

2008-2009 School Year

AMCA has a curriculum that is carefully planned and regularly updated. The connection from grade to grade is consistently linked. The Academy embeds a strong Christian educational philosophy into the curriculum and therefore teachers are able to use texts from a wide variety of publishers, both secular and Christian. Intersections of faith are thoughtfully integrated into the curriculum across subjects and applied effectively within the classroom. Critical thinking and a writing program are a strong emphasis of the curriculum. The entire AMCA Curriculum is available for review at the school office.

Transitional K:

Saxon Early Learning Program

Kindergarten through Second Grade:

Mathematics: Scott Foresman — Addison Wesley Millennium Edition
Science: Houghton Mifflin — Discovery Works
Social Studies: McGraw-Hill — Adventures in Time and Place
Language Arts: Scholastic Literacy Place — Houghton Muffin Grammar
Bible: Christian Schools International
Phonics: Saxon Phonics — Second Grade uses the phonics program in Scholastic Literacy and supplements with Saxon Phonics.

Third Grade through Fifth Grade:

The textbook series noted above are used in third grade through fifth grade with the exception of Saxon Phonics. In addition, the Houghton Muffin Grammar Series is used in Language Arts.

Sixth Grade:

Language Arts : McDougal-Littell — The Language of Literature with Interactive Reader
Houghton Mifflin Grammar Series
Mathematics : Prentice Hall – Course 2
Science: Glencoe — Earth Science Laurence O. Robbins It Just Couldn't Happen
Geography: Macmillan/McGraw Hill — Our World
Bible: Christian Schools International — The House of Israel

AMCA clearly sets forth in its stated goals that students learn that Jesus is the Son of God and that the Bible is the Word of God. This is consistent with the mission statement of The Academy. Christian faith and Bible studies are an integral part of the curriculum. AMCA believes that all of God's children were created and designed by him. When you bring your child to AMCA, we work as "partners with parents" by peeling back the layers to reveal the beauty of God's creation. Students participate in chapel services weekly and have daily prayer and devotions in their classrooms. Christian character development also plays an important part in AMCA's Christian Education. AMCA students attend special classes each week. These

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can include Foreign Language, Physical Education, Art and Music. These are taught by specialized teachers and there is at least one special class a day. These specials effectively integrate a biblical worldview into the curriculum. In Art, each student's own creative expression is seen in their work and special art projects. Music education includes singing, movement, and the experience of musical instruments. Spanish instruction begins at the kindergarten level and continues through each grade level. Teachers emphasize the development of vocabulary, conversational usage, and cultural activities. Students in fourth grade and up also have the opportunity to develop communication skills, study skills, library and technology skills, as well as organizational skills during special classes.

Students have recess each day and/or Physical Education. Students experience physical education as a regular part of the curriculum, meeting with their teacher a minimum of twice per week. Children will participate in movement exploration, rhythms and dance, gymnastics, manipulative activities, sports and games. In all areas of physical education, younger students are introduced to skills and the opportunity to improve those skills through simple games and activities. As students refine their skills, they incorporate them into more complex games and sports.

Language Arts and Phonics:

Language is developed through a combination of phonics studies, quality literature, grammar and writing skills. The phonics curriculum is an explicit systematic program that complements the language arts curriculum. Phonics gives children the tools as well as the necessary practice for success in reading and writing. AMCA's goal is to teach children how to read in order for them to be able to read with confidence, read with joy and to write independently. Specific reading and writing skills, including vocabulary and spelling are utilized in the development of a correct, precise understanding of the English language. Creative expression is emphasized daily through the Writer's Workshop Program.

Mathematics:

Math is a hands-on program that incorporates manipulatives, mental math and real life applications. Students also engage in discussions and work in cooperative groups.

Science:

Science is taught through information gathering, making predictions and conducting experiments. The comprehensive curriculum uses various materials and approaches to aid in the discovery of God's world with hands on activities, labs, and field trips. The AMCA grounds provide an excellent arena for many valuable learning science experiences. Students in higher grades participate in an annual Science Fair.

Social Studies:

AMCA teaches students to begin viewing social studies as a story of real people, past and present. Current events and map skills are an integral part of the instruction.

Technology:

Computers are in the classrooms and provide students with many opportunities to support the traditional curriculum. Internet access and academic software are used to enrich the learning environment. A 16 station computer lab is available for research, keyboarding instruction and whole class instruction.

Library / Media Center:

Starting in Transitional K, students spend one class period a week in the Library / Media Center with the media center coordinator. Students develop solid library skills, research opportunities and a love and appreciation of books.