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West Africa

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Dakar Academy

**Vision, Mission, and  
Core Values**

*Compiled December 2004*

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## Vision

*Vision:* what the people in the target audience will be like if we effectively serve them.

There is a strong similarity between expected outcomes and vision. In this case, vision is a summarized composite statement of our expected outcomes. In other words, our expected outcomes result from a controlled explosion of our vision into its separate parts.

Dakar Academy exists to partner in the advancement of the Kingdom of God through serving missionary families by providing educational services for their children. (*Ends Statement 1.0*)

It is the vision of Dakar Academy that our graduates have a Christian worldview that permeates all of life, are prepared for university level studies, and will:

*Spiritually:*

- Have an overview of God working in the world and in his/her individual life. (*Ends Statement 1.1*)
- Face his/her responsibility to choose to follow Christ. (*Ends Statement 1.1.1.1*)
- Grow in his/her spiritual walk. (*Ends Statement 1.1.1.2*)

*Intellectually:*

- Be challenged to achieve his/her potential academically, physically, socially, spiritually and morally. (*Ends Statement 1.1.2*)
- Be able to integrate into a North American school system. (*Ends Statement 1.1.3*)
- Have the necessary life-skills to function as an adult. (*Ends Statement 1.1.4*)

## Mission

*Mission:* what the school will offer or provide to its target audience as a means for the vision to be realized. It is not uncommon to see “vision” and “mission” used incorrectly as interchangeable terms. *Vision*—the place we want to go; *mission*—how we get there; if we do arrive—we accomplish the mission and realize the vision

To provide for missionary children, and other children as space permits, quality primary and secondary education from an evangelical Christian perspective utilizing curriculum compatible with American school systems, and boarding for missionary children. (*Mission Statement – Fall 1995*)

## Target Audience

*Target Audience:* the audience we accept the responsibility to serve: ages, grade levels, numbers served, their location, other criteria

Students:

- Whose parents are evangelical missionaries (*mission*)
- Whose parents desire a Christian education for them (“others”)
- Whose parents desire an American education for them (“others”)
- Who are capable of higher education preparatory courses
- Who are proficient in English (*policy*)

- Who are in any grade from kindergarten through twelve *(policy)*
- Who, if they are determined by review to have learning disabilities, can have their educational needs met by the school *(policy)*

Geography and Capacity:

- Generally serving those within West Africa
- Availability for 15 students per classroom, kindergarten through three *(policy)*
- Availability for 18 students per classroom , four through five *(policy)*
- Availability for 25 students per classroom, six through twelve *(policy)*

## Expected Outcomes

*Expected Outcomes:* the measurable change or transformation that will occur in the people the school serves. Clearly identify and delineate what we expect our students will be like if we effectively achieve our mission

With Christ as the center of truth and as God’s model for His people, the expected outcomes at Dakar Academy are to develop graduates who:

- Act responsibly
- Communicate effectively
- Interact positively
- Learn to learn
- Think critically and creatively
- Work optimally

*(Core Abilities – Spring 2002)*

## Core Values

*Core Values:* a set of values or principles that guide the practice of the school in fulfilling its mission. The core values need no rational or external justification. Nor do they sway with the trends and fads of the day. Nor even do they shift in response to changing market conditions” (Collins & Porras, 1997).

- A Christian education is one based upon a God-centered life view as revealed in the Bible. *(Dakar Academy Philosophy of Education, Dec. 1993, Educational Purpose 1.0)*
- Our view of reality is centered on the reality of God Himself, not in human philosophies or material things. *(Educational Purpose I.A.)*
- Man/woman were made in God’s image but are fallen and in need of redemption. *(Educational Purpose I.B.)*
- All knowledge and truth belong to God as Creator, and He has revealed them through His written Word, His Son, Jesus Christ, and in nature. *(Educational Purpose I.C.)*

- Value can be found by doing the will of God, fulfilling the law of God and acting out of love for God. (*Educational Purpose I.D.*)
  - The student is of inestimable value because God has given him or her value. The school seeks the development of the student to his or her full potential – spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically. (*The nature of the Student IV.A.*)
- True education must be based on these core values and the power for such education come from God. (*Educational Purpose I.E.*)
  - The teacher is responsible to provide a Christian education for the student both by example and by instruction. (*School Relationships II.A.*)
- God has given the child to the parents. The parents are responsible for the child's nurture and education. The parents delegate to the school the responsibility for providing an education for their children. (*Educational Purpose I.F.*)

Other ideas:

- All learning experiences aim to move students toward their full spiritual and intellectual potential.
- Scripture is taught as the revealed truth of God.
- Every element of the curriculum radiates God's Word and its implications for living.
- All board members, administrators, faculty, and staff know Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord.