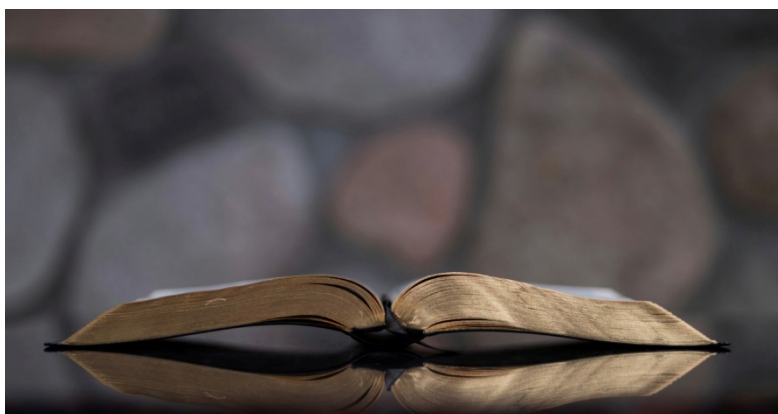


Big Cove Christian Academy Handbook



2026-2027

BIG COVE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

**Sponsored by the
Huntsville Central Seventh-day Adventist Church**

**Excellence in Christian Education
Since 1957**

BCCA is a fully accredited K-12 school.



**6354 Highway 431 South
Owens Cross Roads, Alabama 35763
(256) 518-9642
www.bigcoveschristianacademy.org**

Dear Big Cove Christian Academy Families,

It is with great joy and anticipation that I welcome each of you to a new academic year at Big Cove Christian Academy. Whether you are a returning family or new to our community, we're delighted you've chosen to grow and learn with us in an environment rooted in faith, excellence, and care.

This handbook serves as your compass for the school year—a guide designed to help you navigate both the opportunities and responsibilities that come with being part of our school family. Within these pages, you'll find the tools and information needed to ensure a safe, respectful, and successful journey for every student.

At Big Cove, we believe education goes beyond academics. We strive to develop character, cultivate curiosity, and strengthen each student's relationship with Christ. Safety, kindness, and accountability are foundational to this mission—and this guide reflects those values in action.

We're excited for the blessings and growth this school year will bring. As we walk this path together, let's uphold one another with grace, celebrate progress over perfection, and always seek God's wisdom in all that we do.

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year—we're grateful you're here.

With blessings,

Rebecca Adonia, Principal

Big Cove Christian Academy

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BIG COVE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

Big Cove Christian Academy is a Seventh-day Adventist school which welcomes students of all faiths who seek a Christ-centered education. Our staff is committed to providing quality education in a Christ-filled environment. Every student entrusted to our care is a gift of God to be educated for both now and eternity.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a Christ-centered education that equips students to become lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and faithful servants of Jesus Christ.

Philosophy

We believe that true education involves more than the fulfillment of certain basic course requirements, as important as these requirements may be. It means more than a preparation for life here on earth. True education prepares children and youth for the happiness of service in this world, as well as for the greater happiness of expanded service in the world to come.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)

“The Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes that God, the Creator and Sustainer of the earth and the entire universe, is the source of knowledge and wisdom. Seventh-day Adventists conduct their own schools, elementary through university, for the purpose of transmitting to their children their own ideals, beliefs, attitudes, values, habits, and customs.”¹

¹ SDA Education Leaflet No. 47

Aims and Objectives

- Lead students in developing a relationship with God;
- Stimulate high scholarship;
- Assist in the formation of a noble Christian character by placing emphasis on the spiritual values of life;
- Give each student the opportunity to develop his/her unique gifts and abilities;
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills;
- Develop habits of accuracy, responsibility, and resourcefulness in thinking and doing;
- Assist in developing a desirable personality;
- Promote the understanding and practice of the principles of healthful living and recognize that physical fitness is the foundation of any achievement in life; and
- Use a multidisciplinary approach to reach all children, including integrated technology, videos, dialogue, and projects.

