

Merger FAQs

What exactly does a "merger" mean?

Evergreen Christian School would become part of Lynden Christian Schools.

When would the merger begin?

Merger plans will begin immediately upon Society approval. The upcoming school year would be the first year of a merged system.

What grade levels will be at the Bellingham campus?

The Bellingham campus will accommodate students in preschool through sixth grade. (The Bellingham campus currently has students in preschool – 8th grade.)

Where is Evergreen Christian School located?

The school is located at The Firs, a beautiful 13-acre wooded site in the Geneva area, near the shore of Lake Whatcom.

Will the Bellingham campus continue at that location?

Yes, at least for the near future. A new lease will continue at that present site.

What representation will Evergreen Christian School have with the merged school?

Two representatives from Evergreen will join the Lynden Christian board during a four-year transition period.

As a current Evergreen Christian School family, how will my tuition costs change?

There will be a transition period to adjust tuition. Currently LCS tuition is 3-10% higher for the first child. Evergreen and Lynden Christian Schools both offer financial assistance for those who qualify.

What will the name of the merged schools be?

The school board will make this decision. The Task Force recommendation is that Lynden Christian Schools retains its name while the Evergreen name remains with an addition which indicates that it is a Lynden Christian Schools campus in Bellingham.

Town Hall Meetings

There will be special town hall meetings for both school Societies in order to answer additional questions concerning this merger.

Monday, February 13, 2006 • 7:30 pm

Lynden Christian Schools

Evergreen Christian School

Middle School Upper Gathering Area

Evergreen School Chapel

Special Society Meetings

Monday, February 27, 2006 • 7:30 pm

Lynden Christian Schools

Evergreen Christian School

Middle School Upper Gathering Area

Evergreen School Chapel



A vote will be taken at these special Society meetings on the merger proposal. If you are unable to attend this meeting, absentee ballots will be available at each school's office during the day of the Society meetings.

Shall the corporate entity of Evergreen Christian School be merged with The Society of Christian Instruction of Lynden, Washington (the corporate entity of Lynden Christian School), according to the Plan of Merger adopted by the Board of Directors (School Board) of each respective corporation and by which Plan of Merger Lynden Christian School, as the surviving corporation, assumes and undertakes the future management and operation of Evergreen Christian School's Bellingham location?

God has laid the groundwork and has provided a wonderful opportunity to offer a quality Christian education to children throughout Whatcom County. We ask that you prayerfully reflect on the value of Christian education and support the union of Lynden Christian Schools and Evergreen Christian School. If you have any questions or comments prior to the Society meeting, please contact your school board president: Mrs. Joan Mc Cauley 734-1572, jmccauley@clearchannel.com; or Mr. Marv Tjoelker 815-5800, marv@larsongross.com.

FURTHERING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN WHATCOM COUNTY

Special Society Meeting

Monday, February 27, 2006 • 7:30 pm

**Lynden
Christian
Schools**

**School
Merger**
*One School...
...Two Campuses*

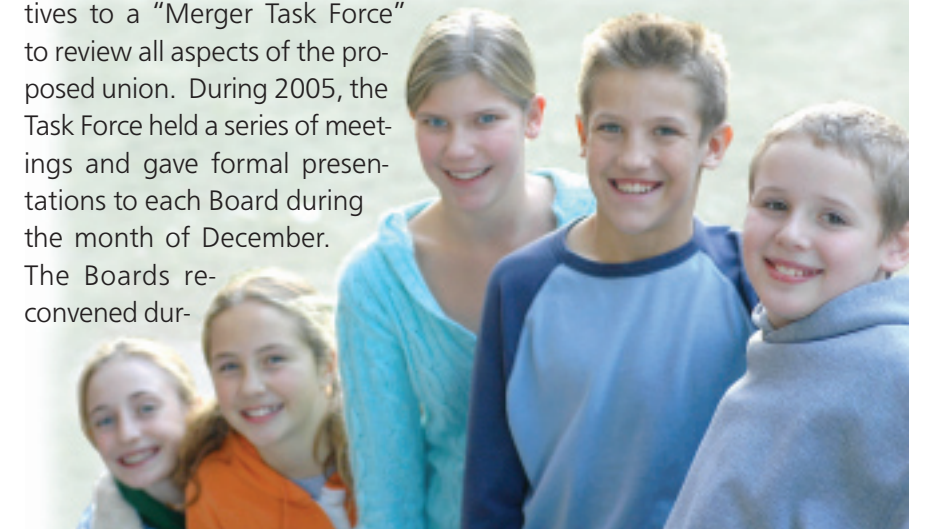
**Evergreen
Christian
School**

Furthering Christian Education In Whatcom County

History of Merger Discussion

The first discussion of a merger between Lynden Christian Schools and Evergreen Christian School began approximately seven years ago. At that time, we were in the midst of Phase I of our high school expansion project, and it was believed that the timing was not appropriate to give full consideration to joint efforts. Nonetheless, a positive and close working relationship remained between the two schools. In the fall of 2004,

discussions were renewed and each School Board appointed representatives to a "Merger Task Force" to review all aspects of the proposed union. During 2005, the Task Force held a series of meetings and gave formal presentations to each Board during the month of December. The Boards reconvened during the first week of January 2006 to review the merger proposal.



