# PARENTAL INFORMATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

#### CHILD CUSTODY

It is critical that New Vision's administration and key personnel be aware of the legal status of every child NOT living with both biological parents. As a result, one of the following is REQUIRED for children in such situations in order to remain as a student at New Vision:

- 1. In cases of divorce or legal separation, a court document (dated and signed) which specifies who has custody and under what circumstances/conditions,
- 2. A written and signed statement that the child/ren's other parent is deceased along with his/her full name and date and place of death,
- 3. A legal, dated document showing adoption, ad litem guardianship, or power of attorney, OR
- 4. A written, signed and dated statement to the fact that no marriage occurred along with the name of the other biological parent and a brief description of currently agreed upon custodial arrangements between the two parties.

Upon request, the school will provide school records to both parents UNLESS supplied with official documents prohibiting such. It is the parents' responsibility to provide the school with updates. ONLY the custodial parent will be allowed to check out a child from school unless the school has been otherwise notified in writing by the custodial parent. All students must live with at least one parent or an official guardian if the parent is not such. Pupils may not live alone or with friends.

### CHANGE OF RESIDENCE / EMPLOYMENT / CUSTODY

New Vision's administration believes in the importance of close working relationships with parents of our students. This is especially critical in terms of every student's safety, health and security. As a result, all parents are **REQUIRED** to notify the school promptly of any changes in addresses, phone numbers (home and work), or custodial arrangements that might occur during the course of the school year.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION / STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

NVIS complies with the "American Disability Act" and offers reasonable accommodations to properly identify students who supply appropriate documentation.

#### PARENT - TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences with parents are important to the teacher in the evaluation process. Requests for conferences may be made through the school office via email, voicemail or calling the office. Parents have a better opportunity for having a successful conference when the teacher can plan for the conference in advance; therefore, PARENTS MUST MAKE APPOINTMENTS IN ADVANCE FOR CONFERENCES WITH TEACHERS OR THE ADMINISTRATION. Please, do NOT go in your child's classroom in the morning before school or at the end of the school day to talk with the teacher without an appointment. These are busy times for our teachers. NVIS reserves the right to audio and/or video tape any conference.

#### PARENTAL CONDUCT

All of New Vision's administrators, faculty and staff are expected to treat parents with courtesy and respect. In reciprocal fashion, parents are expected to afford the same to New Vision's employees and volunteers. The school recognizes the challenges parents face in preparing children for the 21st century. It also accepts the inevitability that children will make mistakes, fail, or violate handbook or classroom rules. NVIS views the application of consequences when such occur as opportunities for positive learning experiences. All wise individuals should learn from their mistakes and children are no exception.

Typically, when students fail to meet handbook or the teachers expectations, disciplinary action becomes necessary. On occasion, parents may have concerns regarding such situations and wish to express such to the teacher, administration or staff in conferences. While effective communication and the exchange of ideas are welcomed, civility is more greatly prized. As a result, conversations during conferences or at any other time on campus or at any school activity whether on or off campus will cease should parents become rude, threatening or violent in any manner. Additionally, the disruptive parents' children may be asked to leave New Vision. While the overwhelming majority of New Vision's parents are cooperative and supportive, the inappropriate actions of any cannot be tolerated or permitted. Children watch how adults conduct themselves and so we must always strive to set examples of good behavior for them to follow.

#### STUDENT AND PARENT COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Concerns from students and/or parents should first be made to the appropriate teacher **IN WRITING OR BY APPOINTMENT** and then to the principal using the same procedure. If the situation concerns a teacher, the principal will consult the teacher and then the matter will be discussed in conference with both the parent/ guardian and teacher.

If the principal cannot settle the concern, the Superintendent and/or the Pastor will be asked to hear and resolve the issue.

Any concern regarding school policy not covered by the Parent And Student Handbook or other published documents, must be presented in writing to the Superintendent of the school. The Superintendent will review the concern and will make a decision about the concern; the Superintendent's decision is final.

#### HOME AND SCHOOL COOPERATION

Biblically, discipline is the parents' responsibility. The parents may delegate the responsibility to the school during school hours, but the primary responsibility lies with the parents. This is why it is vitally important for the parents and the school to cooperate when it comes to the discipline of a child. The school administration asks that parents support the school in the use of discipline. The administration likewise will include the parents in the disciplinary process to the extent possible.