Academic Excellence

Big Cove Christian Academy offers kindergarten through 8th grade in a traditional classroom setting and 9th-12th grade as a remote campus of Atlanta Adventist Academy. BCCA's academic program provides an excellent foundation for students which will be required as they continue to the higher levels of learning. The low student-to-teacher ratio offers an ideal learning and growing experience, and a multi-grade classroom setting has been shown to produce a higher quality of education than large single-grade classrooms.²

Social advantages of the multi-grade classroom indicate *“students show increased self-esteem, more cooperative behavior, better attitudes toward school in general, increased prosocial (caring, tolerant, patient, supportive) behavior, enriched personal relationships, increased personal responsibility, and a decline in discipline problems.”*³

² The Multigrade Classroom: A Resource Handbook for Small, Rural Schools. Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, Portland, Oregon, 1999.

³ Ibid. pg. 17.

“Research evidence indicates that multigrade instruction has a significant positive impact on student attitudes and tends to enhance achievement outcomes under positive implementation conditions.”⁴

Big Cove Christian Academy’s curriculum includes all core subjects mandated by the State of Alabama. In addition, it includes Bible classes and music education. Drama and musical programs are developed and presented during the school year.

Each classroom has updated technology for the students’ educational use.

BCCA is fully accredited by National Council for Private School Accreditation and Adventist Accrediting Association.

Teachers and Staff

Our full-time educational staff are certified elementary educators and hold degrees from highly accredited universities. Our policy requires all staff and all volunteers to pass a rigorous screening and background check. All teachers participate in ongoing professional development to enhance BCCA’s strong academic program.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in all its church schools, admits students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin or gender as is consistent with biblical principles, in administration of education policies, application for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location and Facility

Big Cove Christian Academy is located southeast of Huntsville at 6354 Highway 431 South, Owens Cross Roads, AL. The school is

⁴ Improving Multigrade Classroom Instruction in Small, Rural Schools: A Series of Workshops for Educators Interested in Multigraded Classroom Instruction. Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, Portland, Oregon September, 1997.

centered on eleven acres of land and consists of a large building with multiple classrooms, a chapel/library, a science lab, a Pathfinder club room, offices, and lunchroom facilities. Also on the property are ball fields, a playground, and a full-sized gym.

School Hours

School hours are from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM Monday through Thursday and 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Friday. Students are not to be dropped off before 7:45 AM without prior arrangements. Students should be picked up promptly after school.

A \$40 late pick-up fee will be applied to student accounts for students picked up later than 3:30 M-TH and 2:30 on Fridays. If you are unable to pick up your students before then, please make arrangements with an approved adult ahead of time.

If an unusual situation arises and someone newly authorized is to pick up a student, prior notice must be given to the principal or secretary by phone or note. Students will be placed in BCCA After School Care *when available* at 3:30 PM Monday through Thursday, and at 2:30 PM on Friday (see After School Care section for complete details).

Admission Policies

Big Cove Christian Academy is a Seventh-day Adventist school that welcomes students of all faiths. Students who apply agree to abide by the standards and the policies outlined in this handbook.

Age requirements for admission:

- Pre-Kindergarten students must be four years of age by August 15.
- Kindergarten students must be five years of age by August 15.
- Grade one students must be six years of age by August 15.

All students must be able to use the toilet independently.

Birth certificates must be shown upon the registry of all students.

Placement tests may be given as a key for admittance and placement of each new student. The pupil must give evidence in these tests of ability to handle the work of the grade to which he or she is

seeking admittance. Big Cove Christian Academy is not equipped to handle children requiring special education.

The school reserves the right, after testing an applicant and counseling with the parents, to change the grade placement to another more suitable for the child.

Students will not be admitted if they have a previous unpaid bill from BCCA or another school.

All students will be admitted to the school only upon the approval of the School Board following the submission of a formal application. New students are admitted on a provisional basis for a one-year period, unless the School Board decides otherwise or a shorter probationary period is established.

Immunization Policy

To ensure the health of all our students, it is necessary that each student receive all immunizations required by law. It is also required that the school be provided with current copies of the child's immunization record. If by 30 days from the start of the school year it is determined that a student needs an immunization, he/she will be unable to attend school until it is administered, or a waiver issued by the Madison County Health Department has been provided.

