

# Mountain Park Baptist Church and Boarding Academy

## Parent Handbook

### MOUNTAIN PARK BAPTIST CHURCH AND BOARDING ACADEMY

#### Binding Arbitration

Believing that lawsuits are prohibited by Scripture (I Corinthians 6:1-8), all parents, grandparents guardians, students, teachers, staff, board members, volunteers, or anyone else involved in dispute agree to submit to binding arbitration any matters which cannot otherwise be resolved, and expressly waive any and all rights in law and equity to bringing any civil disagreement before any court of law, except that judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof.

#### PROCEDURES FOR ARBITRATION

##### SECTION 1

##### Scope of Arbitration

The parties must prior to the selection of arbitrators, agree to the scope of the matters to be considered by the arbitrators. In doing so the parties must conduct themselves with the utmost courtesy as befits believers in Jesus Christ. Failure to do so shall be considered a proper matter for church discipline. If the scope of the dispute for arbitration cannot be agreed upon by the parties, the scope shall be determined by the arbitrators.

##### SECTION 2

##### Submission to Arbitration

2.1 The parties as Christians, believing that lawsuits are prohibited by Scripture, and having agreed to submit disputes to binding arbitration, and to waive any legal right to take the dispute to a court of law, will refer and submit any and all disputes, differences, and controversies whatsoever within the agreed scope of arbitration to a panel of three arbitrators, to be selected as follows.

a. All arbitrators must be born-again Christians of good reputation in the community and who affirm

Mountain Park Baptist Church's statement of faith in its entirety.

b. Each party shall submit a list of three proposed arbitrators to the other party, and the other party shall

choose one of the three proposed arbitrators to serve on the panel.

c. The third arbitrator will be selected by the mutual agreement of the other two arbitrators.

d. In selecting the arbitrators, each party shall act in good faith in choosing Christian arbitrators who have no prior knowledge of the dispute, are not related to or close friends with the selecting

party, and who will act impartially and with fundamental fairness.

e. No arbitrators may be an attorney.

f. No arbitrator may be employed by, or under authority of, either party or other arbitrators.

g. The arbitrators will be selected as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after the parties have agreed to the scope of arbitration.

h. The arbitration will be held at a neutral site agreed to by the arbitrators.

2.2 The arbitrators shall, subject to the provisions of these procedures, arbitrate the dispute according to the terms of these procedures, the Bible, as interpreted by the Mountain Park Baptist Church's statement of faith, and any applicable church documents.

2.3 Each party may be represented by counsel throughout the process at their own expense. Each attorney shall have the absolute freedom to ask questions of any witnesses during the arbitration process. Formal rules of evidence shall not apply.

### SECTION 3

#### Terms and Conditions of Arbitration

3.1 The arbitrators may, in their absolute discretion, receive and consider any evidence they deem relevant to the dispute, whether written or oral, without regard to any formal rules of evidence.

3.2 The arbitrators shall hold the arbitration hearing as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after selection of the third arbitrator.

3.3 There shall be no stenographic record of the proceedings, and all proceedings are closed to the media and any other Parties not directly involved in the proceedings as determined by the arbitrators.

3.4 Normally the hearing shall be completed within 3 hours. In unusual circumstances and for good cause shown, the arbitrators may schedule an additional hearing to be held promptly.

3.5 There will be no post hearing briefs.

3.6 The arbitrators are to make and publish their award, in writing, signed by each of them concerning the matters referred, to be delivered to the parties no later than 48 hours from the date of the conclusion of the hearing unless otherwise agreed by the parties. The arbitrators may, in their discretion, furnish an option.

### SECTION 4

#### Conduct and Rules of Hearing

4.1 The arbitrators may, in their absolute discretion, receive and consider any evidence they deem relevant to the

deem relevant to the dispute, whether written or oral, without regard to any formal rules of evidence.

4.2 The parties and their respective witnesses must, when required by the arbitrators, attend and submit to examination and cross-examination under oath as to all or any of the matters referred to in the proceedings, and to produce and deposit with the arbitrators all or any evidence in the possession or under their control concerning such matters.

4.3 If a party defaults in any respect referred in paragraph 12, above, the arbitrators may proceed with the arbitration in the discretion as if no such evidence were in existence, insofar as it may be favorable to the party in default.

4.4 All presentations shall be controlled by the arbitrators. Any disputes regarding procedure shall be decided solely by the arbitrators.

## SECTION 5

### Duties of Arbitrators

5.1 The arbitrators are to receive all evidence, prayerfully consider such evidence in an impartial manner, and render a decision which, based upon Scriptural principles, is fair to both parties.

5.2 The arbitrators have full power to order mutual releases to be executed by the parties, and either of the parties failing such orders shall have the effect of a release, and may be duly acknowledged as such.

5.3 In the event that either party, or a witness for either party, shall fail to attend the arbitration hearing, after such written notice to such party as the arbitrators shall deem reasonable, the arbitrators may proceed in the absence of such party or witnesses without further notice.

## SECTION 6

### Decision of Arbitrators

6.1 It is preferred that the arbitrators reach a unanimous decision, but if a unanimous decision cannot be obtained a majority decision will be accepted. The written decision of a majority of the arbitrators shall be final and binding on all parties and judgment upon the reward rendered by the arbitrators may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. There is no appeal from the decision of the arbitrators.

6.7 The decision of the arbitrators is to be kept confidential by all parties for a period of one year. For purposes of these procedures the Mountain Park Baptist Church membership may be informed of the decision if the church or any church pastors, officers, trustees, employees, or board members were a party to the proceeding.

6.3 Should any party commence legal proceedings against another party with the respect to the agreed scope of the dispute or the binding decision of the arbitrators, with the exception of an action to enforce the decision of the arbitrators that party shall pay to the other party all expenses of said proceedings, including reasonable attorneys fees. In the event it becomes necessary for one party to commence legal proceedings to enforce the decision of the arbitrators, the non-prevailing party must bear all costs of said proceedings, including reasonable attorneys fees.

## SECTION 7

### Parties to Cooperate

No party is to unreasonably delay or otherwise prevent or impede the arbitration proceedings.

No party will involve the news media in the dispute in any way. No party shall publicize the dispute in any way to anyone not a party to the proceedings, except as permitted by the arbitrators, and except that a party may disclose proceedings of this arbitration to his or her spouse, legal counsel, accountants, insurance carrier, and as otherwise required by law.

## SECTION 8

### Costs and Expenses

Each party shall pay his or her own costs and expenses related to presenting the party's case to the arbitrators. The costs of the arbitration, including any fees for the arbitrators, is to be shared equally by both parties.

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as of May 11, 2000

This handbook is a living document, and is, therefore, subject to change at any time. Changes will be made as deemed necessary by the administration of Mountain Park Baptist Boarding Academy in order to most clearly define and explain the policies, rules and regulations. It is expected that anyone who finds themselves within the boundaries of this handbook fully comply with it's content.

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*"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I. but Christ liveth In me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20*

## **PURPOSE**

Mountain Park Baptist Boarding Academy (MPBBA) is a boarding school with twin missions:

- ❖ To provide a college preparatory academic program that serves both the student of high academic ability through an accelerated progression to college-level courses, and the student of more modest abilities, through a flexible curriculum, that allows the time for mastery of fundamental concepts and skills;
- ❖ To provide an environment of faith that nurtures Christian values of respect for authority, of Biblical self-image, and of Christian service.

Mountain Park's specific objectives and programs in all areas of school life (academic religious, social, athletic, musical, and extracurricular) are designed to nurture in our students growth, respectfulness, discipline, leadership, and creativity. All objectives and programs are subordinate to and in support of the twin goals of the school, developing to the fullest potential in each student academic scholarship and Christian principles.

**Exemption from State Licensure:** As a residential care facility operated entirely by a religious organization, Mountain Park Baptist Boarding Academy is exempt from state licensing; and therefore, is not inspected or supervised by the State of Missouri as provided in Missouri Statute 210.516

**Racial Non-discrimination:** The Mountain Park Baptist Church and Boarding Academy admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the academy. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, or any other academy-administered program.