## PARENT'S CODE

Our parents play a vital part in the total operation of New Vision International School. Emphasis again and again has been placed upon the importance of parents cooperating with the school for the education of the child. We like to believe that the following code, when subscribed to by all our parents, would make New Vision International School a school which would truly honor the Lord and produce the finest education possible.

- 1. I will pray regularly for the teachers, staff, and administration.
- 2. I will cooperate fully in the educational function of New Vision, doing my best to make Christian education effective in the lives of each of my children, that they may love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ for all their life.
- 3. I will pay all my financial obligations to the school on or before the date they are due. If I am ever unable to pay on time, I will notify the school in advance, giving a reasonable explanation for the delay and stating when the payment can be made.
- I will support the school by participating in school functions and events.
- 5. I will assume volunteer duties and responsibilities as opportunities arise and as God provides the strength and time.
- 6. I will attend periodic meetings and parent functions of the school.
- 7. If I become dissatisfied with New Vision in any respect, I will try to resolve the matter with the person or persons involved rather than seeking to spread criticism or hold a negative attitude in my heart. I will not criticize the school before my children. I will follow the Biblical information found in Matthew 18:15.
  - <sup>15</sup> Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. (KJV)
- 8. I will support the advancement of New Vision in all areas: spiritually, academically, and physically.
- 9. As a parent of New Vision, I recognize it is my privilege and responsibility to strive diligently to observe the above as God enables me by the power of His Holy Spirit.

#### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Because of the awesome responsibility you have entrusted to us to help you with the Christian education of your child(ren), we ask that you PRAY for the school, students, and staff daily.

Parent orientation, open house meetings, and parent conferences promote a better understanding between parents or guardians and the staff of this school. Every parent is expected to participate in these informative and helpful events. Please check the calendar and special bulletins for all events.

We ask that parents and/or relatives and guests refrain from smoking on our property or in our buildings. Because of the potential risks, we also ask that no pets be brought to school, school activities, or on school trips. All visitors (parents, friends, etc.) must respect the clothing standards of New Vision International School.

Parents and visitors should refrain from wearing shorts, sleeveless, and / or spaghetti strap tops, low cut blouses, or otherwise dressing immodestly on campus during school hours.

Display of occult, satanic, or gang symbols are not permitted on clothing, vehicles, book bags, purses etc. when on campus. Appropriateness and modesty are the basic principles governing all appearance and dress. The principle of showing deference should be the lifestyle of Christian leaders.

Language of parents and guests should at all times reflect the highest of Christian principles.

Parents must not post any pictures or information on the internet or social media of school staff or students without written permission of Pastor or School Administrator.

Parents should refer to the school calendar so as to keep abreast of coming events. (Updated calendars will be sent home as necessary.)

## Volunteers In Partnership (VIP) Program

No school can be truly viable without the support, encouragement and help of its parents. NVIS is no exception. In order to tap this valuable resource, the school has established a "Volunteers In Partnership" program. It is our goal to give every individual who desires to do so, an opportunity to volunteer and serve at NVIS. If you have not already completed a VIP information sheet, please, E-Mail us at office@nvis.org. More information about this program is available on our website. Please volunteer to make our school even better.

#### Parent/Teacher Fellowship Organization (PTFO)

The PTFO is a group of loyal NVIS parents and teachers who work together to enhance the atmosphere of the school. Just as the body of Christ consists of different members, each volunteer brings unique talents and abilities to form a diverse PTFO body. The PTFO holds several fundraisers each year to provide the funds for activities that are fun and in line with God's word. The PTFO meets monthly on the first Thursday of every month and all NVIS parents and grandparents are invited to attend.

#### **Parent Orientation**

One of New Vision's most important initial tasks is to provide our parents a clear and concise orientation to both, our conventional, lecture style classrooms as well as to our non-graded, individualized, self-pace classroom, its procedures and curriculum. A Parent Orientation program is available to all new parents and their families. The program provides parents with the basic philosophy of Christian education, gives parents an overview of the curriculum, and acquaints parents with classroom procedures. The Parent Orientation will help make parents more supportive when understanding more about the program and the new terminology. Parent Orientation is a half-day training session. The Parent Orientation for our A.C.E. students includes DVD presentations, as well as the Parent Orientation PACE. The PACE lets parents experience the same classroom procedures their children will experience. The Parent Orientation is not optional; it is required for all new parents to attend. Parents of returning students do not need to attend the Parent Orientation. Parent Orientation is only for parents of NEW students.