Application Procedures

The following steps are to be completed on or before July 1:

All Students

1. Complete application or re-enrollment forms and return to BCCA.
2. Pay the "Hold Your Seat" fee by March 1 and the first month's tuition by July 1.
3. Ensure that a birth certificate and updated immunization record are on file for each student.

New Students

4. Parent and student interview with the principal and/or School Board Chair prior to registration.

5. Present previous years records (report cards, special education records if any, and immunization record).
6. Testing for admission and/or placement.
7. Physical exam completed by a physician. (Compliance forms are available online or in the office. New students need an exam within 6 months of the start of school.)
8. Three completed recommendation forms must be submitted.

Early re-enrollment includes all re-enrollment forms completed and a non-refundable \$100 fee to “hold your seat” for next year. The \$100 fee will be rebated off your first month’s tuition payment due on July 1. *Please note that for every month after the March 1 re-enrollment date, the “hold your seat” fee will increase by \$25.* For example, after March 1 the fee will increase to \$125, after April 1 it will increase to \$150, and so on. Only the \$100 portion of the fee will be rebated off your first month’s tuition payment. See the Financial Information section for more finance information.

Attendance Regulations

The attendance record is a legal document. An explanation of any absence is required. The pupil must bring a written excuse from the parent or an email/text message each day the student is absent.

Excused absences include but are not limited to: verified illness of the student, medical, dental, or optometric service (if possible, please arrange appointments for non-school hours), quarantine, or bereavement. Pathfinder events are excused for those participating in Pathfinders.

Unexcused tardies are considered a significant violation of the attendance regulations. Student punctuality is required to avoid disruption of the school program. When a student has accumulated three (3) unexcused absences (3 tardies = 1 unexcused absence), the parents will be notified. The principal will notify the School Board when a student has six (6) unexcused absences during a nine-week period, and parents must meet with the school board.

Students shall be permitted to leave the school premises during the regular school day only by prior request, presented in writing (text or

written note), from the parent or guardian. Please text or send a written note as soon as you know your child will be missing school so teachers can plan accordingly.

Students are required to be at school present and ON TIME each day. A student missing more than 20% per grading period of any class may result in credit not being given for that class.

After School Care

After School Care is offered *when available*. Please ask if ASC is available. To accommodate working parents, as well as the unexpected delays, BCCA provides ASC from 3:30 – 5:30, Monday – Thursday; and 2:30 – 5:30, Friday. During the months of November, December, and January, ASC on Friday will be 2:30 – 4:00 because of the earlier sunset times.

ASC charges will appear on the monthly statement (rate will be announced when we offer ASC). Any student not picked up by 3:30 will automatically be put into ASC when available. When picking children up, parents must indicate the time of pick-up, along with their signature. Late pick-ups (i.e. after 5:30) will be charged \$5 per five minutes. More than three late pick-ups may result in a family forfeiting the use of ASC. Students will not be allowed to participate in ASC if their bill is not current by the 10th of each month.

After School Care may include play time, an activity or homework time.

Student Health

If a student becomes ill during school hours, the parent/guardian will be notified and asked to come and pick up the child. If the parent/guardian is unable to pick the child up from school, the child will be removed away from the other students until arrangements have been made by the parent to pick up the child.

Please keep your child home if they are exhibiting clear signs of sickness, such as fever, excessive coughing and/or congestion, sore throat, off-color nose mucus (not clear), or any other potentially contagious symptoms. If you are unsure that your child's symptoms meet this standard, you may contact the teacher or principal to verify.

For a fever, you must wait a complete 24 hours after the fever is gone before returning the child to school. Do not give your student medication to mask a fever and bring them to school.

If your child is injured at school, first aid will be administered, and an attempt will be made to contact at least one parent/guardian or the designated emergency contact for further instructions. In the event of a severe emergency and a parent cannot be contacted by phone, Huntsville Emergency Medical Services, Inc. (HEMSI) will be called, or the child will be transported to the nearest hospital emergency room.

