

Bloomfield Christian School



**A Classical Christian School
Grades K - 12**

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Mission Statement

The mission of Bloomfield Christian School is to teach children Biblical truths and classical academics from a Christian worldview so they may serve as bold and obedient ambassadors for Jesus Christ.

CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION

The goals of Bloomfield Christian School are:

1. To teach all subjects as part of an integrated whole, with the Scriptures at the center.
2. To provide a clear model of the Biblical Christian life through our staff and board.
3. To encourage every child to begin and develop his relationship with God, the Father, through Jesus Christ.

CLASSICAL EDUCATION

The academic goals of Bloomfield Christian School are:

1. To emphasize a three-stage, classical model of education in all subjects:
Grammar – Fundamental rules of each subject
Logic – Analyzing the relationships and particulars in each subject
Rhetoric – Communicating and defending the grammar and logic of each subject
2. To emphasize grammar, logic, and rhetoric *in all subjects and at all levels.*
3. To emphasize grammar more than logic and rhetoric at the younger ages, logic more than grammar and rhetoric in the middle years, and rhetoric more than grammar and logic for the older students, as an ordered application geared to the developing abilities, age, and maturity of the student.

Statement of Faith

The foundation of Bloomfield Christian School is the Word of God as interpreted in the confessions proceeding from the Protestant Reformation and especially the Westminster Confession of Faith. On this basis, the School believes the following articles of faith and principles for Christian education to be a true and necessary foundation for all activities.

- A. **We believe** the Bible, in its original form, to be written by men under the inspiration of God. It is the only inerrant, infallible, and authoritative Word of God finding as its focal point the person and redemptive work of the Living Word, Jesus Christ, and so revealing to man what he is to believe and how he is to live.
- B. **We believe** that there is one holy, personal, Creator God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Among them there is equal ultimacy.
- C. **We believe** that God the Father, motivated by His infinite grace and mercy, established His covenant of grace with man, promising to deliver His chosen ones from their sinful condition, removing the curse of their sin, reconciling them to Himself, and restoring them to eternal life in a personal relationship with the triune God.
- D. **We believe** that God the Son, the second person of the triune, eternal God, took upon Himself human form being born of a virgin, living a sinless life of perfect and exemplary obedience to the Father obeying all His commands and fulfilling all His purposes, revealing to man the glory, mercy, grace, and truth of the Father. In teaching man, the way of life, willingly giving up His life, being put to death on the cross by sinful men, in order to pay the penalty for sin on behalf of those chosen and thus redeeming the created world from the effects of sin. He rose from the dead on the third day thereby removing the power of the curse of death and sin from mankind and creation, ascending to the right hand of the Father where He intercedes for His people, enabling them to grow as obedient children of God. He is coming again to judge all men and to complete the process of salvation.
- E. **We believe** that God the Holy Spirit, the third person of the triune God, testifies of Jesus Christ, convicts the world of sin, regenerates, indwells, bestows gifts on believers and guides and empowers them to live a holy life that glorifies God.
- F. **We believe** that the first man and the first woman did not remain in their original perfect state because they willfully and consciously chose to disobey their Creator's command, thus incurring His wrath and condemnation, necessarily alienating themselves from their Creator and from one another. Falling from that perfect state in which they were created, they brought upon themselves and all succeeding generations of mankind the curse of inability to choose to obey God from the heart, proneness to sin, and sin's many and varied destructive effects, the greatest of which is death.
- G. **We believe** that salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, totally apart from human merit, and that the act of regeneration, which is a work of grace performed by the Holy Spirit, produces a new creature in Christ.
- H. **We believe** in the bodily resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the everlasting blessedness of the just, and the everlasting punishment of the unjust.
- I. **We believe** in the spiritual unity of all believers in Christ.
- J. **We believe** that all believers are under the mandate of Jesus Christ to proclaim the Gospel to all the world.

- K. **We believe** that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen 1:26- 27.) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.
- L. **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. (Gen 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 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4.) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.
- M. **We believe** that any form of sexual immorality (including without limitation, adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10.)
- N. **We believe** that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the School as a Christian ministry and to provide a biblical role model, it is imperative that all persons who are students, parents of students, employees, or volunteers of the School agree to and abide by this Statement of faith, including without limitation, the statements relating to marriage, gender, and sexuality. (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess 5:22.)
- O. **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; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9- 11.)
- P. **We believe** that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of the School.
- Q. **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 are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps 139.)
- R. This statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our 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, our board of directors is the School's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

It is mandatory that all members of the Board of Directors and all volunteers and employees, including without limitation, administrators, teachers, and staff of the School agree to and abide by the Corporation's Objectives and Statement of Faith as described in Article III, in a manner and method prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Educational Philosophy

The educational philosophy of Bloomfield Christian School is based on the Bible, the infallible, inerrant, inspired and authoritative Word of God. From this absolute base, we proclaim the Christian worldview.