***"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."***  
***II Timothy 3:14-17***

## **I. THE SCRIPTURES:**

"We believe that the Bible, as given in the King James Version (KJV), is the eternal, infallible, inerrant verbally inspired Word of God. We believe that it is essential to proper living on the earth and that it is the only guide to salvation, and ultimately to Heaven. (Psalm 12:6,7; II Timothy 2:15; II Timothy 3:14-17)

## **II. THE DEITY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST:**

- A. His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35)
- B. His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; Peter 2:22)
- C. His miracles (Acts 2:22,10:38)
- D His substitutionary work on the cross (I Cor. 15:3; II Cor. 5:21)
- E. His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; II Cor. 15:4)

## **III. THE FALL OF MAN:**

Man was created good and upright. For God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression, fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. (Genesis 1:26,2:17, 3:6; Romans 5:10,19)

## **IV. THE SALVATION OF MAN:**

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the son of God.

- A. The Conditions of Salvation: It is received by repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God, according to the hope of eternal life. (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11, 3:5-7)

- B. The Evidence of Salvation:

The inward evidence of Salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit. (Rom. 8:16)

The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness  
(Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12)

## **V. LOCAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:**

- A. We believe that the Holy Spirit baptizes individual believers into the church, which is the body and espoused bride of Christ. We believe that this baptism is the spiritual identification with Christ's death, burial and resurrection. We believe that this baptism takes place at the instant an individual places personal faith in Christ and is born again. . (I Corinthians 12:12-14; II Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:25-27; Romans 6:3-4)
- B. We believe that water baptism by immersion is a public testimony of the individual believer's identity with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. We intend to baptize every believer professing personal faith in Christ at Mountain Park. Any believer baptized by the pastor of Mountain Park Baptist Church becomes a member of Mountain Park Baptist Church. (Acts 16.14,15,23 W)

## **VI MORAL STANDARDS:**

' We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex (Genesis 2:24, 19:5-7, 26:8-9; Leviticus 18-1-30,20:13; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1, 6:9, I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4) We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; I Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23).

***NOTE: When examining a King James Bible, it is best to look at II Timothy 3:17 as a "test verse" to assure that the Bible will be acceptable. Look for the word "thoroughly". If the word is "thoroughly", it is not correct and you will need to find a King James Bible that reads "thoroughly" in II Timothy 3:17.***

## **PARENT ORIENTATION**

The Parent Orientation Program consists of three parts:

- I. PART ONE: Tour, Interview with Students, Interview with Staff:
  - A. The tour will enable the parent to view the dormitory, Learning Center, and other facilities of Mountain Park.
  - B. The interview with students is an opportunity for the parents to hear testimonies and to question current students concerning the Lord's work in their life since coming to Mountain

question current students concerning the Lord's work in their life since coming to Mountain Park.

C. The interview with staff is a time to discuss the basic content of the Parent Handbook.

At least three (3) hours will be invested in PART ONE.

Upon completion of PART ONE of the Parent Orientation the final decision will be made as to whether the parent wants to enroll the student and Mountain Park is willing to accept the student.

## II. PART TWO; Parent Orientation Package:

The Parent Orientation Package Provides two video cassettes and a fill-in-the-blank workbook, called a PACE. The first video, *The Great Commandment*, Presented by Dr. David Gibbs, Sr. of the Christian Law Association, addresses Deuteronomy 6:4-9/ In this video, Scripture is applied to current settings emphasizing the parents responsibility to train their children to love God. The second video, *Presenting the School of Tomorrow*, introduces parents to the Howard family, who, with a growing staff, created the world's first values-based, high-tech individualized curriculum and program that gets results. The PACE is designed to give parents a small learning experience similar to that of their student. The Five Laws of Learning presented in this PACE show the parent the basic Learning Center procedures. By completing the PACE, the parent will understand the procedures that their student will follow while working in the PACE's. The parent's timely completion of the Parent Orientation Package will show forth concern for their child and cooperation with MPBBA.