No medication may be administered by any teacher, student or school official without prior written authorization from the parent/guardian. All medication must be kept in the teacher's possession until needed. Students are not allowed to keep medication/vitamins/supplements of any kind in their backpacks or lockers. Inhalers may be kept with students only with a doctor's note.

Guidance Counseling

BCCA utilizes the counseling expertise of our local ministers, who encourage, teach, talk to, and work with our students on a regular basis.

Careers

BCCA actively promotes career awareness and education through various means. Students may be allowed to visit businesses firsthand and talk to the employees about that line of work. Guests are invited to our school to make career presentations as well.

COMMUNICATION

Progress Reports

Report cards will be issued four times a year. A conference is held at the end of the first and third grading periods, and grades are handed to parents in person. Grades for the second and fourth grading periods are mailed or given to parents at pickup. Grades are also available through the AE-Connect Parents Portal. Conferences may be arranged by the parent or teacher as the need arises.

Grading is based on in-class assignments, projects, homework, effort, participation, tests/quizzes, and mastery of SDA standards.

Transcripts, report cards, and other student records will be withheld until student accounts are paid in full or satisfactory financial arrangements have been made unless prohibited by law.

School Board

School Board meetings are held at least once a month at the school and meeting notices are placed in the Central Seventh-day Adventist Church Bulletin. School board meetings are generally on the second Monday of each month. School Board meetings are open except when executive session is called. Anyone wishing to present a topic to the board must provide a written request at least 10 days before the next school board meeting so that board members have time to research the topic and, if necessary, to add it to the agenda.

Line of Grievance

It is School Board policy that if a parent perceives a problem, the situation is to be first discussed with the teacher involved. If an amicable agreement cannot be reached, contact the principal. If further assistance is needed, the School Board may be contacted through the board chair. The school follows the Lord's counsel: *"If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone"* (Matthew 18:15)

Home and School Association

The Home and School Association is an avenue that provides opportunities for parents to be involved with Big Cove Christian Academy. The Home and School Association provides events throughout the school year for parents to meet with one another and the teachers.

Our Home and School leader can be reached at homeandschool@bigcovesda.net.

Changes to the Handbook

All information in this handbook is subject to change by the School Board. Notice of such change need only be given to parents of students enrolled at the time to become effective.

SCHOOL REGULATIONS

Discipline

The disciplinary policy becomes effective upon arrival on campus until departure. Any disruption by an individual or by a group will be cause for disciplinary action. The following is an outline of behavior that is inappropriate at Big Cove Christian Academy:

- Disrespect towards adults, insubordination
- Disrespect towards classmates, fighting or bullying
- Skipping class
- Violation of Dress Code
- Discussion or display of immoral/violent material
- Profanity
- Tampering with the fire alarm, vandalism
- Gambling, cheating, lying, stealing
- Possession of a weapon, firecrackers or other explosives, or matches
- Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, or illicit drugs
- Conviction of a criminal offense
- Any activity that is a serious detriment to the student's physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual health; or that is a detriment to the student body or the facility.

Big Cove Christian Academy's Statement on Human Sexuality and Identity

Big Cove Christian Academy is a grade Pk-12 educational institution owned and operated by the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, which is a part of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. As such, we adhere to the teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its interpretation and understanding of the Scriptures. Therefore, we strive to conduct educational ministry within

the world, maintaining our commitment to God as our Creator and Savior, fulfilling the gospel commission of sharing Jesus Christ and His love with the world. With this as our foundation, we offer the following:

1. As a Seventh-day Adventist educational institution, we neither condone nor promote any behavior outside of the Adventist biblical beliefs. Big Cove Christian Academy's policy on human sexuality and identity is based on the North American Division Statement on Human Sexuality. This statement is based on the Seventh-day Adventist understanding of scripture.
2. Our teachings on human sexuality and identity throughout the curriculum are aligned with Seventh-day Adventist biblical beliefs.

