

Statements from the Lynden Christian School Board December 2021

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Lynden Christian School Mission, Purpose, and Constitution

Mission: The mission of Lynden Christian Schools is to be an effective instrument of God. Together with Christian parents and the church, we seek to 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 have a transforming influence in the world.

Purpose: Taken from Articles II and III of the Constitution of LCS

- To serve and glorify God and encourage others to follow Him
- To partner with parents in training their children in glorifying God
- To educate our students so that they are equipped to have a transforming influence in the world for God

The **Lynden Christian School Constitution** is included at the end of this document. [Appendix A](#)

Lynden Christian School Board Governance, Selection, and Processes

1. How is Lynden Christian School society governed?

The Lynden Christian School society is governed by an elected school board. The school board sets the vision, direction, and policy of the school, and society members vote to support the nominees brought by the nomination committee. See [Article VI of the Constitution of LCS](#).

The board governs through a model called *community governance*, outlined below in [Appendix B](#).

2. What has the board focused on in the past six months?

- The Board has spent many hours attending to the mission of Lynden Christian and is deeply committed to Christian education for our children.
- The board's discussions and decisions have been focused on what is best for students, their families, the staff, and the community according to board policies as well as state and federal laws.
- The board is deeply focused on what is best for our school and our students, which is to be in session and in person.
- The board also continues its work in strategic planning, financial oversight, and evaluation of programs and our superintendent.
- Committee work also continues in several ways:
 - Planning curriculum

- Establishing a critical issues education framework with staff, parents, and a pastor
- Financial planning and budgeting

3. Why are Board meetings closed and board minutes not made public?

From previous board members and administrators, Lynden Christian board meetings have always been closed. We do not operate like a public-school board where board meetings are open to the public. According to our [board policy on board meetings](#), LC board meetings are closed to the public unless the board invites someone or accepts someone's request to attend as a matter of policy, practice, and confidentiality. The board has guests attend board meetings to help understand specific issues and programs. Because meetings are closed, the minutes serve as a record for the board of their discussion and decisions for the closed meeting. However, personnel and other sensitive decisions are not made public for privacy and legal reasons. Thus, we do not publish board minutes. A summary of board meetings and the important decisions are routinely posted to the school website.

At the December 6, 2021 meeting, the board approved adding opportunities for society members to speak to the full board. The Executive Committee will develop a structure and policy update and present it to the full board at the January 3, 2022 meeting.

4. Why has the board allowed non-Christian families to enroll their children at Lynden Christian?

Since the early 2000s, LCS has enrolled a few non-Christian or non-churched families. In 2019, a previous admissions policy was clarified to state that we count students from non-churched or non-Christian families together with international students, not to exceed 10% of the school building enrollment. There are expectations placed on these families that require them to be supportive of the mission and teaching at Lynden Christian. Society membership does not include non-Christian or non-churched families. As of the fall of 2021, we have less than 5% of our families who are not Christians or are non-churched. See [Article II](#) and [III](#) for the basis and purpose of Lynden Christian and [Article IV](#) of the LCS constitution for context on membership. Also, see the [board admissions policy](#). The board affirmed the 10% policy as a humble commitment to God's work in the lives of these families, bringing them to Christ and to church. The board has reviewed this policy considering the LCS constitution since 2019 and continues to support it and has agreed to review it again in the new year.

School Curriculum and Spiritual Practices

1. Is Lynden Christian School is committed to Christian education not private education?

Yes, absolutely. The board recognizes these key aspects of Christian education:

- a. *Christ-centered*: Jesus is Lord over all things, and He calls everything his; therefore, we integrate biblical truths and Christian faith through our teaching, curricular or co-curricular, focusing on scripture as Truth.
- b. *Scripture-focused*: All core truths come from the Bible.
- c. *Grace*: God's grace is our salvation.
- d. *Sinners*: While guided by Scripture and Christian teachings, we, both individually and corporately, all sin and fall short of the glory of God.
- e. *Soli Deo Gloria*: To God be the glory – may all we do glorify God.
- f. *Non-partisan*: LCS does not promote a particular political party, recognizing that there are differing views on politics; however, we are committed to teaching and learning in a varied political context.

