived by the Word of God, and established a representative form of civil government in the New World in 1619 at Jamestown. As Virginians they were successful in building a society that produced the statesmen and leaders of the founding generation – Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and the Lees.

School Song

Our school song was composed by Mary Barnes, StoneBridge music educator, while on the 1984 Faculty Retreat. A copy can be found on the inside of the back cover.

History of StoneBridge School

In 1980, Dr. Carole Adams and some of her associates formed a program called “StoneBridge Tutorials” as a one-year adventure in educating their own children and those of several friends, a total of 31 children in grades one through ten. The program centered on a curriculum and methodology based upon the work of Rosalie June Slater as expounded in the classic *Teaching and Learning America’s Christian History: The Principle Approach*. At the end of this first year, the joy experienced by students and teachers called forth the establishment of a permanent school. The first building on Portsmouth Boulevard was built in 1983. As the school grew, a high school was established in 1990 and moved a year later to the Jolliff Road campus.

Distinctives of StoneBridge School

A Principle Approach® education produces a Biblical worldview in each individual student, equipping him to both reason and articulate all of life’s choices effectively. Our mandate is to educate Christian leaders who know how to apply God’s Word for citizenry and service in their own generation.

Historic – History is taught from a providential perspective, leading students to understand God’s hand guiding the lives of men and nations. There is an emphasis on comparing and contrasting worldviews, leading students to embrace the Biblical worldview.

Classical – Classical literature, including poetry, Shakespeare, and children’s classics, is taught throughout the grades. Modern and classical languages are taught beginning in 4-year-old kindergarten; French and Latin are taught in the lower school while Spanish is added in eighth through twelfth grade. Mathematics and the sciences are given precedence using both a traditional and hands-on approach. Fine and performing arts are emphasized using drama, visual arts, music, and many types of performances.

Biblical – The StoneBridge philosophy of education is rooted in God’s Word. The Bible is placed at the heart of every subject, laying down Biblical principles as the foundation.

Tutorial – A tutorial approach means that teachers take responsibility for the learning success of every child. The child’s individuality is respected as the teacher lifts each child toward his or her fullest potential in Christ.

Reflective – This method of study uses the 4 R’s (Research, Reason, Relate, Record) in every subject, equipping students with the tools for Christian scholarship. Reflective learning emphasizes the communication skills of speaking and writing, as well as the importance of researching from primary sources. The *Notebook Approach*, the primary method of instruction, is the classical method of mastering a subject. The notebook replaces the workbook and textbook which are mediocre in expectation of the student’s performance and limiting to his growth in the subject. The notebook is set up and graded according to an established standard and used daily to record the learning of the subject. The *Notebook Approach* is modified for K4 & K5 students. Notebooks are kept at home in the K4 class and parents file their children’s papers as they are sent home. In the K5 classroom, children begin to identify the notebook as a tool of learning and grow in their ability to use it.

Accreditation

StoneBridge School is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (A.C.S.I).

Chapel

Thursdays are traditionally chapel days with a half-day schedule. Chapel services are held every Thursday morning. Students are required to “dress up” for chapel (refer to Dress Code section). Parents are always welcome to attend. Chapel is a time when special awards may be presented.

NILD – Riverview Learning Center

Riverview Learning Center at StoneBridge offers individual educational therapy for children with learning disabilities. Accredited by the National Institute for Learning Development, Riverview uses research based therapy which strengthens the perceptual processes and cognitive skills of the student. A full battery of diagnostic and psychological tests is available to determine special needs and strengths in the learning profile. A parent conference is scheduled to explain the results and recommendations. Individual therapy is scheduled during or before and after hours. The usual therapy schedule provides three hours weekly with a trained educational therapist. There is a separate tuition for this service.

Search and Teach Program

All K5 students are given the SEARCH test, a test designed to check auditory and visual learning channels. Based on the results of this test, additional instruction may be recommended. The TEACH program is the instructional component of the SEARCH test. It consists of remedial tasks designed to strengthen readiness skills for reading and language arts. The SEARCH and TEACH Program has been cited in the USOE publication *Educational Programs That Work*. There is a separate tuition for this program.

COMMUNICATIONS

Conferences: Parent / Teacher conferences are scheduled in the fall. Traditionally the conference is subjective, providing an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss and evaluate the child’s growth in scholarship and character, as well as social, emotional, and spiritual development. Parents receive a written record of the conference. It is a wonderful time for parents and teachers to become better acquainted and united in purpose for the growth and development of the child. Any additional conferences can be scheduled throughout the year.

Home Meetings: In the fall, home meetings are scheduled to give parents, teachers, and board members an opportunity to form stronger bonds and to give vital information that will enhance and support the partnership between home and school. It is a time for fellowship, prayer, and introductions in a home setting.