We believe God created, sustains and will consummate all things through the power of His Spirit, who is the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ.

God created man in His own image. Man is a sinner by nature and by choice in the fall of Adam. He is separated from God and unable to glorify Him without the regenerative work of the Holy Spirit and the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. When man recognizes his state and acknowledges the finished work of Christ in his heart, he is reconciled to God and again becomes an image bearer who can bring glory to God.

Only a redeemed person can understand truth as it is communicated by the Holy Spirit in life and through the Word of God. Therefore, education is best accomplished in an environment of redeemed people where all truth is God's truth. The curriculum emphasizes the unity of all truth in the midst of diversity and the development of an

eternal perspective in the life of the Christian student. Because regeneration is solely the (monergistic) work of the Holy Spirit, we will not presume the salvation of all students and, therefore, we will present the Gospel.

God declares that parents are responsible for the education and discipline of their children. Bloomfield Christian School is a service to the home and carries out its delegated responsibility to assist the family in its fulfillment of God's command.

Our purpose is to provide a school for the daily instruction of the children of the covenant community and those children whom God entrusts to our care, such instruction to be directed toward the end that these children may occupy their places worthily in society expressing the Christian worldview.

Our intent is to follow a three-stage, classical, structure in the educational process. "Grammar," the first stage, emphasizes the student's collection of data in each subject area. "Logic," the intermediate stage, builds a framework, analyzing the components of each subject. "Rhetoric," the final stage, refines the student's written and oral skills so that he is able to clearly communicate the Christian worldview.

Objectives

- I. The school's academic goals are:
 - A. To teach the Bible as the whole council of God, interpreting scripture with scripture, culminating with apologetics in senior high school, so that students will be able to responsibly defend the Word of God.
 - B. To teach mathematics by emphasizing the creativity and orderliness of God's creation.
 - C. To instill a love of reading by giving students a well-grounded foundation of intensive phonics and literature, to provide a solid basis in the language arts culminating with rhetoric in senior high, allowing students to polish and refine their skills.
 - D. To teach foreign languages including Latin as a base in elementary and offering other languages in senior high.
 - E. To study, experience, and observe in science, the properties that define, and the physical laws that govern a universe created by a pre-existing God.
 - F. To teach history as the unfolding of God's providential plan as He works in the affairs of nations and cultures; to encourage careful historical analysis by including primary sources and biographies.
 - G. To give students a foundation in logic, enabling them to see and think clearly; and to teach students to synthesize and analyze information
 - H. To appreciate and express creative work in the fine arts as the worshipful reflection of God's beauty, power, and inspiration.
 - I. To teach and encourage good study habits.
 - J. To promote physical health through physical education classes and to teach good stewardship of the bodies God has entrusted to us.
 - K. To integrate every area of study believing that all disciplines emanate from the one Creator.
- II. The school's goals in character development are:
 - A. To teach the Bible and its doctrinal truths as the foundation for all spiritual and ethical development.
 - B. To train the student in self-discipline and responsibility based on submission to God and respect for all other authority.
 - C. To develop a servant's heart by teaching attitudes of love and respect for all mankind because all are made in the image of God.
 - D. To foster possession of a Christian worldview in the student and to train him to articulate this by integrating this Biblical view in all disciplines as a student and contributor in God's Kingdom.

- E. To encourage and assist the student to seek and obey the will of God.
- F. To assist the student in understanding his special calling and equip him to use it for God's glory in His Kingdom.
- G. To impart Biblical attitudes regarding the stewardship of time and material possessions and to encourage the student to exercise this responsibility for God's glory.

History and Purpose

Bloomfield Christian School had its inception in 1993 as five mothers met to pray for God's leading in starting a classical Christian school. The next year and a half was spent in prayer and preparation as schools were visited from Virginia to Texas to Idaho. BCS opened its doors in September 1994 as Christian Leadership Academy. In 2000, the Academy graduated its first class of seniors, who were accepted at the universities of their choice with scholarships.