2. Does Lynden Christian remain committed to its foundational biblical purpose and mission established in 1910?

Absolutely, to deliver quality Reformed Christian education for our LCS society is based on the following, [Article III](#): *The purpose of the Society is to maintain a school for the daily instruction of our children, such instruction to be in accordance with Art. II and directed toward the end that these children may occupy their places worthily in society, church and state.*

3. Does LC have statements on Human Life, Human Sexuality, and Gender Identity?

- a. Yes. All people are children of God, and we are called to treat them as such. The board has written statements on these issues and has included summaries here but see [Appendix C](#) for the full statements.
 - i. Human Life: All human life is sacred because it is a gift from God and created in the image of God.
 - ii. Human Sexuality and Gender Identity: God created two genders - male and female - determined biologically at birth. All fall short of the glory of God, and we are called to treat each other with grace and dignity, speaking and acting in love and truth.

Our Religious Liberties, The Purpose of Christian Schools

Lynden Christian School is an instrument of God focused on educating children in Christ in partnership with families and the Church. The board will contest any infringement on this mission, which could be areas like mandated curriculum that is counter to biblical truth, requiring us to hire non-Christians, and limiting our Christian practices and beliefs.

Presently, the board does not see the current COVID-19 requirements and related mandates from the Washington State Department of Health as an infringement on our religious liberties. However, we have concerns how future requirements that could be imposed may challenge our families' varying views, and we are watching potential requirements closely.

What is Lynden Christian's stance on Critical Issues, Race, and Christian Education?

To equip our students to live and share the gospel in a fallen world, Lynden Christian is committed to a Biblical worldview as we engage with issues related to racism, prejudice, and bigotry, all of which are sin. The Bible teaches, and Lynden Christian affirms, that all people, regardless of ethnicity or social class, are image bearers of God and, therefore, have inherent, inestimable worth and dignity (Genesis 1:26-27). The Bible also teaches, and Lynden Christian affirms, that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (*English Standard Version*, Romans 3:23).

In the Lynden Christian classroom, we also acknowledge the reality that sin is deeply embedded in the human heart, and in all human hearts, and as a result, sin also finds its way into the structure of institutions. Throughout history, sin has led to exploitation, discrimination, and all kinds of evil between human beings. Thankfully, there is hope for the world in Jesus Christ! Students at Lynden Christian are also challenged to embrace their calling as Christians: "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8). With compassion and humility, students discover what it means to pursue the *shalom* of God's Kingdom amid a broken world that is frequently torn by racial strife. "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's case" (Isaiah 1:17).

Finally, while issues of race are becoming increasingly divisive in our culture, Lynden Christian is committed to teaching students what it means to dialogue in civility and respect towards those with whom we disagree and to speak biblical truths in love.

This has been Lynden Christian's approach to education since our inception – a Reformed philosophy that seeks to fully engage the world, understand it through the lens of scripture, claim it for Christ, and to live as salt and light wherever God may call us.

Do we teach Critical Race Theory (CRT)?

No, we do not because Lynden Christian is committed to educating students through the lens of a Christian worldview. Lynden Christian sees Critical Theory as opposed to our Christian, Biblical worldview, and therefore, we do not teach through the lens of Critical Theory (or Critical Race Theory, which is a subset of Critical Theory).

However, we do teach about Critical Race Theory in our Senior World Issues class to prepare our students to articulate the differences between Christianity and Critical Theory and bring the gospel to a hurting, broken world.

Further, we do teach and encourage critical thinking and discussion about the difficult topic of racism and the sin of racism. Additionally, Lynden Christian affirms and teaches Biblical justice as it applies to society. "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart'" (Zechariah 7:9-10). "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others" (Matthew 23:23).

In these ways, at Lynden Christian we affirm critical thinking about challenging issues and acknowledge that thinking, rationality, and discernment are God-given gifts. We desire students and graduates to love God with their whole mind and to love their neighbors as themselves.

Board approved 12.20.2021

APPENDIX

Appendix A

CONSTITUTION OF LYNDEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the Society shall be Lynden Christian School.

ARTICLE II: BASIS

The basis of this Society is the infallible Word of God as interpreted by the Reformed Standards.