As a part of our commitment to Seventh-day Adventist education, we have adopted the following guidelines to assist our students, parents, staff, and all other stakeholders:

1. Physical contact between students that would normally be viewed as overly affectionate in nature is not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to, displays of affection, handholding, tickling, wrestling, and massaging. School staff retains the right to counsel or discipline individuals who exhibit inappropriate conduct or irresponsible behavior in their social interactions.
2. We adhere strictly to Adventist biblically-based principles in all aspects, including sexual behavior. As a result, while enrolled at Big Cove Christian Academy, students are expected to refrain from promoting or advocating for any lifestyle that contradicts our Seventh-day Adventist biblical beliefs. We do not condone any sexual practice or behavior contrary to our biblical belief system, and we require our students to demonstrate a similar commitment to these principles.
3. In the context of school application and enrollment, students must disclose their birth gender. This information is utilized to determine several pertinent aspects, including but not limited to, restroom usage, sports team selections, uniform and clothing choices, preferred pronouns, dormitory assignments, and other gender-related matters as outlined in the student handbook. It is important to note, therefore, that students must provide accurate information to ensure appropriate school accommodation.

Big Cove Christian Academy is called to love all people. In this sin-filled world, our goal is to create an environment where everyone loves and respects each other.

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”
Colossians 3:12-14

Discipline Process

Sometimes it will be necessary to assign detention, suspension or expulsion. A teacher may suspend a student from school for one day; the principal may suspend for up to three days. The School Board may, at their discretion, suspend or expel a student from school at any step in the disciplinary process.

A “Notice of Concern” form will be completed by the teacher when a student exhibits continual poor behavior. The following steps will be taken:

1. When a student has received one form, a student/teacher conference will take place.
2. When a student has received two forms, a student/parent/teacher conference will take place.
3. When a student has received three forms, the parent(s) will meet with the School Board. The School Board may suspend or expel the student at their discretion. When a Board suspension is made, it will be a minimum of three days duration. Following suspension, a student will be reinstated on a probationary status and/or other conditions as set forth by the School Board.

Security

BCCA desires to provide a safe and secure learning environment for the students. To ensure that everything possible is done to provide this environment, your cooperation is necessary to alert the staff if you are aware of any of the following situations:

1. Domestic problems in your family, which may or may not involve the student directly, but that have the potential of occurring on the school premises or at school events.
2. Any threat, expressed or implied, towards a specific student, a specific teacher, the entire student body, or staff.
3. A student's potential for intentionally injuring himself or others.
4. Your report on any potentially dangerous situations will be kept confidential, if at all possible.

Weapon Policy

BCCA is a weapons-free zone. Students are not allowed to possess or use a dangerous instrument or weapon on school property or at any school function or activity.

REMEMBER: Alabama state law prescribes a maximum penalty of three (3) years imprisonment and a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for carrying weapons on school property.

Safety Plan

- BCCA maintains 24-hour closed-circuit security cameras in the school.
- All exterior doors will be locked at 8:00 AM and the front door will be opened at 3:00 PM. Anyone who comes between those hours will need to ring the bell and sign in on the visitor log if they want to enter.
- A teacher or other adult will answer the doorbell when it rings. If no one answers the door, please call the number on the door (all classes may be outside or in the gym.)
- All students who go outside during school hours will do so in pairs. (For example, to empty trash, raise and lower the flag, etc.)
- If a student sees an unfamiliar person outside the school they will go inside, shut the door, and get an adult immediately.
- Students will always be supervised outside.
- Students must be signed out if they are leaving the school premises at other than dismissal times.
- Emergency contact information is posted on the front door.
- Parents or designated adults will pick up students in the car line when school is dismissed. All students must stay in the building

until their ride arrives in the car line. No games (e.g. chasing, running, hiding) are allowed on the porch or parking area.

- Anyone other than parents who pick up students must be on that family's approved pick-up list and show ID upon arrival.
- Parents need to let the school know before 2:30 if someone other than the parents is picking up their student.
- Parents are welcome to park outside of the pickup line and come in to speak to teachers as needed.

