

Hope Christian School Vision, Mission, Principles and Beliefs Statements

Vision:

The major objective of Hope Christian School is to provide an excellent, accessible education program for all students that focuses on making students aware of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Thus it is our vision:

1. To insure that all students come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, achieve a higher level of Christian maturity, attain a deeper commitment to, and become a more effective witness for the Lord.
2. To emphasize the individuality of each student and to assist them in properly responding to themselves and to others
3. To develop, in students, self-confidence by nurturing individual God-given talents and abilities in creativity, goal setting, analysis, communications, academics, and the principles of success.
4. To promote self-discipline by training students to be relevant, consistent, appreciative, responsible and thorough in attitude, character and actions.
5. To assist students in seeking their life purpose in service to God and mankind and their necessary preparation for eternity through emphasis upon Biblical relevance.
6. To help students learn how to live to honor the Lord and become responsible citizens by meeting their daily responsibilities which God has entrusted to them.
7. To ensure that each student attains the strongest foundational education possible and which also meets the Alberta Education requirements. This includes the pursuit of an Alberta Education diploma.

Note: It is our conviction that if we focus first of all on developing character, discipline, individual responsibility and Godly purpose, strong academics will be a by-product.

Mission:

The mission of Hope Christian School is to expose students to the good news found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, inspiring them to become followers of Jesus Christ and to go on to lead meaningful lives, committed to Godly families, Godly churches and Godly governments; which are vital to a well-ordered society. This will prepare our students for life in the real world because God's perspective of all things is the real world.

Principles:

Divine Mandate:

Philosophically and historically our mandate flows, first of all, from our response to the Holy Scriptures, the Bible, and the Judeo-Christian values contained therein. As we believe that God made the world and all it contains, we believe we must obey His mandates above all else. The selfless creed or Great

Commandment found in Deuteronomy 6 and Jesus' words: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and soul and mind and thy neighbor as thyself," is the key to peace and prosperity for families, communities and cultures. The Scriptures command us to teach these principles diligently to our children and we see these as the answer to Canada's economic, social and political problems.

Parental mandate:

Secondly, our mandate stems from a desire on our part to carry out this Biblical responsibility. There are basically two groups of parents/students who would choose to register their children with Hope Christian School.

1. Those parents and students who recognize that the Hope Christian School program is an evangelical Christian program and see its online/home school as a convenient alternative for their education. Although they may not hold the same belief system they recognize, are informed of, and appreciate the values imparted by the program.
2. Those who have a Christian background and want their children or themselves exposed to Christian values and a Christian Biblical world view as made available in our online and home education programs. These parents recognize that:
 - the Bible commands parents to teach the Great Commandment "diligently to their children and to raise them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord".
 - by judicial review, public schools are forced to prevent exposure of children to the greatest realities known to man; the existence and purposes of God, and the life and work of Jesus Christ.
 - the Canadian Bill of Rights and the Alberta School Act recognize the right of parents to choose an education for their children consistent with their religious and conscientiously held beliefs.

For these reasons, Hope Christian School attempts to teach life skills, manners, discipline, values and all else from the perspective of the Scriptures.

Government mandate:

Thirdly, the Scriptures establish that government is of God, that citizens are to be obedient to every God-given authority, and that government is to reward good and punish evil (Romans 13). We therefore acknowledge that government has the responsibility for holding us accountable for the provision of a quality education to each child in our school. We willingly submit to this authority as long as it does not interfere with our Divine mandate.

Beliefs

The educational philosophy of Hope Christian School is dependent upon the Bible for providing the viewpoint for interpreting any subject or any school activity. The entire process of education is seen as a means used by God to bring the student to Himself through personal faith in Christ, and to develop a Christian mind in Him so he can fulfill God's will for his life vocationally and personally. The mandate for Christian education comes from God's command that children are to be taught to love God and to give Him pre-eminence in their lives, and from Biblical teaching that parents are responsible for the total education of their children (Deuteronomy 6).

The following beliefs are foundational in our Christian philosophy of education:

1. God is the creator and sustainer of all things, and is the source of all truth.
2. God is sovereign, maintaining control over His entire universe and man.
3. God has revealed Himself in a general way in creation and in a special way through Jesus Christ and the Bible. The Bible is authoritative and inerrant.
4. God created man in His own image in a special act of creation, and consequently man is responsible to God for his action.
5. Man is born a sinner and omits God, failing to relate his life and his knowledge to God, the source of all wisdom.
6. Regeneration, the new birth, is by faith in Jesus Christ.
7. Knowledge of Jesus Christ and the Bible is essential to proper spiritual, mental, social and physical growth.
8. The Holy Spirit indwells each Christian and is significant in his education by bringing conviction of sin, revealing Christ's glory, and guiding each believer into all truth.
9. Prayer by parents, teachers, and students is a significant factor in affecting the lives of the students.
10. The family, the school, and the church are to be complementary in educating the student for a life of fellowship with God and of service to man.
11. The teacher represents the parents during the school day, but does not relieve parents of their responsibilities to their children in their home.
12. God has created each student uniquely the person that he is. It is the teacher's responsibility to teach the student according to his abilities and achievement level.
13. Moral standards and a value system consistent with the Bible best prepare a student for fulfilling his responsibilities as a member of our democratic society.
14. Man's purpose in life is to render glory to God in all things for he was created to have dominion over the creation, to care for it, to replenish it, and to subdue it.
15. We believe that the term *marriage* has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Genesis 2:18–25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Corinthians 6:18, 7:2–5; Hebrews 13:4). We believe that God commands that there be no sexual intimacy outside of, or apart from, marriage between a man and a woman.
16. We believe that God wonderfully foreordained and immutably created each person as either male or female in conformity with their biological sex. These two distinct yet complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Genesis 1:26–27).

17. Life is a sacred gift from God, for us to respect and protect in all its conditions and through all its stages, from conception to natural death (Psalm 139). Every person is created by God, in his image, and loved by him. (Gen. 1:26-27; John 3:16, 1 Cor. 6:19-20)