The Society is governed by the following guiding principles:

- a. That all things have been created to the end that the Triune God may be glorified in and through them;
- b. That God by His wise covenant arrangement has appointed the parent to be responsible for the training of the child to the end that God and His glory shall be central and supreme in life's total experience;
- c. That the training of the child shall be continued under the parent's responsible supervision in a school that carries out the basic God-honoring, God-centered program begun in the home.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Society is to maintain a school for the daily instruction of our children, such instruction to be in accordance with Art. II and directed toward the end that these children may occupy their places worthily in society, church and state.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

- a. All who (1) recognize and accept that Article II of the Constitution states the basis of the Society and that such basis together with the principles set forth in that article shall govern the instruction provided by the schools established by this Society, and who further (2) affirm the truth of the Christian faith as summarized in the Apostles' Creed, (3) accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as the infallible Word of God, (4) are at least 18 years of age, and (5) contribute time, treasure, or tuition to the schools operated by this Society, shall be eligible for membership in the society. Any fee that is imposed as a condition of membership shall be decided upon by the Society. Payment of tuition applies toward any such membership fee. Other persons who fulfill the foregoing requirements for Society membership shall be accepted upon payment of fees, if any, decided upon by the Society.
- b. Membership includes the privilege of voting at the meetings of the Society as well as readiness to participate in activities on behalf of the school.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

- a. At least once per year or more often if they deem it necessary, the School Board shall call a general meeting of society members. The School Board must also call a general meeting whenever fifty or more members request the same with reasons given. These general meetings shall be publicly announced one week in advance.
- b. The notice of a special meeting called shall include a statement of the reason for calling such a meeting.
- c. Decisions shall be by oral vote and elections by ballot unless otherwise decided at the meeting. A majority of the votes cast shall determine the issue in each case except where otherwise required by this Constitution or by Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is the official governing body of all school matters to which all other school organizations are subordinate. To affect its purpose, the following provisions apply:

- a. The Society shall choose from its membership a minimum of 10 members to act as a school board. Three-fourths of this board must be members in good standing of a Reformed Church.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) Society members selected at the Spring society meeting and (5) school board members. The Committee in nominating the Board members shall seek to represent the diversity within the Lynden Christian Society in terms of Church membership and geography. Additionally, they shall consider the gifts and talents needed on the Board to most effectively do its work. The Committee shall solicit suggested nominees from the entire Society.
- c. All nominees for the School Board shall sign the adopted Covenant for Board Membership.
- d. The Board members are elected for a term of four (4) years. The election process shall proceed as follows:
 - 1) A Nominating Committee shall present to the Board a list of candidates who are qualified and will to serve the Society as trustees. A minimum of two (2) qualified candidates shall be presented to the Board for each open position.

- 2) The trustees shall select from the list of candidates a slate of nominees who shall be recommended to the Society for confirmation. There shall be a minimum of two (2) qualified candidates for each open Board position.
 - 3) Each candidate must receive at least a 75% confirmation vote from the Society in order to be eligible to serve as a trustee.
 - 4) From the Society confirmed slate of candidates, the new trustees shall be selected by lot. The Board may establish separate pools of the confirmed candidates in order to fulfill requirements for Board membership and/or meet areas of specific expertise needed on the Board before the selection by lot.
 - 5) Board members shall be eligible to serve for two (2) consecutive four (4) year terms (8 consecutive years) and shall be subject to the election process as described above.
 - 6) In case of a vacancy in the Board during the year, the Board shall choose someone from the Society to fill this unexpired term.
- e. The Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of one meeting every other month.

ARTICLE VII: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

- a. The School Board shall elect its own President, Vice-president, Secretary, Vice-secretary, Treasurer and Vice-treasurer.
- b. The President, and in his absence the Vice-president, shall lead the meetings and enforce the Constitution of the Society. The President is ex-officio member of all committees and shall be notified of all meetings.
- c. The Secretary, and in his or her absence, the assistant secretary, shall keep the minutes of all meetings, both of the board and the society, and attend to all correspondence.
- d. The Treasurer, and in his/her absence the Assistant-Treasurer, shall have general oversight of the financial aspects of the society. The Treasurer shall have the responsibility to review the financial statements regularly, but not less than quarterly. The Treasurer shall delegate to the Director of Finance and Administration the ongoing accounting functions, including the receiving and paying out of all monies, keeping accurate records of all receipts and disbursements and the submission of a complete annual report, as stipulated in Section 7000 of this Policy manual.
- e. The Board shall appoint a CPA or other professionally trained financial accounting expert to review the school's financial records at close of each fiscal year.

ARTICLE VIII: FINANCES

All money, personal and real property are under the supervision of the School Board, and no real estate may be purchased or sold without the consent of the Society.

Real Estate donated to the school through the endowment program is exempt. In disbursing donated, personal, and real property, the Board has authority to act without Society consent.

ARTICLE IX: STAFF

The appointment of the teaching staff, the administration of the school affairs, finances and the kind of instruction to be given, shall be regulated by the Board.

ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION

In the event that the Society shall ever disband, the property remaining shall be left to some cause of Christian Instruction as may be decided by the Society.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

Article I, II, III, and X may not be changed in basic aim and principle. All the other articles may be changed or amended by two-thirds majority vote, providing such changes do not conflict with the aim and purpose of the Society. All motions to change the Constitution must be presented to the Secretary at least sixty days before a

general meeting with the necessary information and shall be brought to the general meeting by the School Board.

Appendix B

Lynden Christian's Governance Model

It is vital for a healthy organization, and in this case Lynden Christian School, to identify a governance model that will serve well the Board, Administration, Staff and the supporting Society. There are several models from which to choose, including Faculty Governance, Policy Governance, System-wide Governance, Community Governance and several others. We believe the model called **Community Governance** will best serve Lynden Christian School now and into the future.

What follows are tools and characteristics of an effective and healthy governance model, in large part taken from a publication called *Community Governance* by Bartlett and Campey.

1. The Board's first and primary responsibility is to hold in trust, protect and direct the mission of the school. The Board adopts a clear mission, and mission-focused goals regarding Christian education. The Board should review the Lynden Christian Mission statement, and its Amplification, routinely and set yearly goals that may reach down into the organization.
2. The Board's role is clear and distinct from the staff. It is critical for the Board to work through key issues such as its role, what power and authority will be delegated to the Superintendent, and how it will hold the Staff, through the Superintendent, accountable for their responsibilities.
3. The Board has a governance focus. The Board must be careful not to micro-manage the organization. The Board must focus on setting clear policies, maintaining financial stability, directing strategic planning, and reviewing operations. The Board gives organizational oversight rather than working in the trenches.
4. Board members understand their roles. The Board speaks as one voice outside the Boardroom. Further, Board members need to know which hat they are wearing at which time:
 - Governor—when at a Board meeting fulfilling the task as a trustee and acting on the powers given them by the Constitution.
 - Volunteer—when a Board member is providing volunteer service. He/she has no authority over other volunteers unless assigned by the Board.
 - Implementer—when a Board member is given a specific task from the Board to carry out.
 - Parent/Guardian—when a Board member is fulfilling their role as parent, responsibility is limited to serving the interests of their child(ren)
5. The Board links with the parents and Lynden Christian Society*. The Board develops creative strategies for community linkage through newsletters, formal and informal meetings, and special events. The parents and Society become moral owners** and must know where the Board and leadership are directing "their" school. Board members welcome contact points with parents and Society members. The Board also seeks to sustain the vision of Christian education for future generations.
6. The Superintendent is the lone agent of the Board. Having one person provides organizational clarity. He/she gives leadership toward achieving the mission-focused goals, in collaboration with other administrators and staff. The Superintendent is expected to live within the Superintendent job description and the Board Policy Handbook.
7. Policies are organized into a Board Policy Handbook. It is vital for smooth governance that the policy handbook is kept up to date with each change being recorded promptly. Likewise, it should be reviewed regularly. Organizations may use hard copy handbooks or online versions that may make it easier for updating and accessibility.

8. The Board chair “manages” the Board. While the Superintendent can be helpful in crafting the agenda and providing resources, the chairman ensures the meetings are well planned. He/she works with committee chairs, follows up with reports, and stays tuned to the needs and desires of fellow board members.
9. A strong committee structure is vital to board effectiveness. There will be standing committees and ad hoc committees, all of which need a clear written mandate. Committees, including the Executive, do not have final decision-making ability unless it has been delegated. The Executive Committee must be careful not to claim authority for itself, thus excluding the full board. Board members chair standing committees. Committees may include non-board members who have particular skills and knowledge useful to the Board.
10. Both board and committee meetings must be well planned so as to conduct business efficiently. The Superintendent prepares a forthright written report for the Board. The Administrative staff will likewise prepare forthright written reports for standing committees with information regarding their area of responsibility. A committee secretary will be appointed to record minutes for Board review.
11. Board members are elected and well oriented. In particular, they need to understand and commit to the mission of Lynden Christian. A standing Board Development Committee will be appointed, whose task will be to submit to the Nomination Committee names of candidates who will have the commitments needed to serve well the needs of the Society. The Committee will also propose plans for Board evaluation and professional development.
12. The Board accepts responsibility for self-improvement. The Superintendent may help in the process, but the Board takes the lead. Often it will take new board members awhile to understand their new role. A mentoring process teaming new board members with veteran members may be used. Board members should engage in discussion, reading and retreating that would build a solid cooperative and collaborative team, passionate about Lynden Christian School and their leadership role.

