

## ***Teaching at The Orchard***

### **Orchard High School Vision:**

The Classical Orchard: High School is being launched to support committed and consistent homeschooling families in subjects that can be more difficult for parents to teach at home. While fostering academic excellence is important, we also anticipate an engaging atmosphere where godly friendships among students and parents can begin and flourish while at The Orchard.

We offer a core curriculum for our high school students, providing valuable classroom experience and individualized teacher feedback. These classes will help parents fulfill Kansas educational requirements for graduation as well as offer rotating electives. Teachers provide semester grades that parents can add to student transcripts.

### **Teachers:**

Orchard teachers are chosen, after prayer, by the Orchard Leadership Team. Education, experience, and references are considered when selecting teachers. The amount of compensation depends on the number of students in the class. Teachers are trusted to manage their class in a way that's conducive for learning and their curriculum and class content should be in line with our Statement of Faith.

Mom helpers are assigned to some of the classes and are asked to help the teacher manage conduct of students and do any tasks for the teacher that can be done in the class time (e.g., grading non-subjective tests and quizzes, passing out materials/supplies, and overseeing and helping with labs as instructed by the teacher).

### **Interaction with Teachers**

Part of the philosophy of The Orchard is to help our students become independent learners. High school level students need to take responsibility in contacting their teachers with questions or help via email. If there is a problem with students getting in touch with their teachers, please contact the administrator. We ask parents and students to abstain from calling teachers on the phone and to rely on e-mail communication instead.

Teachers are responsible for discipline in their classes. If a problem persists, the student's parents will be contacted. If a student breaks something belonging to The Orchard or the church, the family will need to make restitution.

### **Academic Standards**

Students are expected to respect and participate in the classes they are attending. Teachers are required to report to the administrator at quarters if any student has below a C average due to the student not turning in assignments or participating in class. Teachers are also required to give half credit to any work turned in late. Any student who gets below a C in a class will not be

allowed to proceed to the next level class or reenroll the following year in the class that they received a D or F.

### **Student Classroom Conduct**

Students are expected to:

- Work hard and not be disruptive
- Respect their teachers, not question their authority and treat classmates kindly
- Communicate with their teachers
- Attend class and be on time. There will be penalties for tardiness. (If students miss a class, do not expect the teacher to tutor to catch them up. If possible, students should arrange for a classmate to take notes for them and get them before the next class.)
- Cell phones and texting are not permitted in the classroom. Wireless earbuds should not be worn during class even if they are not being used.

### **Grades**

Teachers will send out progress reports at mid-semester and will be available to meet with parents for conferences, if desired. Final semester grades will be given at the end of each semester, which can be used for your student's transcript. The Orchard is not an accredited school and parents take final responsibility for their own students' grades and transcripts.

### **Test-taking Policy**

Assigned tests are to be taken at home under parental supervision. Oversee the following:

1. Do not allow your student to look at the test before it's ready to be taken.
2. Have your student tell you before s/he is ready to begin the test.
3. Have your student take the test in one sitting. S/he cannot begin the test, stop, and then start up again at a later time.
4. Make sure no open books or notes are present, unless the teacher has specifically instructed it.
5. Refrain from giving help to your students. Just encourage them to pray, relax and do their best.
6. When finished, please make sure the test is in a sealed envelope with your signature on the envelope. Teachers have test slips for you to fill out and attach to the envelope.

### **Next Steps**

Go to [www.classicalorchard.com/highschoolprogram](http://www.classicalorchard.com/highschoolprogram)

*Thank you for prayerfully considering how you can use your talents to further the Kingdom through teaching at The Classical Orchard!*