Parent Letters: Look for the class Parent Letter and lesson plans that will be published weekly on RenWeb, keeping you posted on what is happening in the classroom as well as informing you of special events. Please take time to read these each week. Homework nights at StoneBridge are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights. We allow Wednesday night off allowing you and your family to attend church or have family time. The assignments will be published weekly on RenWeb. Please check your child’s homework nightly. If your child is unable to complete a homework assignment due to a legitimate reason such as illness, please write a note or email the teacher of explanation the following day.

Publications

The Connect is a bi-monthly newsletter posted on RenWeb for StoneBridge families which includes upcoming events, announcements, and information about athletics.

The Bridge is a quarterly publication published by the development office which includes all school news, our accomplishments, etc.

Report Cards: Report cards are issued to parents at the end of each nine-week quarter, pending payment of all financial obligations. They are available on RenWeb for parents. The final report card and results of achievement testing are mailed, pending payment of all financial obligations. Library, graduation, and lost book fees must all be paid before each report card is issued.

Mid-quarter Progress Notices: A mid-quarter report is posted on RenWeb and emailed to the parents if their child has a deficient grade average (D or F) in a particular subject for grades 2 through 5. For kindergarten through first grade students, teachers send reports for limited progress. A progress report will also be sent if a child is receiving any special services.

RenWeb: A school management software program which aids communication between school and home.

Website: www.stonebridgeschool.com

Faculty and Staff emails: Type the faculty or staff member's first name, period, then the last name followed by @stonebridgeschool.com. Sample [helen.jones@stonebridgeschool.com]. Because of instructional responsibilities, teachers may not be able to respond to an email until the end of the school day.

SCHOOL LIFE AND SCHOOL POLICIES

In making plans for the year, please make every effort to match your vacation times to the school calendar. As you know, in the Principle Approach, the teacher is the "living textbook". View every day as an important day for learning and keep absences limited to illness and family emergencies, whenever possible. The dean would also ask that you make a special effort to have your child in school on all of our "special days".

Absences/Tardies: If your child becomes ill and must miss school, please call or email the office. Each teacher will supply makeup work for absences caused by illness.

Our school requires your handwritten note or e-mail explaining the absence. The note or email should be sent to the receptionist upon the student's return.

In conformance with Virginia State law, parents should note that thirty (30) days of absenteeism will result in your child being retained in the current grade the following year.

Appointments: Please attempt to schedule ALL doctor, dentist, and orthodontic appointments on Thursday afternoons, or after school, to eliminate excessive absences.

Family Vacations during school days require advance notice and should be presented to the dean. Such vacations are discouraged as they interrupt the educational process.

School Vacations: Traditionally StoneBridge School has a week of vacation at Thanksgiving beginning at 12:00 p.m. on American Christian Heritage Day; and approximately two week vacation at Christmas; and one week in the spring. StoneBridge does not dismiss on federal holidays except for Labor Day and Memorial Day. Please consult the StoneBridge calendar for specific dates.

Tardies: A tardy slip can be upsetting to the student and gets the day off to a bad beginning. Please plan ahead to arrive between 8:10 a.m. and 8:20 a.m. The late bell rings at 8:25 a.m. Students who are unavoidably tardy should report directly to the receptionist and receive a tardy slip which is presented to the classroom teacher for admission to the class. In order to lessen disruption to the classroom, parents are not to accompany the student to class after the tardy bell rings. An accumulation of five (5) unexcused tardies will count as one (1) absence on the attendance record.

Accidents

Parents will be notified by phone or email of any significant accident. Please look for an email form to follow up.

Awards

Effort and achievement should be rewarded. God wants us to enjoy the fruit of our labor! Teachers find many ways daily to praise and reward growth and effort. However, there are several very special awards bestowed on students for various areas of accomplishment in front of the whole student body at the end of the year in a special chapel service. Awards given are:

Art: During the school year students compile an art portfolio. Work is selected from each student's portfolio and entered in the school art festival. Awards are for first (1st) and second place (2nd). Depending on the category there may be a third place (3rd) and Honorable Mention.

Physical Education: All lower school students participate in physical activities and each student receives a participation award. At each grade level an award is presented for the students who run the most laps.

Speech Meet: All lower school students participate in a yearly, classroom Speech Meet. Winners are selected to participate in the school Speech Meet.

William Tyndale Bible Award: A selected book is presented to those students who successfully complete the required Tyndale Bible Memory Recitations in chapel. There are memorization guidelines for each grade level.

As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him.

Colossians 2:6-10

Classroom Celebrations

Special Days

At StoneBridge, we follow the Biblical example of the Israelites in using special days as a way to teach the next generation what God has done. These days are an integral part of our curriculum, not just “fun” days for the students. Special days are set aside to celebrate various aspects of our curriculum. Classrooms come alive with authentic foods and crafts, music, visuals, guests, and students dressed in costumes. In the past the lower school grades have highlighted the following special days:

K-4 – Beatrix Potter Day

K-5 – Pioneer Day

1st – Italy Day

2nd – Heidi Day

3rd – Dutch Day and Bach Tea

4th – Treasure Island Day

5th – Etiquette Luncheon and Presidents’ Wax Museum

Class Parties

Celebrations are planned by the teacher and the Room Parents. They are generally related to an instructional activity of the class or are the culmination of a seasonal celebration. Please do not bring younger siblings to these events as this is a time to focus on your child in the classroom. Also, many times younger siblings are a distraction to what is happening during the event. Emphasis is on simplicity of refreshments and activities.

