

All:

The board did our best to answer the questions below. Most are quick, easy answers and we are happy to provide that information.

As to the request for a society meeting, the board will certainly honor the request for a meeting. We will call a meeting, with ample notice and notification to the full society, as soon as possible. However, we are working hard to get our students back in school. So, it is going to be a bit before we call a meeting. We will call a meeting of society as soon as we can; the board will set an agenda and all will be welcome to attend.

Here are the responses:

Go forward strategy on getting students back to school? / Questions for board in relation to getting students back in school?

- What has been done to date? **We feel this has been addressed in the 9/30 email. If you have additional specific questions, let us know.**
- What is the plan going forward? **The plan is to staff up the wellness team, follow the K-12 COVID-19 Requirements from the Department of Health to continue with in-person, Christ centered education.**
- What funding has been set aside for any plans in regard to the above? **We're using the reserve funds to fund the wellness team.**
- What is the plan if the WCHD continues to push the school and recommend closures throughout the year? **We plan to have our process in place so this is not an issue. However, we don't know the future. We will cross this bridge if we get to it.**
- What is the plan if this persists into next year? **Same as above.**
- What was the plan last year if this persisted into 2021? **This wasn't an issue coming out of the 2020/2021 school year or a concern at that time.**
- If other local schools are able to stay in school and LC is not is this a reflection on LC students and families or lack of plan from the board and administration? **We did not have enough staff to trace and do what the WCHD was asking. Our goal heading into the school year was as normal of a year as possible. Based on feedback from society, we implemented a laxer approach to the guidelines than other schools. In the end, our lax approach, lack of staff, and the presence of the Delta variant all contributed to the difference.**
- If it is a reflection on LC families why was this not planned for after the board did the recent survey and got the results reflecting the parent body of LC? **Can you clarify the question?**

Lynden Christian Constitution

- An explanation from the board on the constitutional authority that allows the board to shut down the school electively.

3140 Superintendent Given Power to Act – Board Policy

When situations that demand immediate attention arise in the daily operation of Lynden Christian School for which the Board has provided no policy to guide the Superintendent's action, the Superintendent shall have power to act. In such situations, the Superintendent shall inform the Board Chairman promptly of the action taken. He shall also report his action to the next Board meeting where it shall be subject to review. He shall also bring to

the attention of the Board the need for a policy that would govern a similar situation should it arise again.

5421.6 Infections and Communicable Disease Control Policy

1. The Lynden Christian School will work cooperatively with local, county, state or provincial agencies to enforce and adhere to the State or Provincial Health Codes for prevention, control, and containment of communicable diseases in their schools.

2. The principal will exclude students and/or personnel from school who are suspected or diagnosed with a communicable disease, or whose exposure to a communicable disease may threaten the well-being of that individual. All reported communicable diseases will be referred to the local health unit by the building level principal.

3. The principal will exclude a child who is out of compliance with the required immunization schedule. School personnel will complete and coordinate all immunization data, waivers, and exclusions including the necessary Immunization Assessment Program forms to provide for preventable communicable disease control.

4. The decision to close schools due to communicable disease outbreaks is at the discretion of each local school's administration. If desired, consultation on such decisions may be provided by a committee from the School Board and/or Communicable Disease Review Panel.

5. Communicable disease is a serious concern in the community. The afflicted individual may be asked to submit information to appropriate consultants, including the Communicable Disease Review Panel and the local health unit.

The superintendent has the authority to close the school in unprecedented situations. It has been obvious throughout Paul's tenure that he continually seeks direction from the board in any significant decisions for, or on behalf of, the school. With something as significant as school closing he has proven he would never take such action without full board support.

- An explanation from the board in regard to what rights the society has in regard to the issues at hand if the society disproportionately disagrees with the board and administrative decisions that are being made currently.

Society has the right and responsibility to determine the nominating committee at the spring society meeting. Society also has the right and responsibility to confirm (or not confirm) board nominees prior to the drawing of lots. The constitution states that once elected, board members serve a four-year term.

- An explanation from the board as to why minutes from board meeting are not being publicly available

Board meeting notes are not made available. Society members get a summary of each meeting, posted to the website, and are welcome to ask specific questions about any board meeting from any board member.

