

Lynden Christian Board of Directors Summary – Aug. 11, 2021

Lori TeVelde challenged us to prayerfully seek God's will, His wisdom, and the Spirit's direction as we face difficult decisions. She also prayed earnestly for unity and love within the LC family. Jon reviewed the goals of the meeting and opened with a roundtable discussion asking each board member and all administrators present to summarize how they felt about the town hall meetings, and where they stand personally. Each board member shared from their heart how they thankful they were for the interactions, comments and survey results we received, but recognized the struggles of division and lack of unity within our LC community. There was frustration with the level of distrust that exists with all authority. Board member comments ranged from disappointment and hurt, to being thankful for the engagement shown by the large turnout. General encouragement was expressed by staff and administrators that they are, and they believe the students are, ready to take up the challenges of whatever the year brings. There was recognition of the high levels of passion and emotion expressed in a variety of ways. There was also encouragement to remember and celebrate last year as a time when we pressed on and made it through a difficult year while continuing with in-person education, and came toge. There was discussion about clear Biblical directives especially in Romans 13 and 1st Peter 2 to obey, respect and honor governing authorities. The high levels of emotions and passion of parent reactions were again discussed and vetted. Potential personal liability and suits were touched on briefly, but more importantly the potential loss of accreditation, severe damage to L.C.'s Christian witness, and potential school closure weighed heavily on the discussion. Before a vote could be held on whether or not to follow the mandates, it was agreed that we needed a very clear picture of exactly what protocols and practices would be in place if we followed the masking mandate. So a detailed list of what a typical school day would look like and what students and teachers could expect, was hammered out. After that list was complete, the motion was approved unanimously to honor the masking mandate but return nearly every other aspect of a typical school day to normal, if it wasn't specified in the mandate. Jon wrote up an initial draft that was approved by all board members before being sent to the society.