

Ad Fontes Academy
Grandparents Association and Council
Charter
Adopted September 2012

Introduction

Ad Fontes Academy in Centreville, Virginia provides the opportunity for students to receive a classical, Christian education. The word, “classical,” refers to an educational approach that was used for centuries, and is unique among the progressive approach of our day in that it teaches students how to learn for themselves. A student taught in the fundamentals of classical education is equipped to more readily learn any subject. The term, “Christian,” recognizes that Jesus Christ must have preeminence in education as in all facets of life. Thus, Ad Fontes Academy provides the opportunity for a strong Christ-centered education, based on enduring principles of excellence, which equip students to make a positive difference in the culture of our day.

Like other classical educators, Ad Fontes Academy teachers and administrators believe that parents are responsible for the education of their children – not the state. Ad Fontes teachers and administrators believe that any authority they have over the students has been delegated to them by the parents to help the parents in their educational task. Grandparents of Ad Fontes Academy students also play a vital role through their support. This interactive relationship among Ad Fontes teachers and administrator, parents, grandparents, and students is a key to having a healthy and vibrant learning environment for the students, and for the success and growth of Ad Fontes Academy.

Grandparents Association Membership

The members of the Grandparents Association are the grandparents of current and former Ad Fontes Academy students. Parents can also designate surrogate grandparents if needed or desired.

Grandparents Council

The Grandparents Council serves as the leadership body within the Grandparents Association.

The Council consists of a Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and two adjunct members of the Grandparents Association:

- The Chairperson provides leadership to the Council with the assistance of the Vice-Chair.
- The Secretary records the relevant minutes and outcomes of Council meetings.
- The two adjunct members of the Grandparents Council assist the other three members in carrying out the functions and duties of the Council.
- At least one member of the Grandparents Council coordinates prayer among those other persons in the Grandparents Association who feel called to pray on a regular basis for Ad Fontes Academy and all involved in its operation, including the students, teachers and administrator, parents, grandparents, and Board members.

Each member of the Grandparents Council serves on a volunteer basis for a minimum of two years. Volunteers are recruited from the Grandparents Association.

The Grandparents Council will meet bi-monthly, at a minimum, or as often as necessary to carry out its functions. Each fall the Grandparents Council will develop a calendar of events for the coming school year.

Mission and Vision of the Grandparents Council

The mission of the Grandparents Council is threefold.

The first is to encourage the active involvement and support of as many grandparents as possible in the life of the Academy. Active involvement and support can include sharing their life experiences in the classroom, helping with school events and field trips, reading to and tutoring students, praying for God's provision for both the Academy and its parents, and providing financial gifts to help support the operation and growth of the Academy.

The second is to (1) build community among the grandparents, and (2) help build community among the greater body of students, parents, grandparents, and teachers and administrators. The phrase "building community," used here means to build a community of people who share common goals and aspirations, and are excited about working together to achieve them. In the case of Ad Fontes Academy these goals and aspirations include seeking excellence in a Christ-centered classical education, supporting one another in unity, and fostering the growth of the Academy so that others can benefit from a classical Christian education.

The third is to communicate to the Grandparents Association the benefits of a classical Christian education at Ad Fontes Academy, and to encourage them to tell their friends and neighbors about the Academy in an effort to foster growth.

Communication

Communication is vital to achieving these goals, including:

- A Grandparents Association Newsletter,
- Meeting with teachers and administrators, students, and parents to obtain their feedback, and
- Special events throughout the year involving grandparents both as participants and guests.

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