*The Society consists of all parents and community members who continue to support the school as stated in the Constitution.

The moral owners are those Society members who are deeply committed to the essence of the school, its mission and both its current and long-term sustainability (see Bartlett and Campey’s **Community Governance)

Appendix C

Lynden Christian School’s Position Statement on the Sanctity of Human Life

Because human beings are created in the image of God their Creator, we affirm the following:

Each human being through the whole course of life, from their beginning in their mother’s womb (see Psalm 139:13-16) through death, possesses God-given worth as His image-bearer, and is thus worthy of care and protection from the beginning of life until death.

Lynden Christian School’s Position Statement on Human Sexuality and Gender Identity

Because human beings are created in the image of God their Creator, we affirm that all humans, male and female, homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual or otherwise have inestimable value and must be treated with dignity and respect.

As a community that seeks to be an authentic biblical community, Lynden Christian Schools is committed to addressing all issues of human sexuality and gender identity with grace and truth.**

We also affirm that one need not approve of a person’s behavior in order to love them in Christ. God loves sinners, including those who sin differently than we do.

Lynden Christian School affirms the following interpretive framework regarding God’s intent for human sexuality:

- A. The Creator’s intent for human sexuality finds its fulfillment between a man and a woman within the bond of the marriage covenant. To experience the fullness of God’s loving intent

in human sexuality, sexual experience is intended to be celebrated between a man and a woman within that covenant union.

- B. Same gender and heterosexual lust is a condition contrary to God's created order which reveals the brokenness of our sinful world and the effects of sin on God's perfect intent for human sexuality. Being attracted to persons of the same sex is not culpable or sinful.
- C. Hetero-sexual practice outside the covenant of marriage and all homo-sexual practice is incompatible with the will of God as revealed in scripture and is sin demanding confession and repentance.
- D. God created two genders - male and female - determined biologically at birth.
- E. None of us has measured up to God's perfect will for our sexuality, and thus we are all in need of, and able to receive, abundant grace and forgiveness through our Savior Jesus Christ.
- F. We will communicate and uphold God's standards for human sexuality and gender identity with grace, mercy, compassion and equity.

In light of the above framework, Lynden Christian School commits itself to the following standards of Christian practice:

- A. Exercising patient understanding of and compassion for all students struggling with any issue of sexuality or gender identity.
- B. Ensuring an environment that is free from discrimination.
 - i. No student, heterosexual or homosexual, will be pressured to disclose their sexual orientation.
 - ii. No student will be expelled or excluded on the basis of their same gender attraction.
- C. Insisting upon an atmosphere that is a safe learning environment for all students.
 - i. Physical assault, harassment (snide remarks, jokes, innuendo, slogans, disparaging terms), or bullying on the basis of one's sexual orientation will not be tolerated. This policy extends to gestures, emails, text messages, notes and any other written or electronic form of threat or harassment.
 - ii. Gay or anti-gay militancy is regarded as incompatible with Christian community and therefore will not be tolerated.
 - iii. Public displays of affection between couples will not be allowed.
- D. Providing all students with the following:
 - i. A compassionate venue in which to engage in authentic dialogue about the very real, confusing and often painful issues related to human sexuality and gender identity.
 - ii. The assurance of confidentiality except in instances of suicidal ideation or other self-harming behaviors.
 - iii. School counselors who will offer biblical guidance, resources and options for referral for counseling.
 - iv. An assurance that the dignity of all students and families will be guarded.
- E. Acknowledging our own human frailty and dependence upon Christ for his humility, grace, and wisdom in our considerations of human sexuality, seeking always to love one another as He has loved us.

