



Lynden Christian School

“Linking head and heart, home and school, child and God”

High School English Teacher Job Description

JOB TITLE:	HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER
REPORTS TO:	High School Principal
FTE:	Full-Time 100% FTE
WAGE:	\$40,289-\$67,800 depending on years experience and degree
BEFITS:	Medical, Dental, Vision, Pension, Life Insurance

JOB SUMMARY: Lynden Christian School seeks a qualified high school English teacher whose instruction encourages, challenges, and inspires authentic learning through a biblically-based Christian worldview. This teacher effectively plans, organizes, instructs, and assesses student learning consistent with established standards in the school curriculum. This teacher fosters a classroom environment that encourages inquiry, collegiality, industry, and respect. This teacher also fosters a cooperative relationship with parents, staff members and administrators to support each student's opportunity to learn and grow in educational and life experiences.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Bachelor's degree in English or literature from an accredited college or university (master's degree preferred)
2. Teaching certification in Washington State or qualifications to obtain this within one year
3. Active member of an evangelical Christian church
4. Experience in teaching high school and/or middle school English preferred

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Demonstrate love for God:
 - a. Express specific knowledge of the Bible and its application to the curriculum
 - b. Give Christian service to others both within and outside the school
 - c. Model and exemplify Christian faith in speech and actions
 - d. Submit to authority out of obedience to Christ
 - e. Encourage the concept of discipleship, stewardship, and service to and for students
2. Demonstrate love for students:
 - a. Treat each child as uniquely gifted by God to serve others
 - b. Show through actions that each child is made to reflect God himself
 - c. Discipline all students fairly and firmly out of love for them
 - d. Encourage all students
 - e. Guide all students to help other students learn
 - f. Evaluate student progress in learning with announced criteria fairly applied
3. Demonstrate Christian professional competence and vision:
 - a. Plan lessons and instruct students through a Christian perspective with a curriculum that is aligned with Lynden Christian standards
 - b. Communicate both verbally and in writing with parents and students on progress



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- c. Enter accurate student grade information into appropriate computer databases in a timely manner
 - d. Develop lesson plans, goals, and learning targets
 - e. Conduct and interpret valid formal and informal assessments to evaluate student progress, maintain records of student work, and develop intervention strategies to ensure student success and growth
 - f. Work collaboratively with inclusion specialists to discuss student learning modifications and interventions
 - g. Set clear and reasonable expectations for classroom behavior by applying positive behavior supports and interventions as needed. Establish a safe atmosphere conducive to a positive learning environment.
 - h. Act as a role model by encouraging appropriate behaviors that lead to social, emotional, and physical development
 - i. Vary the means (visual, audible, tactile) of instruction and use of language (abstract, concrete, metaphorical, etc.) to meet the needs of all students
 - j. Participate in staff development and school improvement activities to maintain professional growth. Plan and incorporate best practices or new strategies.
 - k. Participate in school events such as orientation, open houses, conferences, or extra-curricular activities
 - l. Perform other related duties as assigned
4. Communicate effectively according to Biblical standards:
- a. Speak clearly, honestly, and with great concern for the audience
 - b. Use fresh analogies to connect new concepts to students' experience
 - c. Relate stories of God's faithfulness, personal and communal, with clarity and enthusiasm
 - d. Connects the curriculum to faith in a way that fosters a Christian worldview.
 - e. Encourage each child's expression of faith - help students to adopt biblical principles for making choices
 - f. Model awe God's restoration of creation and human beings despite the destructive power of sin
5. Build Christian Community within and outside the school:
- a. Give help to fellow teachers and support staff
 - b. Assist students beyond the classroom: hallways, extracurricular sponsorship, personal guidance, etc.
 - c. Meet with staff members to listen, learn, worship, and exchange advice for helping students meet the goals of the school
 - d. Contact parents for help in educating their child
 - e. Provide a classroom atmosphere and presentation that fosters Christian community

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APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for your interest in Lynden Christian School. We value your time and appreciate your efforts to provide us with all the information below. We would like you to know that it is the policy of Lynden Christian School not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in employment, nor in its programs or activities as required by federal and state laws (to the extent applicable to the school). As a religious educational institution, Lynden Christian School does reserve the right and responsibility to select individuals whose beliefs are consistent with our mission.

As part of the application process, please **complete the application form located on the website in the employment tab and submit it with a cover letter and resume**. Please address the points below in your cover letter, limiting your letter/response to two pages:

- Describe your relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Tell us about yourself, your background, and why you are interested in serving at Lynden Christian School.
- Describe your specific talents, abilities, and gifts as it relates to the position.

Please provide three references with current phone numbers and one reference should be your Pastor or Elder.

Once your application is complete, it will be sent to the hiring committee for review. After reviewing all completed applications, the hiring committee will contact those with the desired qualifications for an interview.

APPENDIX

MISSION OF LYNDEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

The mission of Lynden Christian School 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.

CONSTITUTION OF 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.

STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PRINCIPLES

The basis of Lynden Christian School is the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, the infallible Word of God, as explicated in Reformed creedal standards. On this basis we affirm the following principles for Christian education:

THE BIBLE: That God by His Holy Word reveals Himself; renews man's understanding of God, of man himself, of his fellow man, and of the world; directs man in all his relationships and activities; and therefore guides His people also in the education of their children.

CREATION: That in their education children must come to learn that the world, and man's calling in it can rightly be understood only in their relation to the Triune God who by His creation, restoration, and governance directs all things to the coming of His kingdom and the glorification of His name.

SIN: That because of man's sin, which brought upon all mankind the curse of God, alienates him from his Creator, his neighbor, and the world; distorts his view of the true meaning and purpose of life; and misdirects human culture; man's sin also corrupts the education of children.

JESUS CHRIST: That: through our Savior Jesus Christ, there is renewal of our educational enterprise because He is the Redeemer of, and the Light and Way for, our human life in all its range and variety. Only through Him and the work of His Spirit are we guided in the truth and recommitted to our original calling.

SCHOOLS: That the purpose of Christian schools is to educate children for a life of obedience to their calling in this world as image-bearers of God; that this calling is to know God's Word and His creation, to consecrate the whole of human life to God, to love their fellow man, and to be stewards in their God-given cultural task.

PARENTS: That the primary responsibility for education rests upon parents to whom children are entrusted by God, and that Christian parents should accept this obligation in view of the covenantal relationship which God established with believers and their children. They should seek to discharge this obligation through school associations and school boards which engage the services of Christian teachers in Christian schools.

TEACHERS: That Christian teachers, both in obedience to God in cooperation with parents, have a unique pedagogical responsibility while educating the child in school.

PUPILS: That Christian schools must take into account the variety of abilities, needs, and responsibilities of young persons; that the endowments and calling of young persons as God's image-bearers and their defects and inadequacies as sinners require that such learning goals and such curricula will be selected as will best prepare them to live as obedient Christians; and that only with constant attention to such pedagogical concerns will education be truly Christian.

COMMUNITY: That because God's covenant embraces not only parents and their children but also the whole Christian community to which they belong, and because Christian education contributes directly to the advancement of God's kingdom, it is the obligation not only of the parents but also of this Christian community to establish and maintain Christian schools, to pray for, work for, and give generously in their support.

EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM: That Christian Schools organized and administered in accordance with legitimate standards and provisions for day schools, should be fully recognized in society as free to function according to their principles.

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*