After receiving this material, parents should set aside time together to complete the Parent Orientation. All of the instructions should be carefully followed as closely as possible. When finished, the videos and the PACE are to be mailed back to Mountain Park.

The Videos may be purchased. Contact the MPBBA School Office for information.

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## III. PART THREE; Video Cassettes:

Additional video cassettes produced by A.C.E., School of Tomorrow, are available. Parents may request these videos, view them, then return them to Mountain Park.  
[The recommended videos are titled:

- ❖ ***Changing the World One Child at a Time***
- ❖ ***Who Will Save the Children?***

Each of the videos may be purchased for approximately \$12.00 per video. Contact the MPBBA School Office for information.

The entire Parent Orientation Program should be completed as soon as possible after the

The entire Parent Orientation Program should be completed as soon as possible after the student is enrolled. This will enable the parent to better understand, assist, and support the ministry of MPBBA, and thus to help their child.

Helpful Resources For The Home, Appendix F, is included in the back of the Parent Handbook. Many resources of continued encouragement in addition to the Parent Orientation Program will be found there.

## **COMMUNICATION**

*"That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing*

All communication with the student should be positive in nature, and supportive of school policies and procedures.

Do not rehash "old garbage," (i.e. student's past problems, etc.)

Avoid references to pop culture (i.e. Hollywood, music, etc.).

Be straightforward, avoid ambiguities or insinuations.

Never counsel the child concerning their instruction at MPBBA.

Do not criticize.

Avoid maintaining the contact with negative influences.

### **Extremes to avoid in all communication:**

- I. Do not correct your child now. This is a new start, not a punishment. You should not say, "We told you that if you messed up again we would send you away." MPBBA is a God given opportunity, not punishment.
- II. Do not apologize. Do not feel guilty or express guilt to your child. This is often seen in an overabundance of mail, packages, or gifts. You have given your child an opportunity for which he/she will be grateful later. You should not feel a need to apologize for this.
- III. There are two topics that will demand that your child be removed from MPBBA. It will be your actions that put you in this situation. This removal will be considered voluntary since you will have been aware of this policy and chose to disregard.
  - A. NEVER tell your child when he/she is coming home. Never discuss information regarding visits with your child. Our influence is undermined at this point.
  - B. NEVER keep secrets. Do not attempt to hide any information concerning your plans or your child's attitude/behavior from MPBBA staff.
- IV. Guard against a "Bad Guy / Good Guy" image. Do not say concerning any situation, "We would, but Mountain Park will not let us." After establishing MPBBA-s position on a given matter, take advantage of the opportunity to assume the authority. Say, "We have decided...." This puts you and MPBBA on the same team, and helps to re-establish you as an authority.

### **MAIL AND PACKAGES**

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from afar country." Proverbs 25:25

Each student is required to write a one page letter to parents each week. A second letter may be written. The parents must provide self-addressed stamped envelopes (SASE). In the case of a broken home, both parents may provide SASE. The student may write both parents unless court order documents prohibiting contact are provided to MPBBA. If SASE are not provided, unnecessary handling of mail may result in loss or delay of outgoing mail.

All mail that did not originate with the parents must be mailed to the parents and screened by the parents, prior to forwarding to the student.

All mail is read by MPBBA staff. The students- outgoing mail will not be censored in any way. Be prepared to read, "They starve me," "They beat me." "They work me." "I hate this place." "You must come get me," etc. Incoming student mail should have the student's full name on the envelope. Incoming mail may be returned to the parent if content is not in the best interest of the child. A note of explanation may accompany the returned mail.

It is best that students not receive more than a total of five letters over any two-week period. One letter per week from parents is sufficient. Letters from grandparents and other family members are acceptable. Students will not be allowed to keep more than five letters. Contact with old friends should not be maintained.

Business mail (Tuition, etc....) should not have the student's name on the envelope. Do not mix student mail with business mail.