In separate votes, the Lynden Christian School Board and Evergreen Christian School Board recommended unanimously to approve the Plan of Merger and to submit the plan to each Society for approval.



Similar Principles...Similar Values...Similar Goals



One School – Two Campuses

Rationale

for the Merger



Lynden Christian Schools

At Lynden Christian Schools, our goal is to educate children and young people so that they may grow and mature into perceptive and caring Christians who become servants of our Lord and Savior. As one of the oldest Christian schools in the area, we are proud to offer a fully accredited curriculum to students in preschool through grade 12. We are excited with our academic programs as well as our extra-curricular opportunities. The most important key to achieving our mission is our dedicated teachers, who on a daily basis bring a Christian perspective to their teaching. At all levels, and in all classes, it is our desire to teach and learn from a Christian paradigm. Every teacher, while unique in personality and teaching expertise, is a Christian dedicated to the goals of Christian education.

Founded in 1910

- Number of Families: 576
- Number of Students: 1013 (P-12)
- Number of Teachers: 60 FTE
- Number of Congregations Represented: 80+

LCS Mission Statement

The mission of Lynden Christian Schools is to be an effective instrument of God. Together with Christian parents and the church, we educate children and young people so that they may grow and mature into perceptive and caring Christians. Finally, our goal is to produce citizens who will have a transforming influence in the world.

**Furthering
Christian Education
In Whatcom County**

Lynden Christian Schools and Evergreen Christian School

Similar Principles...Values...Goals

- **Christ-centered education**
- **High academic standards**
- **Daily Bible instruction**
- **Weekly chapel services**
- **Small class sizes**
- **Supportive parent involvement**
- **Beautiful campus environment**
- **Multimedia computer lab**
- **Physical education**
- **Service/Community projects**
- **Multiple children discount**
- **Part-time option for homeschoolers**
- Lynden Christian School (1910) and Evergreen Christian School (1991) were both incorporated to establish and maintain Christian education in Whatcom County, Washington.
- Philosophically, each school believes that the Bible gives Christian parents the re-

sponsibility and privilege of providing Christian education for their children, and that this can be best accomplished by concerted prayer and cooperative action. Both schools have mission statements and objectives that are essentially identical. These foundational beliefs are based on the premise that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible Word of God, and, therefore, the spiritual and educational guide for understanding God, His creation, the fall of humankind, the path of salvation through Jesus Christ, and the restoration and advancement of God's kingdom in which Christians will take their proper place as productive and transforming influences.

- Organizationally, both schools are members of Northwest Christian Schools International, an affiliate of Christian Schools International. Lynden Christian

Schools and Evergreen Christian School are both governed by a parent-controlled Board, and membership in each Society is based upon agreement with the above-mentioned philosophy, goals, and objectives (Article II of both Bylaws).

- Educationally, both schools emphasize the calling from God's Word for a life of obedience, servanthood, and stewardship. Each school's educational program takes into account the variety of abilities and needs of students, allowing and encouraging students to reach their greatest academic potential.
- Cooperatively, just as there is benefit in having parents join together in "concerted prayer and action" for the purpose of providing Christian education, so there is mutual benefit in Christian schools joining together and pooling their resources for growth and strength.

A merger of Lynden Christian Schools and Evergreen Christian School

provides an incredible opportunity throughout Whatcom County. The leadership of both schools believes that the long history and reputation of Lynden Christian Schools will provide viability and stability for the much younger Evergreen Christian School. Lynden Christian Schools will benefit by welcoming students from the Bellingham campus who wish to attend the Lynden campus at the junior high and secondary school levels.

As a result, God's people, working together within the context of Christian education, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, and under the direction of Scripture, can provide an even stronger foundation for Christian education that will benefit Christian families of Whatcom County for generations to come.

Evergreen Christian School

Evergreen Christian School is committed to providing a Christ-centered education which goes beyond mastery of knowledge to applied wisdom. Evergreen Christian School seeks to equip each student with the mind and heart of Christ in every aspect of life. The aim of Evergreen Christian School is not to provide a place where children can withdraw from the world, but to teach our students how to understand and live in the world without becoming conformed to it. Through being transformed by truth and knowledge, our students will have a transforming effect on our culture and our world. Evergreen is committed to equipping our students for renewal through Scripture study, prayer, the discovery and development of God-given traits and talents, and by studying our world and all knowledge from a Biblical perspective. The student equipped in this way will be able to perceive the world as God perceives it and to interact with the broader world as an ambassador of Christ.

Founded in 1991

- Number of Families: 51
- Number of Students: 80 (P-8)
- Number of Teachers: 5.75 FTE
- Number of Congregations Represented: 40+

ECS Mission Statement

The purpose of Evergreen Christian School is to provide a Christ-centered education based on God's Word. Believing that all of creation and the child belong to God, the school will strive for excellence by nurturing each student's God-given traits and talents so that he or she will have a transforming effect on our culture and in the world.