



Saint Mark Lutheran School
K a n e o h e, H a w a i i

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

WHO WE ARE

Saint Mark Lutheran School was established in 1956 and has grown to include Kindergarten through Eighth Grade with an enrollment of approximately 200 students with classes averaging approximately 24 students. Saint Mark Lutheran School is operated as an integral part of the educational ministry program of Saint Mark Lutheran Church. The curriculum is set up to facilitate students who are working at or near grade level. The school does not offer special educational programs for students with severe learning disabilities and/or disciplinary problems. Our teachers are certified to teach in private schools, and many are graduates of our own Lutheran teacher training colleges of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

MISSION

Saint Mark Lutheran School extends the love and care of Jesus Christ to all people, while nurturing families and preparing students to integrate faith with life, through quality Christ-centered education.

PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE

Saint Mark Lutheran School exists as an extension of the ministry of Saint Mark Lutheran Church of Kaneohe, Hawaii. The central purpose of the church and school is to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The specific emphasis of Saint Mark Lutheran School is to facilitate the development of the 'whole child' in relation to his/her spiritual, intellectual, physical, social, emotional, and aesthetic needs.

Christianity is the heart of the Lutheran school curriculum. Its influence permeates and gives substance to all subject areas taught. Only in keeping with the revealed Truth, God's Word, can all secular subjects be properly understood and rightly applied.

Teachers and curriculum material will not teach any topics which are contrary to Biblical teachings. While opposing topics may be discussed, they will not be taught as true and feasible if they are contrary to Scriptures. History is truly appreciated only when it is presented as the record of God's guidance of the affairs of mankind in the building of His eternal Kingdom. The sciences are correctly understood only when they are taught as the unfolding of God's wonderful creation and preservation. All subjects achieve their highest meaning and purpose only when they are taught from a Christian, biblical perspective.

CURRICULUM

Christian Education:

Basic Christian teachings are taught in all grades through the study of Old and New Testament Bible stories, Luther's Small Catechism, memorization of scriptures, hymns, a weekly chapel service and especially through the examples of Christian teachers. One in Christ is used to assist teachers in meeting goals of an effective Christian Education program. Since Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto me do not hinder them" (Mathew 19:14) Saint Mark Lutheran School encourages students to embrace Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. At the same time, all people and their faiths are shown proper respect.

Reading:

The reading program at Saint Mark Lutheran School is based on McGraw-Hill's *Reading Wonders*. Lower grades supplement the text with phonics, vocabulary lists, classroom libraries and daily silent reading time. Having mastered the basic reading skills, the students in middle school study Literature - Classics through contemporary writings. All grades emphasize phonetic skill and context clues in decoding. Grades 2-8 use the *Wordly Wise* vocabulary book. A computerized Accelerated Reader Program is utilized by Grades 1-8.

Language Arts:

Reading Wonders is used in grades K-5 and forms the basis for the teachings of listening, speaking and writing skills. All teachers supplement the textbooks to meet the individual needs of the students. Cursive handwriting instruction takes place in Grade 3. Grades 2-8 utilize the Shurley Method of English Instruction. Middle school emphasizes grammar in writing.

Mathematics:

Kindergarten uses a variety of textbooks and supplementary materials, including Holt Math and Scott Foresman. Scott Foresman Math is used in Grades 1-6. Students in the junior high grades have the opportunity to take Pre-Algebra and Algebra classes.

Social Studies:

Kindergarten through Grade 2 study nature, family, community and self. Grades 3-5 study the various stages of development of the United States of America. Grade 4 builds on Grade 3, including uses of American resources. Grade 4 also studies Hawaiiana and participates in an off-island class trip to further their study of Hawaii. Grades 6 focuses on world civilizations of the past and present and their effects on our world. Grade 7 studies world geography, and Grade 8 studies U.S. History looking at the ideals and people that have shaped our country, and the direction that our country is going in today's world.

Science:

Lower grade classes use the MacMillan/McGraw-Hill Science curriculum. Students in the middle school use Prentice-Hall Science, with Grade 6 studying Earth Science, Grade 7 studying Life Science and Grade 8 studying physical Science.

Physical Education:

Physical Education is a vital part of all grade levels of our elementary curriculum. P.E. classes also develop skills, coordination and further knowledge of games and sports appropriate for each grade. Saint Mark Lutheran School also uses the Presidential Youth Fitness program and participates in extracurricular sports, which include volleyball, basketball, cross country, and track for Grades 5-8.

Art:

Weekly art instruction is offered to students at nearly all grade levels. Children are taught the elements of art as they experience working with a wide variety of media.

Computer:

A networked computer lab containing over two dozen computers provides an introduction to computers for all grade levels. All grades use the computer to assist instruction in areas of Math and Reading. Learning games, computer drills and simulations are made available to the students. Keyboarding and word processing are taught in Grades 3 and higher.

Band:

The band program at Saint Mark Lutheran School consists of two bands - the Beginning Band and the Band. Instruments in the school band include the flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba and percussion (drums and mallet instruments).

Students in grades 4 and 5 may enroll in the Beginning Band. The Beginning Band is for students who want to learn to play a band instrument and who want to learn to read music. The students will learn basic playing techniques and how to read music. Students in grades 5-8 who have successfully completed Beginning Band or who can demonstrate their playing ability through a brief audition may enroll in the Band. The students enrolled in the Band learn new playing techniques and work to improve their playing techniques and music reading ability.

Choir and Drama:

Students in grades K-6 participate in choir. Musical and dramatic performances are delivered throughout the school year. Christmas programs, Passion plays, chapel plays, and drama vignettes are some of the performances given.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Age Requirements:

All Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before **October 31** of the year for which application is made. The legal birth certificate or copy is required for kindergarten admission.

Immunizations:

Immunizations for all students must be up to date and meet state requirements. A State Health Form listing these requirements is available from your doctor.

Physical Examinations:

All students must have a completed health form (Form 14) on file in the school office. In-state transfers must obtain the original record from the last school attended or obtain a new one from their physician. All kindergarteners and students new to the state of Hawaii must obtain a new Form 14 from their child's physician or any state health center before entering Saint Mark Lutheran School.

Tuberculosis Clearance:

All kindergarteners and students new to the state of Hawaii must obtain a new (within one year) tuberculosis clearance (PPD or chest x-ray) before entering Saint Mark Lutheran School. We require that all students leaving the country obtain a new tuberculosis clearance (PPD or chest x-ray) before returning to school.

Tuition Insurance:

Saint Mark offers a Tuition Refund Plan (TRP) which provides insurance coverage in case a student withdraws or is dismissed from Saint Mark during the school year. Participation in the TRP is required for those selecting the monthly payment plan and optional for families paying annually.

Transportation:

Transportation to and from school is provided by parents. Some students walk, ride their bikes, or use the city bus. The school provides transportation only for field trips, sporting events, etc.

Lunch:

Lunches are brought from home by students and eaten in the classroom under the supervision of the teachers. There is also an opportunity to buy lunch from various vendors.

Class Hours:

School begins at 7:55 am each morning for all students. All other students are dismissed at 2:45 pm. Students are to be picked up promptly after school dismissal. There is an early dismissal for ALL students on each Wednesday at 1:10 pm to facilitate faculty meetings. Students that are not picked up promptly after dismissal will be checked into the After School Care and appropriate charges will be assessed.

Before and After school childcare:

Saint Mark is licensed by the State of Hawaii to provide Before and After School Childcare to students up to grade six (no older than 12). Admission to the Before and After School Program is available to any student enrolled in our regular elementary school program up to grade six. Acceptance is on a first come basis by application. Students applying after we have reached the maximum allowed will be placed on a waiting list.

Before School Childcare is available for any enrolled students from 6:30 a.m. through 7:15 a.m., and After School Childcare is available on regular school days from the time of school dismissal through 5:45 p.m.