



# Lynden Christian School



## High School Principal Opportunity Profile

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# Lynden Christian School

## Our Mission

The mission of Lynden Christian School 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.

The history of **Lynden Christian School** traces back to the late 1800s when a group of committed Christian families settled in Lynden and sought to establish a **Christian school based on Reformed standards**. In **1910**, the school officially began enrolling 72 students.

Over the years, the school has experienced growth and progress, with a commitment to providing education with a biblical worldview. Our current reality includes a focus on **Reformed education, diverse and enriching curriculum offerings, strong community and church support**, enrollment growth, financial sustainability through various sources, and well-maintained facilities with a capital project plan.

Lynden Christian's Christ-centered education is rooted in our mission to educate children in Christ, nurture their growth, and inspire them to serve God and others as we partner with Christian families and the church.

## The school's main strategic impact areas:

Mission Alignment & Fidelity	Teaching for Learning	Financial Sustainability	Campus Site Plan	Professionalize Services
Ensuring that the mission of providing Biblical, Reformed, Christian education remains central in decision-making, in teaching, and in professional development	Providing a transformative, Christ-centered education through curriculum improvements, existing programs, and staff development.	Balancing stewardship, affordability, and financial stability to keep Christian education accessible and to support our dedicated staff.	Funding facilities to support mission for the next 100 years of Lynden Christian education, including new construction and renovations to enhance student safety and learning.	Establishing robust admissions, communications, reporting, and fundraising functions to support the mission and continuous strategic planning.



## Our Covenantal Community

To articulate our school's identity as 'Reformed' is to recognize the way the board and parents, as well as the staff and student body, connect the roots of our school's mission and practice with the 'reforming' work the Lord graciously allowed in His church during the Protestant Reformation. It is in this tradition that the heart and identity of Lynden Christian School can be found – in subjecting all areas of life, knowledge, and human learning to the biblical authority of the inerrant, infallible Word of God, in submitting to the Reformed Confessions which faithfully reflect the truth of the Scriptures, and in the recovery and reinstating of the office of all believers.

These two understandings are both foundational and transformational; foundational, in that this rich religious tradition fundamentally shapes our faith and practice, and, transformational, in that these beliefs import to the present calling of every Reformed believer.

At Lynden Christian School, the foundation of faith integration and a biblical worldview, along with a steadfast Christian covenantal commitment to our children, remains at the core of our mission. Our strength lies in the unwavering support of the community and the active involvement of parents, fostering a deep sense of connection and generational support. In our current Capital Campaign, we are seeking God's will to establish the facilities needed to continue faithfully educating covenant children for the next 100 years in Lynden. Our dedicated and hard-working staff contribute to a positive and nurturing school culture. Together, we continue to advance our mission.

## Why Lynden Christian School?

We help each student, as an image bearer of God, discover and develop his or her individual worth, talents, gifts, and responsibilities. The education of our students incorporates every aspect of learning: sharpening the mind and learning to think critically (HEAD); nurturing an authentic faith and life of compassion (HEART); and putting God-given gifts to work in the world in service (HANDS). Along with the Church, we believe that the school is an extension of the Christian home, reinforcing the faith and values of parents. Children are nurtured, supported and encouraged to see their unique strengths, gifts, and talents as opportunities to serve God and their fellow man, thereby having a transforming effect on their culture and their world.

## Profile of a Graduate

### **Lynden Christian graduates live in Christ.**

They know and follow God and see the world through a biblical lens. They are rooted in scripture guided by theological foundations. They worship God in community and all facets of life.

### **Lynden Christian graduates become perceptive and caring citizens.**

They are inspired lifelong learners who think carefully about the world in which they live and work. They grow in knowledge and skills, willing to take risks in pursuit of God's calling. Their relationships reflect the call to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

### **Lynden Christian graduates transform the world.**

They love, serve, and influence their neighbors for Christ. They effectively lead and work well with others. Their gifts and abilities help steward God's creation.