Special note: Invitations to private parties should never be distributed at school unless the entire grade is to be invited, nor should birthday presents be brought to school, either for distribution in the classroom or following dismissal.

Classroom Constitution

Each StoneBridge class maintains a Classroom Constitution. Simple rules and regulations necessary for classroom success are documented and agreed upon by students and teachers. All involved sign the Classroom Constitution signifying their support and willingness to abide by the constitutional precepts.

Discipline

“Discipline (n.), education; instruction; cultivation and improvement; instruction and government; method of regulating principles and practice; subjection to laws, rules, order, precepts; correction; chastisement; punishment intended to correct crimes or errors.”

The goal of discipline is to “effect” change! Internal changes of heart must occur before changes in behavior take place. At StoneBridge we train and encourage our students to develop self-government by reasoning and relating its value to their own personal decisions. In our disciplinary actions we aspire to exemplify the character of Christ to our students by demonstrating justice and mercy in a consistent framework. We teach students that laws and rules are made for the students’ good.

Discipline Policy

Our basic discipline policy is simple and scriptural. Students are taught to obey God and His Word, and to govern themselves accordingly, learning to make biblical decisions in disposing their temperaments and choices. It is a growing process and one guided in the classroom by the teacher (the governor or the Lord’s representative) and the Classroom Constitution (the body of “law” that

shows what is required and protects property and people when there is an infraction). This policy aids in the purpose of education “by disciplining the temper and fitting the individual for usefulness in his future station.” As students grow in their ability to make wise choices regarding their personal government, less “law” is needed and more “liberty” is enjoyed.

Discipline Procedure

1. Teachers usually handle the consequences of inappropriate behavior at the classroom level. A warning, time-out, or grade level specific strategy may be used. In kindergarten, students may lose a token for failure to follow the teacher’s directions. The teacher may call the parents, send a note home, or an email.
2. If the student is not responsive to the teacher’s rules and procedures, he may be sent to the office where the offense and his response are recorded in RenWeb and the parents are notified by email.
3. If the same offense requires repeated visits to the office without a change of “temper” or “wise choices”, the Dean will contact the parents to discuss the disciplinary intervention.

Dress Code

Growing in wisdom and stature through the pursuit of knowledge is Godly and needful employment of your son or daughter’s daily time. Learning is vital to students’ fulfillment of their providential placement in God’s work in America and the nations beyond, so what they do at StoneBridge every day is very important. The administration, faculty, and staff are dedicated to fostering an atmosphere and culture at our school that exists in accordance with personal growth and the pursuit of knowledge. We desire that your sons and daughters begin to think of themselves as scholars who are attending school each day to achieve worthwhile goals, and that this effort requires clothing equal to the occasion.

1. All students attending grades K4 through 5th grade may wear shorts; shorts should be no shorter than mid-thigh.
2. Jeans **may** be worn by all students as long as they are clean, properly fitted, and in good repair.
3. All clothing **must be** worn as it was made to be worn. Clothing should be modest and should not display any graphics that are immoral or ungodly or promotes a political agenda.
4. Girls’ dresses should be no shorter than **two inches above the knee**; slit skirts **should not** be slit higher than two inches above the knee.
5. Bare shoulders or backs, flip-flops, or tank tops **are not** allowed. Girls must have straps of at least 2 inches on the shoulders of tops or blouses.
6. There should be **no extremes** in hairstyle or dress. Girls should wear feminine clothing whether skirt or pants and refrain from too-tight clothing that is immodest. Students should come to school with their hair clean, neatly cut, combed, and out of their eyes. Boys’ hair should be off the collar in the back and not below mid-ear on sides.
7. Thursdays are “chapel days”; there are no P.E. classes. Students should dress up on these days. Girls should wear skirts and blouses or dresses and dress shoes; boys should wear a collared shirt, slacks, and dress shoes. The shirt should be tucked in at all times.

8. In all cases, the dean is the final authority in determining specific articles of clothing that are considered by the school to be inappropriate.

Electronic Devices

Appropriate stewardship of personal electronic property is essential. StoneBridge School will not take any responsibility for the care and safekeeping of students' personal electronic equipment. If such equipment is confiscated for misuse, it is stored in the office and the parent is contacted. The parent must claim the property in person.

Cell Phones: Students are allowed to bring cell phones to school. However, cell phones must be turned off during the school day (8:20 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.) and should maintain an “invisible” presence on campus.

Music and Entertainment Devices: There is no need for the daily use of this type of equipment at school. This equipment should not be on school property or at a school sponsored event unless specific permission is granted by a teacher or school authority and notification is provided to parents and administration and the use fully conforms to the granted permission.