Photographs that are sent to the student must meet MPBBA's dress and appearance standards. Women must be modestly dressed in dresses, jumpers, skirts or culottes. Tops and blouses must cover cleavage and have sleeves. Make-up must be minimal. Jewelry must be small and understated. Men must be dressed modestly in long pants and shirts. No long hair or earrings should be seen on the men.

United Parcel Service (UPS) stops here everyday, Monday through Friday. Federal Express and Roadway Packaging System also service us. Packages from home should include personal hygiene items, school supplies, clothing and gifts. No alcohol-based products may be sent (mouthwash, face items cleanser, etc.) No aerosol products may be sent. No food items may be sent.

**SHIPPING ADDRESS:**

**Mountain Park Baptist Boarding Academy**

**"Student Name"**

**Rt. 1, Box 71**

**Patterson, MO 63956**

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**PHONE CALLS (STUDENT AND STAFF)**

**Students:**

**Please use (573) 856-4216.** (Times referenced below are Central Time.)

Students must speak in English

Phone Call Hours:

Monday through Friday (except Wednesday) 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

First Phone Call:

Three (3) weeks from entry date.

Subsequent Calls:

Every other week, after the first three-week call. The length of time between phone calls may be LONGER than two weeks but not LESS than two weeks. Special services or activities may pre-empt any phone call requiring that it be rescheduled. A visit interrupts the phone call schedule: two weeks must pass for first

requiring that it be recommended. A visit interrupts the phone call schedule, the weeks must pass for first year students before a phone call is received after a visit. Parents call in; students do not call out, except in an emergency.

#### Length of Calls:

Ten (10) minutes. A timer is suggested to assist in keeping within this limit. Pay close attention to the ten (10) minute time limit. Many students are awaiting calls. Your attention will allow all to have equal opportunity while showing support of the rules to your child. Both parents may have seven (7) minutes each in the case of a broken home, unless court order documents prohibiting contact are provided to MPBBA. Both parents must call on the same day. In the interest of your child, please work together on the phone call schedule.

#### Birthday Calls:

After the initial three weeks a student may receive a one-minute call on their birthday without interrupting the regular phone call schedule.

### **BE PREPARED FOR THE FIRST PHONE CALL!**

On the first call you may hear, "How could you do this to me? You must come get me! You are ruining my life. I cannot stay here! How long do I have to stay? Etc..."

#### YOUR RESPONSE:

"Dear daughter/son, we-called to tell you how much we love you and how-much-you-mean to us. We are not going to discuss this with you. If you continue, we will hang up the phone."

#### CHILD'S RESPONSE:

"You can't hang up on me! ..."

#### YOUR RESPONSE:

"CLICK!!" Do not debate, explain, or counsel. Simply hang up.

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#### SECOND PHONE CALL:

She/he may regroup and try again. "I can't believe you hung up on me! You must talk to me about this! They tell me I must be here for over a year, maybe even two years! I can't do this! You're ruining my life!"

#### YOUR RESPONSE:

"Dear daughter/son, we called to tell you how much we love you and how much you mean to us. We are not going to discuss this with you. If you continue, we will hang up the phone."

#### CHILD'S RESPONSE:

"You can't hang up on me! ..."

#### YOUR RESPONSE:

"CLICK!!" Do not debate, explain, or counsel. Simply hang up.

#### THIRD PHONE CALL:

New tactics may be attempted by the third call. Demanding did not work, so conformity may. Folks, please don't hang up. I am sorry for the way I behaved before. I know that I have been a disappointment to you. But really, you will not need to leave me here for a whole year. Cant we discuss this like adults?"

#### YOUR RESPONSE:

"Dear daughter/son, we called to tell you..."

**CHILD'S RESPONSE:**

"Please talk with me. I'm being nice. At least tell me you will think about it

**YOUR RESPONSE:**

"CLICK!!" Do not debate, explain, counsel or tell her/him that you will think about it. Simply hang up.

Continue this until you have control. It takes two parties to argue/debate. Take control Do not allow your child to take charge of the conversation. You ask the questions. Answer only the questions that you choose, ignore the others. Do not be afraid to say, "I am not discussing this with you."