- The society had countless members that have requested meeting minutes from the administration and or board over a period of years without the request being granted. We can provide these requests. Since board meetings are closed, the minutes are also closed and confidential. Minutes may contain personnel issues, which cannot be made public. Minutes are used as a record of discussion and motions. This response or one similar was shared with the society members who previously requested minutes. We can provide documentation. To the best of our knowledge, board minutes have not been made public in the past.
- An explanation from the board in regard to the authority of the schools superintendent constitutionally to make decisions specifically in regard to the current COVID situation.

The Constitution does not give day-to-day direction, it sets out the basis and the legal structure of the organization. The policy manual is the guide for decisions and actions. All the policies were made by the board, and the superintendent is responsible to oversee daily operations based on these board policies.

2110 Governing Documents

2111 The Constitution (Board Policy)

The primary document governing the Lynden Christian School is its constitution. All policies and official actions are directed by and in harmony with it. (Cross Reference 2100)

The board instructed the superintendent to manage the COVID situation as part of his role as the school administrator. And, the board made policy decisions when necessary.

2342.7 Board Policy/Administrative Procedures Relationship (Board policy)

The School Board is primarily a policy-making body while the carrying out of policies is the function of the administration. The Board shall delegate to the superintendent the function of designing the detailed arrangements under which the school operates. These rules and regulations shall constitute the administrative procedures governing the school and reflect the letter and intent of board policies.

Whatcom County Health Department (WCHD)

- An explanation from the board on the correspondence between the school and the WCHD. All the letters were provided in our Thursday, 9/30 email. There are, of course, emails, meetings, and phone calls that have taken place between LC & the WCHD beyond what was shared, but we don't have this as correspondence available to share.
- Statistical explanation on the differences between LC and other schools as it pertains to case numbers of actual COVID cases and students out with exposure to COVID. We don't have the data for other schools. We have our own data, which we fully admit was lacking and led to the current situation. However, comparable numbers were included in our 9/30 email to families.
- Explanation on differences between what our COVID protocols are and other schools in the county. Lynden Public, for instance, has a six-member wellness team offering on-site testing, doing all their contract tracing and providing the WCHD with names of known positives and line lists. LC was not doing

any of these things. All other public schools are using similar staffing and performing similar functions as Lynden.

- Explanation of LC reporting standards to the WCHD and how it differs from other local schools.
We were reporting less information because we had less information because we did not have enough staff to contact trace.

- Is the WCHD department being let on site?

They haven't been up until now. They were on site to help facilitate testing for the high school on 10/5 (in the future, we can facilitate our own testing, like other local schools--we are just waiting on final authorization).

- If not, how are they able reference and or know what they know outside of the reporting we are offering? They only know what we report or what we tell them based on their questions. We are required, by law, to submit reports to the HD, and we answer what questions they have for our specific situation.

- Who specifically are the staff at LC that have the authority to communicate to the WCHD and provide reports/info?

Wellness team members with that responsibility and the superintendent. Jon has joined a few meetings (other board presidents have in the past).

- Please provide specific titles, names are not needed.

- An explanation as to how we will handle the WCHD on a go forward basis.

The board approved following the K-12 COVID-19 requirements set forth by the DOH. We'll provide data to the WCHD and work with them to keep our kids in school and to follow the requirements listed in the board's 9/30 email.

- Change in strategy? If so, what and how does it impact the above items?

- If vaccinations are the next step, what are the boards plan on dealing with unvaccinated students, teachers and parents if the WCHD begins to enforce restrictions on unvaccinated students, teachers and parents?

We are focused on the current issues, but we have discussed this and will address it if/when necessary.

- Copy of the current by laws.

Our actual bylaws reference using CSI bylaws as our own. However, looking back to the 1980's hard copy policy manual confirms that our bylaw language is contained in section 0400 of our policy manual. The full Section 0000-1000 is attached.

- Copy of all formal requests, letters, or correspondence from the WCHD for the 2021 year.

This was in the parent email on 9/30. We are including an additional letter from the HD that we received 9.14.2021 in response to our 9.9.2021 letter from Paul Bootsma.

- Correspondence from LC to the health dept in response the above should also be included.

All formal correspondence was included in 9.30.2021 email to families.

- Copies of the board minutes dating from the 2019 year through the current year.

Board minutes are not going to be made available. See explanation above.

Sincerely,

The Lynden Christian School Board