Emergency School Closing

In the event that school is closed due to inclement weather, we will make our own decision and contact TV stations to broadcast our determination. Please do not assume that because Chesapeake, Portsmouth, or Suffolk schools are closed or opening late that we are doing the same. Generally we will either open on time or not at all. The reason public schools open late is because they have buses that need to traverse residential roads for several hours before school opens. SBS uses carpools rather than buses, so we do not have the same situation.

Tune in to TV channels 3, 10, or 13 to find out our decision. Our decision regarding closing will ALSO be on the answering machine at school. Call 488-2214 or 488-7586. If other schools are closing early, StoneBridge parents that are concerned about their child's safety or road conditions are welcome to come and pick up their children. We will remain open for those parents who are not able to get their children before our regular closing time.

Field Study Trips

Many field studies enrich and promote classroom lessons. The lower school usually visits the Chrysler Art Museum or another fine arts event. Advantage is taken of the many historical, scientific, and cultural opportunities in our area. Parents sign a general permission slip for field studies on their contract and are then notified of the details of each scheduled trip. Teachers plan these trips carefully, tying them in to units of the curriculum. When children do not participate, they miss an important part of their instruction. If parents do not wish their child to go on a specific field study, they should notify the dean of the reason. In such a case the child reports to school at the regular time and is assigned appropriate activities. Unless the student is ill, they are expected to be at school. Lastly, please be aware that field studies are special for your child and provisions for younger children are not available. Please make other arrangements for siblings.

Grading

Grading progress in learning is a necessary part of school life and a demonstration of the principle of property. Our labor has value. Progress in school is the direct result of diligence and industry. It takes more than intellect to bring real success in learning. It requires diligence, faithfulness, and other important qualities of character. Our goal is to nurture the character of scholarship in students by requiring a notebook grade, homework, and a grading standard that will challenge the best in every child. Kindergarten students have modified grading requirements.

We never want grades to be a source of discouragement, pride, competition, or ridicule. We do want students to develop an appreciation of work standards and the *principle of sowing and reaping*. Children must understand that *a grade is a by-product of their labor*.

Second through fifth grade students are given A, B, C, D, or F letter grades. A check (/), check plus (/+), L, and N are used for kindergarten, first grade, and some non-academic classes.

The following is a list of the grades given by grade level:

K-4 – K-5	/+	Superior Progress
	/	Good Progress
	L	Limited Progress
1 st	/+	Superior Progress
	/	Good Progress
	N	Needs Improvement

This scale is used for all academic and resource classes.

2 nd through 5 th	A	94 – 100
	B	86 – 93
	C	78 – 85
	D	70 – 77
	F	00 – 69

This scale is used for all academic classes. Depending on grade level this scale will be used for some resource classes. Those resource classes not receiving a letter grade will use /, /+, and N.

Homework

The Purpose for Homework: For young students, homework is minimal and mostly oral. As students progress through the grades the length and complexity of assignments will increase. Good homework habits are cultivated and essential. We give homework for the following reasons:

1. To form habits that contribute to success
2. To reinforce what was taught in school
3. To create a point of intellectual contact between parent and child
4. To keep parents in tune with the child's progress

Lost and Found Articles

Clothing and articles left in halls, on the school grounds, and in classrooms are collected in the main office and placed in a lost and found box. Check the Lost and Found before Christmas vacation, before spring vacation, and before summer vacation. Unclaimed articles are displayed upon occasion and parents are asked to claim their articles. All unclaimed articles are given to charity.

Medication

We have an obligation to all parents to provide a safe environment and must control circulation of medications. If your child needs to take prescription medicine during the school day, we must have a note from the doctor. The note must include the type of medication, the instructions for administering it, and a time schedule from you letting us know when the next dose is to be given. In the lower school Tylenol or pain medication will not be dispensed from school personnel unless it has been sent in with specific instructions. If your child has frequent need for pain medication, please bring a bottle labeled with his name and dosage to the receptionist, with written permission for us to administer. Please be aware you will always be called before any medicine is dispensed.

Students should not be sent to school ill or injured. StoneBridge School has established the following criteria for keeping your child at home or requesting evaluation by your healthcare provider:

- Any contagious illness, such as meningitis, pertussis, chicken pox, etc.: Parents should notify the school immediately if their child has a contagious disease. Other parents will then be informed if necessary. Confidentiality and privacy will be protected for each individual as much as possible.
- Fever of 100 degrees or higher within the previous 24 hours. *Your child must be fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medications before returning to school.*
- Sore throat or swollen glands with fever over 100 degrees orally.
- Earache with fever over 100 degrees orally.
- Inflamed, irritated eyes or drainage from eyes must be evaluated by a healthcare provider to determine if the condition is contagious. If it is contagious, appropriate treatment must be started before your child attends class and after school activities.
- Undiagnosed rashes or skin eruptions.
- **Vomiting or diarrhea within the previous 24 hours.**
- Head lice or scabies: Upon return to school after treatment for head lice as ordered by your health care provider, the student should go to the office to be checked before returning to class. *StoneBridge has a no nit policy.*

The student is responsible for going to the receptionist at the appropriate time to receive prescription medication.