Field Trips

Field trips are scheduled 4 times per year, one per quarter. These might include the whole school, or specific grades or classrooms. We rely on parents for transportation, but only parents with 250/500/250 insurance coverage may carry students other than their own. All drivers and any adult wishing to attend the field trip must first complete child protection training and a background check. Proof of insurance coverage and driver's license must be on file for all parents carrying students other than their own.

Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and first-grade students must be accompanied by a parent or adult family member. The principal may decide that students of any grade need to have a parent or adult family member accompany their student.

School Lunches

Because good nutrition is essential to the child's ability to learn at an optimum level, we encourage students to bring with them a nourishing, satisfying lunch which should include fresh fruits and vegetables and other natural treats that are better for the child's mental alertness and growth, rather than non-nutritional snacks. Soft drinks are not allowed. The use of unclean meats as defined by the Bible (Leviticus 11) will not be permitted.

Research shows that having a healthy and balanced diet improves brain capacity, maximizes cognitive capabilities, and improves academic performance in school-age children.^{5, 6}

School Visits

Parents are encouraged to visit the school and to acquaint themselves with the school program. Prior arrangements must be made with the principal and teacher, with a 24-hour notice.

Office Telephone Use

The office telephone is primarily for school business and emergency use. Please limit calls to the half-hour before and after school. Students are not permitted to use the office telephone unless absolutely necessary and with permission from a teacher.

Please text teachers for the most prompt response if something cannot wait until after school.

Hazardous Weather Conditions

In case of inclement weather which may cause Big Cove Christian Academy delays or closings, families will be alerted by email and text message.

BCCA Conducts monthly emergency drills to prepare for emergencies while in school including fire, tornado, and lockdowns.

Technology Guidelines

All students will be held responsible for following the school technology guidelines. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in loss of technology use privileges and other disciplinary action as appropriate.

⁵ Rausch R. Nutrition and Academic Performance in School-Age Children The Relation to Obesity and Food Insufficiency. J Nutr Food Sci, 2013, 3: 190.

⁶ Center for Environmental Education (CEE). How School Food Affects Student Health - Upload Knowledge. Unity College, Unity, Maine 04988, 2008.

- Students are given a BCCA email account that will be used to log in to school devices.
- Sharing your user ID or password is prohibited. You are responsible for any action taken in relation to your user ID.
- Any work published by BCCA on the internet will be identified by students' first names only. Do not share any personal information.
- Students in grades 4-8 are assigned a Chromebook or laptop. They are responsible for caring for their device. Damage that results in carelessness may result in a charge of up to \$200 to repair or replace the device.
- Student use of the internet will be supervised by a teacher.
- Attempts to gain unauthorized access to any system are prohibited.
- Copying copyrighted materials, such as software is prohibited without prior permission.
- The modification of any program settings, system settings, or network privileges without the approval of the teacher is prohibited.
- Accessing obscene, violent, racist, or otherwise inappropriate material on the internet is prohibited and will be punished by loss of computer privileges and/or other school disciplinary measures, including possible student suspension or expulsion. Games are not permitted on school devices unless authorized by a teacher.

Other guidelines for use may be added at any time at the discretion of the School Board or school administration.

Student-Owned Device Guidelines

- During school hours students must store all personal technology (cell phones, smartwatches, and tablets) in the teacher's filing cabinet.
- Personal cell phones not given to teachers will be confiscated and returned to the parent at pickup.
- Student-owned laptops are only allowed in the secondary program.

Dress Code

As an outward evidence of the Christian principles held by the school, Big Cove Christian Academy requires that its students follow certain high standards.

Each student is expected to be neat, clean and well groomed. The guiding principles of dress are modesty and simplicity.

Students may not wear clothing that has rips, tears, or holes.

Regular school day and school functions:

- Polo shirts with the school logo are required, available in navy, burgundy, and Carolina blue. They are to be ordered at registration. During cold weather, solid navy or white long sleeve shirts may be worn under the school shirts. Solid navy or white sweaters may be worn.
- BCCA hoodies and fleece jackets may be worn when available. No other hoodies or jackets are allowed to be worn inside the building.
- Shirts must cover the stomach when arms are raised.
- Our uniform is dress casual. Uniform pants, shorts (knee-length), skirts (knee-length), capris and scooters (skirts with shorts built in underneath), in navy or khaki, are required. No denim, jeggings or cargo is allowed. Uniform pants must be clean, free of holes, and not have visible embellishments.
- Used uniforms are free when available.
- Boys: Shorts or pants in navy or khaki.
- Girls: Bermuda shorts, pants, or capris in navy or khaki. Girls in K-4th have the option of scooters; Girls in 5th – 8th have the option of skirts (shorts, leggings, or tights underneath are required). Leggings (only allowed under skirts) and tights must be navy or white.
- No hats, scarves, or bandanas in the school building.
- No extreme hairstyle.
- No jewelry, make-up, nail colors, or artificial nails.
- Socks or tights must be worn.
- Undergarments are to be covered.
- Sneakers for P.E.
- Shoes must be close-toed and have backs.

Students may be permitted dress-down days (such as Garden Club days) on which they may wear blue jeans without holes and BCCA t-shirts.

Field trip dress code is blue jeans and blue uniform polos.

Choir performances and special programs:

- Girls - Black skirt (knee length or longer) or pants and white blouse.
- Sleeves are required on all tops and dresses.
- Boys – Black pants and white shirts.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Elementary Curriculum

Subjects offered in grades Pre-Kindergarten-8th grade include Bible, math, English, reading, spelling, writing, science, social science, physical education, music, and art. More information on curriculum taught in the classroom can be found at www.adventistedge.org.

Pre-Kindergarten

Big Cove Christian Academy offers a pre-kindergarten program for students who turn 4 before August 15. This is an all-day program during regular school hours. Students need to be able to dress themselves and use the toilet independently. At least 30-minutes of rest time is given each day. Students are not required to nap.

Forest School

Big Cove Christian Academy has two Forest School certified teachers. Students in grades Pre-kindergarten-fifth grade take part in a part-time Forest School program throughout the week. All grades often take a short morning nature walk as we begin our day. These grades need to have well-fitting rain boots to be kept at school.

MAP Testing

MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Testing is scheduled three times per year (September, January, and April) to assess student and classroom performance and growth. Parents will be given student MAP reports at conferences. These assessments are given to grades 2-8 and do not count toward students' grades but may be used for future grade placement.

Secondary School

BCCA has partnered with Atlanta Adventist Academy to offer a real-time, virtual, interactive learning program for grades 9-12 through distance learning. Each student is equipped with an iPad which helps engage them with their classmates and teachers through live classrooms. In addition, students connect with individual class instruction via interactive cameras/monitors and other technology as required. Secondary students are assisted locally in the classroom by a Distance Learning Facilitator. More information on curriculum and lab activities can be found at <https://www.aaa.edu/course-offerings>.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The first month's tuition for each Elementary student is to be paid on or before July 1. The first month's tuition for each Secondary student is to be paid on or before August 1. Tuition is considered late if not paid in full by the 10th of every month.

A portion of the tuition is for the rental of textbooks. However, this does not cover the mistreatment of a book. If the principal determines that a book must be replaced because of abuse it will be replaced at the user's expense.

No student will be admitted without prior payment of the first month's tuition.

Financial questions can be emailed to treasurer@bigcovesda.net.

Elementary Tuition

Scholarships equivalent to a 10% reduction in tuition per student are provided to assist families with multiple children from the same household in covering the increased cost of education. There is no discount for preschool students.

Two different payment plans are offered as options:

11-Month Plan — The 11-month plan divides the year's tuition into eleven equal payments. The first payment is due on July 1. The remaining payments are due and payable by the first of each month for the following ten months.

Prepayment Plan — Payment in full at or before the last business day of July will entitle the parent to a five percent discount from the total yearly base tuition.

Monthly tuition rates are shown in the following table, including scholarships for additional children from a single family. Monthly tuition includes all registration fees, field trip costs, and a yearbook. There is no additional cost for any of the above items.

