Fort Saskatchewan Christian School - Educational Philosophy

The educational philosophy of Fort Saskatchewan Christian School is based on a Godcentered view of man and truth as presented in the Bible. Since God created and sustains all things through His Son, Jesus Christ, the universe and all life are dynamically related to God and have the purpose of glorifying Him. This is pointedly true of man who was made in God's image, different in kind from all other creatures, with the unique capacity to know and respond to God personally and voluntarily. Because man is a sinner by nature and choice, he cannot, in this condition, know or honor God in his life. Only by being born again and filled with His Spirit can he do God's will. This should be the ultimate purpose of his life.

The authority for such an education comes both from God's command that children be taught to love God and place Him first in their lives, and from the fact that parents are responsible for the total education and training of their children. At the parents' request, the Christian School, along with the Church, becomes a partner in giving this education. From this philosophy stem certain aims and objectives:

FOR THE SPIRITUAL AND MORAL GROWTH OF THE STUDENT, the school seeks

- A. to teach the Bible as God's inspired Word and to develop attitudes of love and respect toward it
- B. to teach the basic doctrines of the Bible.
- C. to lead the student to a decision of confessing Christ as Savior and Lord,
- D. to develop a desire to know and obey the will of God as revealed in the Scriptures,
- E. to equip the student to carry out the will of God daily,
- F. to impart an understanding of each Christian's place in the church and its worldwide task of witnessing, evangelism and discipline and to stimulate the student's involvement in this task.
- G. to develop the "mind and heart of Christ" toward godliness and sin, and to teach the student how to live an overcoming life through exercising of self-restraint and consideration of others,
- H. to encourage the development of self-discipline and responsibility in the student based on respect for and submission to God and God-ordained authority, and
- I. to help the student develop for himself a Christian world view by integrating life and studies with the Bible.

FOR THE STUDENT'S PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, the school aims

- A. to help the student develop his personality based both on a proper understanding and acceptance of himself as a unique individual created in the image of God and on the fullest possible development of his own capabilities,
- B. to teach the student to treat everyone with love and respect since others too are made in God's image,
- C. to make the student a contributing member of his society who realizes his dependence on others and their dependence on him,
- D. to promote an understanding of time as a God-given commodity, and the individual responsibility for effective use of time,
- E. to show a biblical view of life and work, and to provide skills for personal relationships and future endeavors,
- F. to develop good and proper attitudes toward marriage and the family and also the understanding and skills needed to establish God-honoring homes,
- G. to promote physical fitness, good health habits, and wise use of the body as the temple of God, and
- H. to impart biblical attitudes toward material things, and to encourage individual responsibility of using them for God's glory.

FOR THE STUDENT'S ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT, the school endeavors

- A. to promote high academic standards within the potential of the individual as uniquely created by God and to help the student realize his full academic potential,
- B. to help each student gain a thorough comprehension and command of the fundamental processes used in communicating and dealing with others, such as reading, speaking, and listening,
- C. to teach and encourage the use of good study habits,
- D. to teach the student how to do independent research and to reason logically,
- E. to motivate the student to pursue independent study in the areas of personal interest.

- F. to develop creative and critical thinking and the proper use of biblical criteria for evaluation,
- G. to promote good citizenship through developing and understanding an appreciation of our Christian and Canadian heritage of responsible freedom, human dignity, and acceptance of authority,
- H. to discuss current affairs in all fields and to relate them to God's plan for man,
- I. to produce an understanding and appreciation for God's world, an awareness of man's role in his environment, and his God-given responsibilities to use and preserve it properly,
- J. to promote an appreciation of the fine arts through the development of the student's understanding and personal expression, and
- K. to adapt the curriculum to real-life situations in the community.