

**Lynden Christian Schools**  
**Position Statement on Human Sexuality and Gender Identity\***

Board Approved May 7, 2018

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.

*We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*  
*John 1:14*

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. (*Genesis 2: 22-24; Proverbs 5:18-19; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-9; 1 Corinthians 7:1-16*)
- 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. (*Leviticus 20:10; Proverbs 5; Hebrews 13:4, Leviticus 18:22; Leviticus 20:13; Romans 1:26-27*)
- D. God created two genders - male and female - determined biologically at birth. (*Genesis 2:18-25*)
- 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. (*Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-10*)
- F. We will communicate and uphold God's standards for human sexuality and gender identity with grace, mercy, compassion and equity. (*Philippians 2:1-5, Ephesians 5:1,2*)

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.