The telephone not only helps to put you in control of your child, but it also helps to re-establish your authority.

When asked "Why don't you call more often?" or "Why do you only talk for 10 minutes?" do not say "Because it's the rules of Mountain Park." It is much better to say, "We have decided to call this often," or "We have decided to limit our calls to no longer than 10 minutes." Establish your authority.

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**Family medical emergency or death in the family:**

In the unfortunate event of a medical emergency or death within a family, it will normally be expected that the pastoral staff of MPBC be allowed to inform the student. This will be accomplished in a caring, prayerful way which will provide necessary information without creating an opportunity for the student's emotional manipulation of the family. Whether or not a student should be brought home in such situations must be decided on a case by case basis. However, this is generally strongly discourages. After all is said and done, if the student is not safe and secure in school, nothing else will matter. The risk to the student's opportunity to continue in school must be the first priority.

**Staff:**

MPBBA Staff usually prefer to communicate with parents by telephone. The time required to construct written responses causes us to discourage written communication in most situations. We will call COLLECT when we call you. We request that you remove any blocks that would hinder this option. Parents are expected to inform MPBBA in writing whenever there is a change in phone numbers or addresses. Pager numbers, "800" numbers, cell phone or mobile numbers should also be made available to and changes kept current with MPBBA..

We will be better able to serve you during the normal business day. It is understood there will be times when you must reach MPBBA staff outside the normal business day. Call whenever you feel you need to reach us.

It is best to attempt to reach administrators early in the day. Academic information is best requested between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Please allow us to be brief and concise with you in our communication. If necessary, an appointment may be scheduled to allow more detailed discussion.

Maintain a professional relationship with MPBBA staff. The effectiveness of the ministry to your child can be adversely affected when staff and parent relationships become personal. Please address our staff men as "Brother" or "Mister" followed by their last name and our ladies as "Mrs." or "Miss" followed by their last name. Our founder and pastor should be addressed as "Dr. Wills" or "Pastor Wills". Our staff will extend the same courtesy to you.

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### VISITATION

*"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."  
I Corinthians 15:58*

During the initial twelve-month period, policy allows for parents to visit their student at four month intervals. Visits may be farther than four months apart but not less than four months apart. We strongly urge you to plan visits during our scheduled academic breaks.

- ❖ The two weeks after graduation;
- ❖ Two weeks in early August;
- ❖ Two weeks during the Christmas season.

These are the routinely scheduled academic breaks. See the current school calendar for the specific dates. Extended visits planned for dates other than the scheduled academic breaks are strongly discouraged and must be specially coordinated with MPBBA staff.

The first visit at four months should be for no more than three days. Therefore, it is not necessarily important for it to be during a scheduled academic break. A three day weekend works well. It is suggested that you arrange to pick your child up on Friday morning and return by 5:00 p.m. Sunday evening. If the first visit is not scheduled until the end of the fifth or sixth month, a period of more than three days may be workable. It will always be recommended that every effort be made to miss a minimum number of school days when planning visits.

Visits planned for students from broken homes must be carefully coordinated between each parent and MPBBA staff. Whenever possible, it is best that separated parents come together to visit the student just as married parents do. If this is not possible, we suggest that the parents divide a three-day weekend between them. If absolutely necessary, it may be possible for parents to visit on consecutive weekends. The varying circumstances in these situations demand individual attention so as to ensure proper opportunity for both parents while considering what is best for the student.

Students are not allowed to return to their home state for the initial twelve months. Any other location familiar to the student should be avoided as well.

The dates of all visits should be closely planned and coordinated with the assistance of MPBBA staff. Tentative visit dates are to be scheduled with MPBBA as early in advance as possible. There are some activities that require student attendance. Visits will not be scheduled on these dates.

The MPBBA staff may recommend that a child's visit be delayed. Your support, if that should occur, is expected.

For students remaining beyond the initial twelve months, visit schedules may become more flexible. The progress of the child will be the determining factor in scheduling those visits.