## Academics

At Lynden Christian School, our approach to education is marked by excellence and a strong commitment to Christian values. Here are some key points that highlight their educational philosophy and offerings:

- **Christ-Centered Education:** At the heart of our educational philosophy is a commitment to reformed, Christian education and biblical worldview. Students are encouraged to develop a strong faith foundation and apply Christian principles in their academic and personal lives.
- **Equipping Students:** We have a track record of success in preparing students for the future. High college acceptance rates and a strong focus on workforce readiness underscore our dedication to equipping students for post-graduation success. Our high graduation rate reflects our commitment to seeing students through the next phase of their life.
- **Learning Excellence:** We use AIMSweb for student benchmark assessment and progress monitoring. They consistently rank high in national percentiles for grades 2 through 8. This achievement underscores our dedication to delivering a high-quality education at every level. We have integrated PSAT and SAT testing in the high school for all students, not just those college-bound, with consistently high scores. We track biblical literacy as well as academic progress and look to provide opportunities for students to grow in their faith.
- **Comprehensive Curriculum:** The school's curriculum scope and sequence are carefully designed to align with academic standards and facilitate student growth and development through a biblical worldview while including a broad range of learners. This ensures that students receive a well-rounded education that builds, grade to grade, preparing them for the challenges and opportunities that await them.
- **K-12 Alignment:** We place great emphasis on a seamless K-12 educational experience. The curriculum and teaching methods are designed to ensure a cohesive and progressive learning journey for students, fostering academic growth and skill development as they progress through grade levels.
- **Diverse Program Offerings:** We offer a diverse range of programs from kindergarten through high school, including a Spanish immersion program. This includes college preparatory programs, CTE (Career & Technical Education) and vocational classes, the arts, and athletics: all designed to develop students' interests and aspirations; this gives each student the opportunity to explore God-given gifts for use in His kingdom.

Our commitment to delivering high-quality education within a Christ-centered framework ensures that students receive a well-rounded, faith-based educational experience, setting them on a path for success and personal growth.



## Arts

The LCS community values the arts and students' ability to bring glory to God through their gifts and talents. Our program starts kindergarten with basic music education and expands in high school with includes a wide variety of art, music, and drama programs. In addition to classes in Band, Orchestra, and Choir, students can select specialized music classes including Jazz Band, Pep Band, and Chamber Choir; student musicians and student-run film and AV teams support worship in weekly chapels. Graphic design, film, sculpture, floral arranging, mural painting, and AP Art are some advanced art offerings for students. In our Worship & Fine Arts Center, the Drama Department presents a fall play and a spring musical each year, many of which have received Nominations and three Honorable Mentions from the 5th Avenue Awards in Seattle. Additionally, our music groups earn stellar marks in adjudicated music events.

## Career & Technical Education (CTE)

In addition to college-prep classes and a robust art program, Lynden Christian School also offers extensive CTE classes to its students in grades 7-12 as well as the oldest private school FFA program in the state. Students explore their God-given gifts in welding, CAD design, wood shop, as well as horticulture, advanced project shop and other classes geared toward students who will enter the workforce or pursue a technical degree after graduation. This program also provides students with courses in business, computer programming, and other components of our developing CTE programs of study.

## Athletics

As is true with our academic and art programs, our community is committed to an excellent athletic program, allowing our students to bring glory to God through their giftings. Competition is natural to the human condition and, when understood in the context of cooperation, adds a rich dimension to education. We believe the quality of our play and support is an attractive signpost, directing and enticing others to the richness of God's kingdom. In addition to team sports for grades 7-12, Lynden Christian offers a broad range of physical education classes for all students. As a member of the Northwest Conference, LCS strives to compete at the highest level of sports while maintaining a Christian perspective. Student athletes at LCS have captured numerous State Championships in boys' & girls' basketball, boys' football, boys' soccer, girls' track & field, and boys' golf as well as multiple Regional, District, and Conference titles.