** Lynden Christian Schools has established this Position Statement on Human Sexuality and Gender Identity for a variety of reasons:

- To give clarity for staff, students, and families around these topics
- To provide direction for instruction around these topics
- To protect the organization legally, particularly in areas of employment and enrollment
- To direct policy making

* We acknowledge with gratitude the influence of the following institutions upon the writing of this document

- Society of Christian Schools In British Columbia, *Same Gender Attraction: A Discussion Among Our Christian School Communities*

- Seattle Pacific University, *Statement on Human Sexuality*
- Unity Christian School, *Guidelines for Respecting Diversity*
- Christian Reformed Church of North America, *Committee to Study Homosexuality, Report 42, art. 53*
- Christian Reformed Church of North America, *Pastoral Care for Homosexual Members*
- Edmonton Christian Schools, *Staff Guidelines for Creation a Safe and Caring School for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Students*

Appendix D

Board Policy

1310 General Principles

1311 Contacts to be Maintained (Board Policy)

Lynden Christian School will maintain wholesome and significant contact with government agencies, which are concerned with educational matters, which seek to promote the welfare of schools or which are interested in limited aspects of the school's program. Such contact is to be maintained through the office of the Lynden Christian School Superintendent. Further, it shall be the duty of the school administration to determine which government agencies are in a position to be of service to Lynden Christian School and provide appropriate information periodically to the School Board regarding contacts between the school and government agencies.

1312 Cooperation Pledged (Board Policy)

Lynden Christian School will cooperate fully with city, county, state and federal departments of instruction in all matters, which do not conflict with the principles and philosophy of the Christian School. Should conflicts of interest develop; the School Board will first and foremost assume the responsibility of seeking and preserving the welfare of the school.

1313 Compliance with Legislative Enactments (Board Policy)

Lynden Christian School will comply with legislative enactments of nonpublic school controls. The five predominant policies of regulation are:

1. To reinforce school attendance requirements,
2. To prevent the teaching of socially dangerous ideas,
3. To promote cultural unity,
4. To provide criteria for choosing quality non-public schooling,
5. To protect the public from dangerous business, health, and building practices. Should a conflict arise, the School Board will use governmentally accepted means to adjudicate the difference. (WAC 180-90-160)

2332 Meetings of the Board are closed meetings – attended only by the Board of Directors and the Superintendent. Exceptions include:

- Board (or Executive Committee) requests someone to attend some portion or all of a particular meeting for a specific purpose.
- Board (or Executive Committee) approves someone's request to attend some portion or all of a particular meeting for a specific purpose.

5110 Family Covenant – Board Admissions Policy

Lynden Christian School admits students who come from families:

1. In which at least one parent is a committed Christian (I Corinthians 7:14).
2. That are regular and active participants in a Christian church that confesses the historic Christian faith as summarized in the ecumenical creeds of the church, i.e., the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed,

and/or the Athanasian Creed. In addition, our admissions policy requires the following statement of beliefs—see below for admission statement.

3. That recognizes and accepts that Lynden Christian School conducts its instruction from the perspective of the Protestant Reformation as summarized in the five “solas”:
 - a. Sola Scriptura (“Scripture alone”): The Bible alone is our highest authority.
 - b. Sola Fide (“faith alone”): We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ.
 - c. Sola Gratia (“grace alone”): We are saved by the grace of God alone.
 - d. Solus Christus (“Christ alone”): Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior, and King.
 - e. Soli Deo Gloria (“to the glory of God alone”): We live for the glory of God alone.
4. That desire for their children the type of education outlined in the LCS statement of philosophy, goals and objectives.
5. That are willing to work cooperatively with LCS in the Christian nurture of their children and are supportive of Board and staff efforts to maintain Christian standards, policies and procedures.
6. That are willing to become actively involved in school functions such as attendance at society meetings, ongoing communication and parent-teacher conferences.
7. That sincerely commit themselves to meeting the financial obligations involved.
8. That are willing to sign a form indicating their desire to meet the expectations the school has of its members.

A recommendation from an applicant-family’s pastor (or another church leader in the absence of a pastor) must be submitted at the time that application for admission is made.

5143 Exceptions (to the above admissions policy)

Admissions may use its own discerning judgment to make exceptions to the above policies, provided that the following conditions are met:

1. The student’s presence must not harm the moral atmosphere of the school.
2. The student’s parents or guardians must agree that while their children are enrolled at the school, they will not actively countermand before their children any teaching that is not in harmony with the LCS Statement of Philosophy, Goals and Objectives.
3. The total number of exceptions is not to exceed 10 percent of the total enrollment of any school building unless prior board approval is received.
4. Names of newly enrolled families are reported to the Board for information. This would include information re: exceptions.