	Pre-K	K-8
Tuition Rate	\$800	\$641
2 nd Child w/scholarship	\$800	\$577
3 rd Child w/scholarship	\$800	\$513
4 th Child w/scholarship	\$800	\$449

Secondary Tuition

BCCA secondary tuition covers our Atlanta Adventist Academy partner charges, the local secondary classroom facilitator and all technology support costs. A yearly registration fee is also applied.

One payment plan is offered:

10-Month Plan — The 10-month plan divides the year's tuition into ten equal payments. The first tuition payment and the yearly registration fee are due on August 1. The remaining tuition payments are due and payable by the first of each month for the following nine months.

	Registration	Tuition
Tuition Rate 9-11	\$1123	\$586
Senior (12) Rate	\$1338	\$586

Secondary scholarships may be available from our secondary partner, affecting the monthly tuition paid through BCCA. The amount of these scholarships may not be known until the beginning of the

secondary school year. Contact the School Treasurer for detailed information (treasurer@bigcovesda.net)

Tuition Supplements

Members of Huntsville Central SDA Church may receive a scholarship of up to 27% due to funds the members of the church give to the school to supplement tuition for church members.

Members of other Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventist churches may receive a 10% scholarship from the conference.

Partnering for Eternity (PFE) provides a scholarship of up to \$120 per month for each participating student, who will partner with an eligible community member and visit with them once a week for one hour. More details can be found at <https://sffcfoundation.org/pfe>. To apply, please contact Mandy Gennick, m.gennick@bigcovesda.net.

BCCA is an Approved CHOOSE Act Provider.

Families may be eligible for tuition assistance through Alabama's CHOOSE Act. This program assists in covering the expenses of private Christian education for qualified students. As an approved provider, BCCA can collaborate directly with families to facilitate their access to these funds and guide them through the application process. Contact the school treasurer for help in applying and using the CHOOSE Act.

Applications for inclusion in the Alabama CHOOSE Act commence in January for new families. Further information can be accessed at <https://classwallet.com/alchoose/>.

Late Payments

If the full amount of tuition and all fees is not paid by the last weekday of the month in which it is due, the student will not be allowed to attend classes and will be required to withdraw from school. Reinstatement will be contingent on payment of all past-due amounts in full and re-admission approval by the School Board.

The final tuition payment for the year and all other charges and fees must be paid no later than May 10. If the full amount is not paid, the student will not be able to complete the school year or participate in the graduation program if applicable. No final report card, transcripts, or other student records will be released until the student's account is paid in full.

Insurance

Accident insurance is provided for each child. This is secondary insurance and will pay only if the parent's primary insurance will not cover the claim. Insurance claim forms are available at the school office and are to be filled out by the principal, the teacher in charge, the parent, and the hospital or doctor. If an accident occurs, an accident claim form should be filed promptly to ensure payment.

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Registration	August 3-7
Prayer Walk	August 8
Back to school Night	August 9

First Quarter Begins

First Day of School	August 10
Labor Day No School	September 7
Map Testing 1st round	September 8-18
Teachers Retreat (Half day)	September 22-27
End of First Quarter	October 9
Fall Week of Prayer	October 5-9

Second Quarter Begins

Pathfinders SU	October 14-18
Parent/Teachers Conf. (no school)	October 19
GSC PLC Day	October 26
JHU Culture 360 Survey	October 26-November 9
Veterans Day No school	November 11
Thanksgiving Break	November 23-27
Christmas Program	December 17
End of Second Quarter	December 18
Christmas Break	December 21-January 1

Begin Third Quarter

Classes Resume	January 4
MLK (No school)	January 18
Map Testing 2nd round	January 19-29
Re-enrollment begins	February 9
WrAP Testing	February 8-12
Presidents Day (no school)	February 15

Professional Development	March 1
GSC Leadership Summit	March 5-7
End of Third Quarter	March 10

Begin Fourth Quarter

Spring Break (No school)	March 12 March 15-19
Parent/Teachers Conf. (No school)	March 22
GSC Camp Meeting	April 3
Outdoor school	April 5-9
Map Testing 3rd round	Apr 19-Apr 30
Graduation (noon dismissal)	May 20
Last Day of School	May 21