Parking

Please do not leave your car unattended at the front doors at any time. If you feel it is necessary to help your child in and out of the car, or you need to enter the building for any reason, please park in the side parking lots at the ends of the building. We reserve the front for carpool, field trip use, and emergency vehicles, if necessary. Also, please note that it is illegal to park in the handicap spaces.

Please **do not** park adjacent to the front doors and walk across the lot in front of cars in line for carpool.

School Events

American Christian Heritage Day: The purpose for this special event is to bring history alive and remember God's providence in the establishment of America's first permanent English colony.

Back to School Night is for all parents in September. Both parents are encouraged to attend and spend time in each of their children's classrooms. Notes are frequently left for moms and dads to read, and many parents write responses which are savored throughout the year by their children. Student work is on display and each teacher spends time imparting the spirit and routine of the classroom.

Christmas Program: A reinforcement of what the season is really about shown through the many talents of our students.

Constitution Day is a day commemorating the signing of our U.S. Constitution in a special chapel, followed by a ceremony in which each student signs the individual classroom constitution.

Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day: Grandparents receive a special invitation to join their grandchildren at a special chapel and a visit to the classroom.

K-5 Graduation: A celebration of the initial step of formal schooling.

Liberty Day: Our school's unique tribute to the contributions of our United States military service members. We honor StoneBridge parents, grandparents, and other family members who are retired or active duty military, reservist, or Veterans of Foreign Wars.

School Hours

The doors to the classroom will open daily at 8:10 a.m. Students should use this time to organize their school materials, sharpen pencils, order lunch, and share prayer requests. A five minute warning bell will ring at 8:20 a.m. to let students and parents know that the day is about to begin. If parents are in the classroom they are asked to leave at this time. Students should be in their seats and ready to begin school at 8:25 a.m. School will begin promptly at 8:25 a.m., and students are expected to be seated and ready for class before that time. Tardiness causes your child to begin the day in a rush and to be unprepared for the learning activities that have already begun. In addition, it is disruptive to the class as a whole. Your efforts to have your child to school on time will help us have an orderly beginning to each day. In order to lessen disruption to the classroom, parents are not to accompany the student to class after the tardy bell rings. On Thursday afternoons, we will dismiss at 11:55 a.m. Please make every effort to schedule medical and dental appointments on Thursday afternoons so that important class time is not missed. All other days, (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday) school is dismissed at 2:55 p.m. Parents may arrive by 2:50 p.m. to begin forming the line. We are trying to be good neighbors, so please **do not** block the driveways on Colin Drive. Children will be dismissed only when their vehicle has arrived and is waiting in the line with the car pool number displayed in the window. Car pool numbers are called beginning at 2:55 p.m. If the driver has business in the school building, he should park the car at the ends of the school building. Please stay with your car at all times and **do not** leave your car unattended in the car pool line. All children will be dismissed through the front door. Students who are not picked up by 3:15 p.m. (12:15 p.m. on Thursdays) will be placed in Extended Care and will be charged.

School Pictures

Each year, student pictures will be taken in the fall and spring by a local photographer and these may be purchased.

School Supplies

During the summer you will receive a supply list. It will have all the information for each individual grade level. If you need an additional copy of the list please contact the school office.

Security

All outside doors are locked beginning at 9:00 a.m. Only school personnel are allowed to open a door for a visitor. The front door on Colin Drive is provided with an outside doorbell for your convenience.

Transportation

Carpool: If interested in carpooling with other families, please contact the Admissions Office and the coordinator will be glad to help you locate other families in your area that may be interested in a carpool. Because of the safety of the children we ask that there be NO CELL PHONES used in the carpool line. For the safety of the children we ask that all pets remain in your vehicle during dismissal.

Bus: No child can be left alone at a bus stop. We must follow "leased bus" safety rules. When the bus arrives at the bus stop there must be an authorized person to receive the child. Otherwise the bus driver will bring the child back to the school. The child will then be placed in Extended Care until someone arrives. *Transportation is not included in tuition.*

Bus rules:

- The first rule of safety revolves around good conduct. Noise should be minimal so students may talk but keep the level down quietly.
- All of the driver's instructions and directions must be obeyed.
- Head, elbows, arms or any other objects should never be put out of the window.
- The vehicles should be treated with care and respect.

Shuttle between campuses: Shuttle riders may board the bus for a transfer to the other campus in both the morning and afternoon. Afternoon shuttle riders not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will be charged for Extended Care. Monthly passes are available. Contact the business office for additional information and prices.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Extended Care Program

Extended Care is the program of the school that has charge or oversight of students before and after school hours with concern for their safety and prosperity.

The program:

- Provides working parents safe and reliable childcare before and after school.
- Provides students with assisted study time.
- Provides students with interesting and safe activities.
- Sees that all children are supervised.

Please see fee sheet which is available at each campus.

Parents:

- Parents are directed to go to the supervisor to sign their children out of Extended Care.
- After a child has been signed out, the parent needs to have their child in visual sight at all times; students are not allowed to roam the halls after dismissal.
- The supervisor will either be in the cafeteria or on the playground.

Extra Curricular Offerings

Band: The lower school is offering a band program beginning with the third grade and continuing each year to prepare the students for upper school band. They will begin with rhythms, then move to recorders and finish in fifth grade with learning an instrument.

Basketball Junior League: Every Saturday during the winter, students enjoy Basketball Junior League in the StoneBridge gym. These intramural games, coached by StoneBridge parents, are open to all K4-8th graders, and teach the students basic basketball skills, teamwork, and Christian sportsmanship. A nominal fee covers a tee shirt.

Soccer Junior League: Soccer Junior League takes place every Saturday during the spring (April-June). These intramural games, coached by StoneBridge parents, are open to all K4-7th graders, and teach the students basic soccer skills, teamwork, and Christian sportsmanship.

Do you not know that in a race all runners run, but only one gets the prize. I Corinthians 9:24

Summer Camps

Art: Come to camp to learn a variety of art skills. Some areas that may be offered are: Drawing; Lampwork (Glass Beadmaking); Stained Glass; Acrylic Painting and Soft Chalks and Oil Pastels.

Soccer: Students entering 1st – 4th grade are eligible for Jr. Camp. Emphasizing: Technical training, character development and daily devotions.

A variety of summer camps are offered. Details are made available on the website as soon as camp dates and times are confirmed.

Summer Reading

StoneBridge has a REQUIRED summer reading program. Three high quality books are to be read independently from 1st through 6th grade. Bookmarks sent home at the end of the year are used to record titles. Special commendations are awarded in September to those who read beyond the minimum. Kindergarten parents are asked to read books aloud to their students.

*Have I not written to you excellent things of counsels and knowledge,
to make you know the certainty of the words of truth?
Proverbs 22:20-21a*

*Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.
Romans 12:2*

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Annual Golf Classic

Held each spring at a local golf course, this annual event offers an opportunity for parents, grandparents, teachers, business owners, and friends to enjoy an afternoon of golf and fellowship, while supporting the athletic program at StoneBridge School.

For more information on how to join the fun, call the Development Office.

Room Parents

The Room Parent Program is an extremely important and necessary adjunct to the daily life within the classrooms. A Room Parent is a parent who is willing to directly serve the needs of the homeroom teacher. Their gifts are utilized under the direct supervision of the homeroom teacher to directly aid with manpower or finding others to help with classroom projects, celebrations, making food, student drills, crafts, bulletin boards, Special Day needs, graduation (K-5) receptions and sundry other needs that arise in any school year. Each homeroom needs at least one Room Parent and a pool of parents who can be called upon to give assistance.

Volunteers

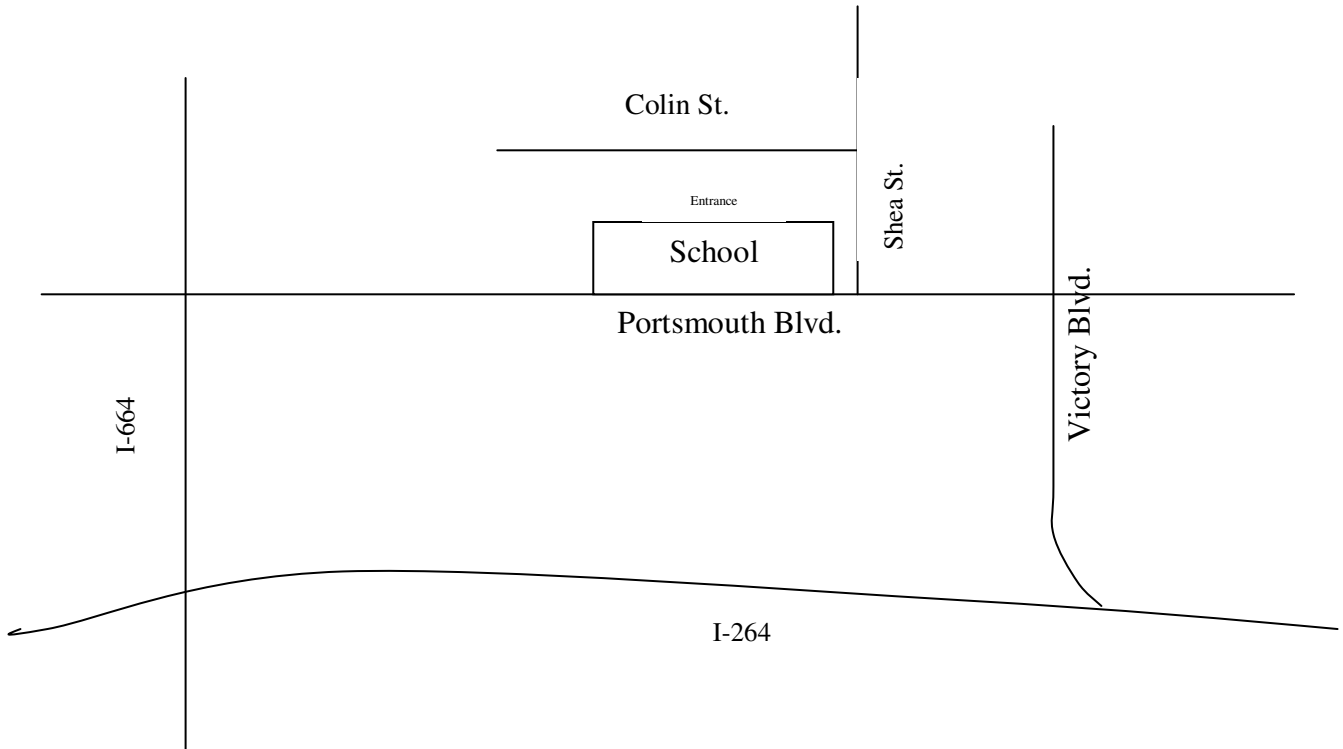
Volunteers are always needed to help the school year run smoothly. Some of the areas you may want to volunteer in are below:

- Room Parents
- Spirit Shop
- Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day
- Parent Workdays (held in August to help get the school ready to open)
- Special guest speaker for chapel
- Library

These are just a few of the areas that we look for volunteers. You will receive more information about opportunities to volunteer at Back-to-School Night.

*Whoever will be chief among you, let Him be your servant.
Matthew 20:27*

Map



Directions from 664:

Housed inside Bethany Baptist Church

Exit on the Portsmouth Blvd. East exit. Continue on Portsmouth until you enter Portsmouth (over the bridge). Continue to Shea Street. Make a left at the light onto Shea Street. Make a left on Colin Street. Go to the second driveway on the left.

Directions from 264:

Exit on the Victory Blvd. exit. Turn onto Victory Blvd. towards the water tower. Continue on Victory to the light at Portsmouth Blvd. Make a left onto Portsmouth Blvd. Go to the second light (Shea Street) and make a right. Make a left onto Colin Street. Continue to the second driveway on the left.

The StoneBridge School Ethos Statement

Ethology is defined as “a treatise on morality or the science of ethics” and comes from the Greek root meaning manners, morals, and discourse. “The Ethology of StoneBridge School” is therefore a discourse describing the fundamental character or spirit of the school’s culture, or **ethos**. It is written for the purpose of communicating fully and clearly the **ethos** to which StoneBridge School is committed. Because this is a written discourse, prudence requires that we precisely define the vocabulary used in order to establish understanding.

- Ethos, n. The fundamental character or spirit of a culture; the underlying sentiment that informs the beliefs, customs, or practices of a group or society.
- Morality, n. The conformity of an act to the divine law, or to the principles of rectitude. This conformity implies that the act must be performed by a free agent, and from a motive of obedience to the divine will.
- Discourse, n. A communication of thoughts by words; mutual interchange of thoughts; a written treatise; the act of the understanding, by which it passes from premises to consequences, which connects propositions, and deduces conclusions from them.
- Manners, n. Deportment; behavior; conduct; course of life; in a moral sense.¹

At StoneBridge School, the particular **ethos** we desire is one of excellence, not only in our academics, but also in the general school atmosphere and daily life of the students, whether they are on campus, or representing the school in any off-site event. When the student’s life outside of school adversely affects the ethos of the school, it becomes the school’s responsibility to bring the scriptural principles to bear upon the situation.

Our motivation for this commitment comes from Biblical principles. The list of scriptures express the principles to which we adhere and are represented by Philippians 4:8: *Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things.*

From Biblical principle we draw the following conclusions, which set the specific standards by which we operate in reference to our **ethos**.

1. In life, we are asked to discern the nature, quality, purpose, and usefulness of everything. We are given great liberty but are accountable for our choices.
2. This discernment is important, because our thinking should reflect God’s thinking about the things that come our way, and thereby we demonstrate that He is a living and active Person in our lives.
3. This discernment is a process, not a simple event. It is developed over time as we grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
4. Logically, this process involves testing all things, and holding onto whatever meets the Biblical standard, and discarding what does not.

¹ American Dictionary of the English Language: Noah Webster 1828. Foundation for American Christian Education, San Francisco, 1968.

5. Obviously, this is not because God wishes to limit our enjoyment and happiness; in fact, the opposite is true – it is because God wishes to limit the damage that could come to our lives by not holding onto His standards. For example, using the above verse, imagine if we allowed the opposites of what is mentioned to nominate or influence our thinking. That would mean that what is ignoble, false, wrong, impure, ugly, disgusting, despised, profane, or perverse, would describe our lives. We must guard against admitting the evil influences, as the consequences would be harmful for generations.

At StoneBridge, we aim to define and incorporate into our curriculum, and inculcate in our children, these standards and principles. In addition, we aim to have a social atmosphere that conforms to Biblical principle. We also desire to see each student reach his fullest expression in Christ through the educational process, growing in discernment, and in the application of Biblical Principles to his life.