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## Location

Nestled in the picturesque Pacific Northwest, Lynden Christian School enjoys a unique blend of natural beauty and urban accessibility with a moderate, four-season climate. Surrounded by the majestic mountains and enjoyable proximity to the Pacific Ocean, we have ample opportunities for outdoor adventures like biking, hiking, skiing, and boating. With Vancouver to the north and Seattle to the south, cultural and recreational opportunities are abundant. Located in Whatcom County, Lynden has access to excellent medical services in Bellingham and enjoys deep roots in agriculture with a thriving local economy driven by dairy, berry, refinery, and international businesses, as well as many small, local companies. Lynden, and the surrounding towns, is home to over 100 different churches. The town of Lynden, with its population of 16,800, provides a full-service small-town experience with urban access. Its clean and safe environment features parks and trails that complement our single-campus facilities. The community here is deeply committed to Christian education, reflecting a rich history rooted in Dutch Reformed educational philosophy.

The school's capital project focuses on new facilities, including a new and remodeled elementary building, replacing existing facilities that have been well maintained as they have educated students for over seven decades. Together, we are shaping and securing the next 100 years as we move Lynden Christian Forward.

## The Facts and Stats

	<p><b>Student to Teacher Ratio:</b> <b>20:1</b></p>	<p>Tuition ranges from \$9,862 to \$13,530 for elementary through high school.</p>	<p>\$14.4 million 2024-2025 <b>Annual Budget</b></p>
<p><b>Founded in:</b> <b>1910</b></p>	<p><b>Student Enrollment:</b> nearly <b>1,300</b></p>		<p><b>90</b> <b>Churches Represented</b></p>



## Principal Opportunity

### Position Summary:

The high school principal at Lynden Christian School must have a mature and growing commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior; desire to serve Christ through his/her gifts and abilities; be active in a local Bible-believing church; have a passion for and understanding of Christian education where faith is nurtured in the hearts and minds of young people; have a love for and enthusiasm to work with high school-aged students, teachers, staff, and parents; and have a desire to be an integral and contributing member of the general school staff and community. He or she must offer vision and leadership in the high school that are consistent with the LCS mission and philosophy, adhering to the highest ethics of the position.

### Candidate Qualifications:

- **Refer to the job description for the complete list of faith, character, knowledge and strengths requirements.**
- Master's degree in education, leadership, or a related field that provided training for leading and educating. Educational state certification expected (or willingness to secure state certification).
- 5+ years' experience and training in leading and supervising others with teaching experience. A meaningful connection to Christian education; able to articulate the value of Reformed Christian education.
- Other combinations of education and experience that provide the candidate with the necessary qualifications may be considered.

### Areas of Leadership:

- Spiritual leadership and vision
- Administrative oversight
- Instruction and curriculum oversight
- Operational oversight
- Communication



## Position Inquiry

Applications will be continuously processed until a new high school principal is appointed. Nominations, expressions of interest, confidential inquiries, and questions concerning this search should be submitted to Lindsey Bendixen (360.318-9525 x1005, [lbendixen@lynchs.org](mailto:lbendixen@lynchs.org)) HR Supervisor at Lynden Christian.

If, after reading this opportunity profile, you sense that the gifts and experience God has given you are a good match for Lynden Christian School, we invite you to begin the inquiry process. We handle all candidate information and conversations with confidentiality.

### To apply, please provide the following for review:

- A current resume
- A two- to three-minute video introducing yourself and speaking about your passion for Christian education (optional, videos are welcomed)
- Responses to the following essay questions (totaling four pages or fewer):
- Describe your spiritual journey of faith in Jesus Christ. Indicate how God is using you in your work, in your church, and in your community. How has your relationship with Jesus Christ shaped your career and influenced your decision to apply for this position? Please include an articulation of your alignment with the Reformed tradition of Christian education (Christian Reformed Church, Reformed Church of America, etc.).
- Describe your experience with Christian education, both personally and professionally. How would you define the marks of educational excellence in a Christian school?
- Describe your leadership style. If you have taken any leadership inventories, please provide details.
- Provide the names, telephone numbers, and email addresses of four references who know you and your career well enough to comment on your suitability for the high school principal at Lynden Christian School. (References will be contacted only after we have requested and received your permission to do so.)
- Lynden Christian's employment application [Apply Online](#)

Submit application materials to Lindsey Bendixen at [lbendixen@lynchs.org](mailto:lbendixen@lynchs.org), with the subject line: **High School Principal application.**