

POLICY TITLE: **BOARD SIZE / NOMINATION / ELECTION**

1. Board member qualifications:
 - A. A Christian who has trusted solely in the blood of Jesus Christ for his or her salvation, with a growing faith and walk with Christ and demonstrated vision and leadership skills within the candidate's sphere of influence.
 - B. The Board candidate and spouse (and all current Board members) must meet and demonstrate all of the following criteria and characteristics:
 - i. Active and in good standing with a local evangelical church that subscribes to a statement of faith that is substantially the same as the LCS Statement of Faith (Article 3, Bylaws).
 - ii. Endorses without reservation (i.e. personally believes and publicly supports) the Statement of Faith and Statement of Educational Principles as described in Article 3 of the Bylaws. Endorsement shall be affirmed by every Board member at or before the first meeting of each fiscal year.
 - iii. Annually agrees to the Practical Personal Principles (Appendix A).
 - iv. Current members of the Lincoln Christian School Association and active in the ministry of Lincoln Christian for at least two full years.
 - v. A demonstrated priority and commitment to making Christ the center of everything in their home and family, recognizing their responsibility as Christian parents to shepherd their children to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and a living growing faith.
 - vi. Fully committed to Christian education.
 - vii. Serves as an ambassador for Lincoln Christian actively supporting Lincoln Christian programs and activities and encouraging other families to consider LCS for their children's education.
 - C. The following Association members are not eligible to serve on the Lincoln Christian School Board:
 - i. Full-time employees.
 - ii. Spouses of full-time employees.
 - iii. Spouses of current Board members.

POLICY TITLE: **BOARD MEMBERS' INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

The individual and collective participation of its members is integral to the leadership success of the Board.

Therefore, each Board member is expected to fulfill the following responsibilities:

1. Attendance — As effective deliberations and decision-making require collaboration and participation, Board members are expected to attend Board meetings. Absence from more than 2 of the Board's regularly scheduled meetings in any (fiscal/Board planning) year will constitute that member's resignation from the Board.
 - A. In case of extenuating circumstances, a Board member may request a waiver to this provision. These waivers may be granted only by vote of the Board.
2. Preparation and Participation — Board members will review agenda materials in advance of Board and committee deliberations and will participate productively in discussions.
3. Members as Individuals — The Superintendent is accountable only to the Board as a whole, and not to individual Board members. Therefore, the relationship between the Superintendent and individual members of the Board, including the Board President, is collegial, not hierarchical.
4. Voluntarism — As the Superintendent is responsible for operational activities and results, members of the Board choosing, as individuals, to volunteer in operational capacities are subject to the direct supervision of the Superintendent or responsible staff person.
5. Contributions — Each Board member is expected and required to make an annual financial contribution as a tangible demonstration of their commitment to the organization. The demonstration of support, rather than the amount of the contribution, is of principal importance. Board members are expected to contribute within their individual means.
6. Participation in Organizational Activities —
 - A. In addition to Board meetings, Board members are expected to attend the following events/functions:
 - i. Annual All School meeting
 - ii. Annual fundraising auction
 - iii. Board development activities (retreats etc..)
 - B. Board members are also encouraged to attending the following events/functions:
 - i. Graduation
 - ii. Student and staff centered events/activities
 - iii.

BYLAWS ARTICLE 3

Statements of Faith and Educational Principles. The basis of this Association shall be the Word of God. The following statement of faith and statement of educational principles expresses the common conviction of its membership.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone.
2. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
3. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
4. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
5. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
6. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
7. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
8. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
9. We believe in God's design for marriage and the family and the parents' role in educating and equipping their children.
10. We believe in the sanctity of human life.

Explanation of the Statement of Faith

Doctrinal statements seek to be as brief as possible. Because of this, people sometimes desire a fuller explanation of what is intended by some of the Statements. The following is a further explanation of the Statement of Faith and the tenets of faith for Lincoln Christian School, which the school board believes is not only consistent with the intent of the founders of the school but is also consistent with the interpretation of the Scriptures themselves.

Item #1 We believe that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone.

Explanation: Scripture is clear that Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and man (1 Tim 2:5), the only way to the Father (John 14:6), and the only name by which we can be saved (Acts 4:12). Salvation is a gift of grace, received solely by faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross and not in any way granted on the basis of human merit (Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 3: 28-30, Romans 5:1, Galatians 2:16).

Item #2 We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.

Explanation: The term "Bible" refers to the 66 books of the Christian Scriptures: 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament. No other book, regardless of its literary or historic

quality, is considered inspired in the same sense as are these 66 books of the Bible. The terms *inspired*, *infallible* and *authoritative* are meant to convey that the Bible is without error and is, therefore, the only guide that can be counted on as absolutely true in all details (2 Tim 3:16-17, John 17:17)

Item #3 We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Explanation: Each member of the Godhead is a person; each possessing the attributes of God with one essence and one will (Matt 28:19; 1 Cor 8:6; 2 Cor 13:14).

Item #4 We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth and His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

Explanation: As indicated in the previous item, Jesus Christ is God, fully equal to the Father and Spirit (John 1:1; John 10:30) By His “vicarious and atoning death” is meant that He was the substitute for sinful mankind and fully paid the penalty for the sin of the world (Heb 4:15; Rom 5:6-11; 1 Cor 15:3-4; Acts 1:9-11). We believe that those who repent of their sin and who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior receive forgiveness of sin and eternal life (Mark 1:14-15; Luke 24:44-47; Rom 2:4; John 3:16).