Therefore, because we stand under the authority of scripture and the wisdom of Biblical principles, we have established certain policies and behavioral codes. These policies are found in this Manual, StoneBridge Board Policy Manual, in our primary, middle, and high school dress codes that are published and distributed annually, in the high school honor code, and in the various annual updates from principals. In addition to the existing policies, and in light of the concern we are addressing as distinct community living in a culture that is often hostile to biblical living, **we add the following policy:**

No student is allowed to discuss² or bring material into the school for any use whatsoever that violates Biblical standards.

This includes printed matter, music, CD's, computer files, videos, or any other medium of communication that fails to follow these Biblical guidelines. Anything that is contrary to the ethos described in this treatise is hereby prohibited at school.

Our expectation as a Christian school is that every home joined in partnership with us is a Christian home. While we understand the limits of our Jurisdiction as a school and will not usurp the authority of the parents; we do assert the God-given authority to regulate what is brought into the school. We are accountable to God to do so, and responsible to every parent to create and preserve the environment that honors the principles of the Word of God.

We recognize that these regulations do not produce holiness, nor achieve any righteousness in relationship to God. Nothing of man can do so as that is the work of the Holy Spirit. But, the work of the Holy Spirit is to increase our knowledge of what is good, to cause us to hate what is evil, to enable us to make choices in the use of our time, talent, and treasure that reflect His holy character and enable us to be most useful. Note the words of Paul to a young developing leader: *“In a large house there are many different articles, not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.”* II Timothy 2:20-21

² Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

Please remember that this **ethos** policy is set so that we might maintain an environment that accommodates the mission of our school:

Stone Bridge School is a classical Christian school established to restore the Christian character of the Republic. We serve Christian families, enabling each child to reach the fullest expression of his value in Christ through a Biblical “principle approach” education.

Our school song best summarizes the Stonebridge School **ethos**, taken from Isaiah 60:15 and Philippians 1:9-10:

*³I will make you an eternal excellence, a joy of many generations!
I will fill you with the fruits of righteousness, which come through Christ Jesus.
And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more,
With knowledge and all discernment.
So that you may approve what is excellent, being pure and blameless
Filled with the fruits of righteousness which come through Jesus Christ
To the glory and praise of God!*



³ By Mary Barnes 1984, StoneBridge School Teachers Retreat

Rev. Jim Arcieri, Dr. Carole Adams, and the StoneBridge school administration wrote "The Ethology of StoneBridge School" statement. The StoneBridge School Board of Directors at the October 11, 1999 meeting board meeting approved it.

Scriptures upon which the ethos statement is based:

(Phil. 4:8 KJV) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

(I Cor. 14:20 KJV) Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

(Eph. 6:4 KJV) And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

(Jer. 10:2 KJV) Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.

(Pro. 19:27 KJV) Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.

(2 Cor. 10:5 KJV) Casting down imagination, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

(Col. 2:8 KJV) Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

(Amos 3:3 KJV) Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

(Mark 7:21-23 KJV) For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

(Psa. 11:5 KJV) The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

(Prov. 22:6 KJV) Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

(Eph. 5:4-5 KJV) Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe and teach the Holy Bible, God's only inspired, infallible, authoritative, written Word, to which nothing can be added or taken away.

We believe and teach the sovereignty of one God, creator and governor of the universe and man: that God is eternally existent in three persons, as God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.

We believe and teach that man, made in God's image and likeness, given the choice, yielded to temptation by Satan, disobeyed God, fell into sin, thereby incurring God's judgment, and revealing man's great need for a Savior.

We believe and teach that JESUS CHRIST is God's promised Savior to man.

We believe and teach that JESUS CHRIST as Deity, God's only begotten Son, came to the earth through the virgin birth, to provide, through His shed blood, His atoning death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension to the right hand of the Father, man's only means of redemption or salvation from sin and its everlasting punishment.

We believe and teach that the sinless life of our Savior JESUS CHRIST, His miracles, His accessibility to all men, women and children, reveal God's grace and love. We look forward to the promised return of our Savior in power and glory to reign on earth.

We believe and teach that the Holy Spirit, Third Person of the blessed Trinity of God, took up His abode on earth, on the day of Pentecost, and that by His indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life.

We believe and teach that the bride of Christ, the church, is empowered to carry out the Savior's great commission, and to preach the gospel of liberty, both internal and external, to all men and nations, and to bring His healing message of the unity of all believers.

We believe in and teach the bodily resurrection of both the saved and the lost: those who are saved unto the resurrection of life and those who are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

We believe that the responsibility of the Christian in America is to insure both Gospel purity and Gospel availability by remembering the marvelous works of Christ in bringing forth our nation where church and state, united internally, but separated externally and governmentally, make available to all men, women, and children, the privilege of preaching and teaching SALVATION THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, under a Biblical constitution.

We who serve the Lord at StoneBridge School are committed to this Statement of Faith by which we live, by accepting the government of god through Christ in our ministry of teaching and learning.