

**Banner Christian School**  
**Goochland K5-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

Q: What is the tuition for the new school?

A: The tuition will be the same as the tuition for the Chesterfield campus. For the 2020-2021 school year, the tuition is \$10,450. Some financial aid may be available through a partnership with a scholarship foundation created to maximize the Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit Program through the Virginia Department of Education. The program is funded through the generosity of individual donors and businesses that desire to support Banner and Christian education.

Q: What are the hours of the new school?

A: We start school at 7:55 a.m. Our doors open at 7:30 a.m. to receive students. Our day concludes at 2:50 p.m.

Q: Will after school care be available?

A: Yes, after school care is available until 6:00 p.m. even on half days. All students that are still in the carpool line at 3:05 p.m. will be escorted to aftercare. Aftercare has an additional hourly charge that is billed to your account monthly. No reservations are required for aftercare. However, parents are required to sign their student out once in aftercare.

Q: How many students are needed to launch the new Goochland campus?

A: We anticipate that a commitment of 55-60 students is all that is needed.

Q: Since the school doesn't do school-wide fundraisers, does tuition include books, activities fees, field trips, etc.?

A: Yes, tuition covers all these costs except for uniforms and lunches. Lunches are brought in from area vendors and sold to students at cost. Students may also pack their lunch. The school provides microwaves to reheat food. There are some upfront fees which include a \$50 application fee, a \$50 testing fee unless the student already has usable standardized test scores and a \$300 enrollment fee, if accepted.

Q: Can you share a little more about the new Chesterfield campus?

A: The County just approved our initial Plan of Development. We are waiting for the permit which gives us authority to be able to start moving dirt. Phase 1 includes all the site work necessary to begin building the first 41,000 sq. ft facility which is scheduled to be opened in January 2021. It will accommodate just under 500 students. Once the remainder of the campus is completed in the following 3-5 years, the original 41,000 sq.

ft building will be repurposed into a trade school. The completed complex is approximately 150,000 sq. ft and will accommodate up to 1,200 students.

Q: Will the new Chesterfield campus be able to accommodate the rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders from the new Goochland campus?

A: Yes, current families have the right to re-enroll (including siblings) for the following year before enrollment is opened to the public, regardless of which campus they currently attend. Re-enrollment occurs in January and in February, enrollment is then opened to new families.

Q: How is the curriculum developed at Banner Christian School?

A: Many Christian schools use curriculums that are built from Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We developed our own curriculum with the exit objective in mind. We started with 12<sup>th</sup> grade and worked our way backwards to Kindergarten to create the building blocks necessary to get to the exit objectives. It started with looking at scope and sequence, laying out when do you introduce something, when do you teach it and when do the students master it? Then we went out to find textbooks that best meet those needs. We actually use 9 different publishers. We have curriculum specialists whose job it is to review it annually. We take 1 cognitive area (math, science, etc.) and we review it annually. That's one of the reasons tuition covers textbooks so that if we decide to make a change to the curriculum and add a different textbook, the cost is not passed along to the parents.

Q: How is technology used in the classroom?

A: Our use of technology in the classroom is good and will continue to get better. On the new campus we will be able to wire the facility the way we want it. However, in the church location we are a little more limited, but we do have wireless internet, utilize projectors, computers, laptops, etc. We have an IT director that manages all of that. We control all the technology. We do not allow outside computers on campus because we can't monitor them. We are looking at a one-to-one program in the next 3-5 years where every student will have their own device. Until we're able to control the individual devices, we're not ready to implement it. There is some new technology out there that will allow a teacher to gain control of a screen but right now they are still working out some of the bugs. At this time, we are not able to use smart boards in every classroom, but we do have similar technology that we use, and it's called a mobi. They are smart boards on a tablet. Anything that is done on the tablet gets projected onto a board or screen and the tablet can be passed around.

Q: What kind of outdoor space will there be at the new campus?

A: There is a lot of outdoor space available for our use on Salem Baptist Church's property. We plan to put in a playground and secure any other outdoor green space that would be used for student activities for safety purposes.

Q: Are the teachers for the Goochland campus coming from the Chesterfield location to teach?

A: No, although a couple of teachers currently teaching at our Chesterfield campus are interested in being considered for the Goochland campus, hiring will be done through our normal application and interview process.

Q: How many students will be in each class?

A: In Kindergarten, our maximum class size is 16. For 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade the maximum class size is 20. This allows the teacher to have more of a one-on-one experience with the students.

Q: What are the qualifications for the teachers?

A: Each teacher is required to have a minimum undergraduate degree from an accredited university and must be certified through ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International). ACSI certification is more stringent than state certification because ACSI requires both CEUs (continuing education units) in both your field of study as well as in Bible. A number of the faculty on the Chesterfield campus also have graduate degrees.