Item #5 We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

Explanation: It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit – the third person of the trinity – to regenerate those who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior (John 3: 5-7). Such people are then known to be “born again” or “born from above.” Were it not for this regenerating ministry of the Holy Spirit, none would be saved from condemnation.

Item #6 We believe in the ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.

Explanation: One of the ministries of the Holy Spirit is to live within each believer. Because of this, each believer’s body is referred to as a “temple” of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19). We believe that the Holy Spirit takes up residence in a believer in as much as Romans 8:9 says, “If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” The godly life which the Spirit enables believers to live is primarily evidenced by the fruit of the Spirit as listed in Galatians 5: 22,23.

Item #7 We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

Explanation: Both of these resurrections were mentioned by Jesus Christ, as recorded in John 5:29. Church-age believers who have died will be resurrected when Christ returns for His Church, and they will give account and be rewarded before the judgment seat of Christ (1 Thess. 4: 13-18; Rom. 14:10; II Cor. 5:10). Unbelievers will be resurrected to be judged at the Great White Throne and to be cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 20: 11-15).

Item #8 We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Explanation: Every person who has trusted Christ as Savior is part of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12: 12-27). This is true regardless of a person's religious affiliation here on earth. As such there is a common spiritual bond among believers. Since all true believers have this spiritual oneness in Christ it is important that they be "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:3). We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11). We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31).

Item #9 We believe in God's design for marriage and the family and the parents' role in educating and equipping their children.

Explanation: God created man and woman in His image (Genesis 1:26-27, 2:22-23), and ordained marriage exclusively between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:18-25, Matthew 19:4-6). His design for procreation is meant to occur within the bounds of holy matrimony (1 Cor. 6:18, 7:2-5, Hebrews 13:4). Lincoln Christian School chooses not to recognize state sanctioned marriages in any form other than one man and one woman. God charges parents with the responsibility to raise their children in the Word of the Lord (Deut. 6:4-9). We do recognize that some circumstances result in single parents having the responsibility to raise their children, and we will encourage and support our school families in these circumstances.

Item #10 We believe in the sanctity of human life.

Explanation: We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We will therefore defend, protect and value all human life (Psalm 139).

The Statement of Faith does not purport to state all of the School's beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of the School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy and discipline, the Superintendent and the School Board shall be the final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application as it relates to the policies, practices and activities of Lincoln Christian School.

STATEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PRINCIPLES

1. Those who bring forth children should bring up children. The instruction given in the home must conform to the Word of God. (Gen. 18:19; Deut. 6:4-9; Eph. 6:3)
2. The school is supplementary to the home. Its education proceeds from and is sponsored by the home; its teachers function in the place of parents. This they do through a local association of parents and interested persons.
3. Those taught are conceived as images of God and must therefore be subject to His sovereign will in and through Christ. (Gen. 1:26, 27; Ps. 34:11; Col. 3:17)
4. Creation and providence (the subject matter of instruction) are revelatory of God and must be presented as such. (Isa 6:3; Ps. 139:16; Rom. 1:20)

Appendix A: Practical Personal Principles

Lincoln Christian School has long had a strong doctrinal policy based on the Word of God. The Scriptures are clear that those in positions of leadership and responsibility (1 Tim. 3), particularly those given the responsibility to teach, are to behave in ways that neither disgrace the Gospel of Jesus Christ nor cause others to stumble (1 Tim. 3; James 3: 1; 1 Cor. 8:9).

The Christian life, however, is not a program of prohibitions, but a life lived joyfully under the freedom and fullness of the grace of the Gospel. This freedom does not, as Paul writes, give us license for sin (Rom. 6: 1-2). We are not liberated in order to indulge our freedoms, but are freed to serve Christ as His slaves and to live a life that pleases and glorifies Him (Rom 6: 18; 1 Cor. 9: 19). Teachers, administrators, and board members are to model to our children the freedom of the Gospel and the joyous life lived for and in submission to Christ.

A life of joyful freedom that pleases and glorifies Christ is one that is reflected in obedience to God just as our Lord Jesus Christ does (John 15:8-10). This is fully defined in the breadth of God's word and those who live under these freedoms will joyfully submit themselves in obedience to those scriptures (II Cor. 5:13-15). But the scriptures teach that even the redeemed continue to wage battle against sinful flesh and therefore it is imperative that those in leadership positions at Lincoln Christian acknowledge and respect this responsibility to model disciplined lives for those students entrusted into our care (Rom. 7; I Cor. 9:27). Personal conduct on the part of teachers, administrators, board members, and others in positions of Christian leadership must be in clear accordance with the prohibitions set forth in the Ten Commandments, among them prohibitions against murder, adultery, idolatry, respect for and obedience to familial and civil authority.

There are, however, behaviors, habits, and practices that, although not strictly prohibited in the Word of God, are causes for concern to the Christian community, and, if abused or used foolishly, can cause addiction, lead to violations of God's moral law, and destroy relationships in the family and the church. Although those practices that do not violate God's moral law are permissible, not everything is beneficial (1 Cor. 10: 23-24). We therefore urge the judicious and prayerful exercise of wisdom and discernment, keeping in mind at all times that our freedom in Christ is ours to restrict and to use to serve others thereby bearing God's image and glorifying Him.

By signing this form, the signatory pledges to be faithful to both freedoms of the Gospel and the responsibilities of spiritual leadership. The signatory pledges to be in line with Lincoln Christian's strong heritage, to be accountable to God and His Word and as the scriptures maintain to each other also. The signatory will be strongly encouraged to maintain accountable relationships on and off campus and by those in supervisory positions over them.

Signature: _____

Date _____