Education at BCS is intended to be inherently different in philosophy and content that that offered in the public schools. BCS strives to operate as a servant to the family under the assumption that the education of young people is the responsibility of parents and the immediate family rather than that of the State. BCS provides a Bible-based curriculum and teaches subjects as parts of an integrated whole, with the Scriptures at the center.

In conjunction with the biblical emphasis, BCS follows a classical and Christian education model as described in the following books and articles: *The Lost Tools of Learning*, by Dorothy Sayers; *Repairing the Ruins*, edited by Doug Wilson; *The Seven Laws of Teaching*, by John Gregory; and *Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning*, by Doug Wilson.

Governance

Bloomfield Christian School is governed by a board consisting of appointed and elected members.

Associations and Memberships

Bloomfield Christian School is a charter member of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS). ACCS is an association of Christian schools designed to serve the needs of new or established schools that are seeking to return to the educational heritage of Western Civilization. Neither reactionary nor progressive, we seek a return to our cultural roots so that we may resume the process of cultural growth as God gives the increase.

In addition, BCS is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). ACSI serves Christian schools across the United States and around the world. Each member school or college retains its individual distinctives and operating independence. BCS has participated in the speech meet, spelling bee, Math Olympics, science fairs, and standardized testing program offered by ACSI.

Non-discriminatory Policy

Bloomfield Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, financial aid programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

Dress Code

The Bloomfield Christian School dress code is intended to assist parents and students in glorifying God through modest and humble adornment. It is a dress code that is classic in its styling so it is usable year after year. The styling also dresses boys and girls differently thereby supporting God's intended differences. The code is not intended to demean or degrade individuality, but rather to facilitate a proper educational environment and provide for good stewardship of parents' and students' time and money. The dress code includes a required "official uniform" for chapel days and field trips, as well as limited optional clothing. Specific details are found in the handbook.

Parental Involvement

At Bloomfield Christian School, we believe that God has given parents the right and responsibility to educate their children. Bloomfield Christian School exists to help parents fulfill their obligation before the Lord. Therefore, we encourage parents to use their God-given talents at BCS. Parents can assist in the office, on the playground, in the lunchroom, and in the classrooms. This has the added benefits of easing costs and keeping involvement high.

Discipline Policy

The kind and amount of discipline will be determined by the teachers, and if necessary, the Headmaster. The discipline will be administered in light of the situation and the student's attitude. All discipline will be based on biblical principles, such as restitution, apologies (public and/or private), restoration of fellowship, and no lingering attitudes. The vast majority of discipline problems are to be dealt with at the classroom level. Teachers will rely on the principle that sin must always be dealt with, or students may learn complacency toward it. Love and forgiveness must be an integral part of the discipline of a student.

Learning Disabilities

Bloomfield Christian School is not equipped to handle severe learning disabilities. It is our policy not to admit students whose needs will put undue demands on our staff. All students will be required to meet the standards set for the particular class.

Homework

The assignments given as homework are designed to develop initiative, responsibility and independent learning skills. Homework provides an opportunity to further practice and apply concepts learned within the classroom.

Repeated short periods of practicing or studying new information are often a better way to learn than one long period of study. In addition, BCS recognizes that parental involvement is critical to a child's education, and homework can be used as an opportunity to actively assist the child in his studies. This will also keep the parents informed as to the current topics of study in the class.

Homework may be assigned to students who have failed to use class time effectively and thus be an encouragement to managing time better.

Student Activities

Activities and clubs are added as interest and leadership allows. The following activities are currently available to students: Student Council, Club BCS, Protocol, Basketball, Volleyball, Cross Country, Baseball, Cheerleading, Karate, Ballet, and Golf.

Admission Process

For each child requesting admission:

1. Complete all attached forms and obtain academic records
2. Mail or deliver completed forms along with:
 - Complete report cards from the previous school year
 - Copy of standard achievement test results
 - Check for admission fee
3. Upon receipt of the above material, the school will review the information.

Academic Review

Standardized test scores should be at grade-level (above the 50th percentile) for student consideration. If a child has successfully completed the previous school year and his school performance compares adequately to the comparable grade at Bloomfield Christian School, the student will be invited to write the admissions exam for the appropriate grade. Once a satisfactory evaluation of the student's academic level of mastery is obtained, an interview will be arranged between the Parents, Headmaster, and two members of the Board. However, if there is a sufficient disparity between school programs or if the previous year was not completed successfully or if student did not demonstrate a satisfactory level of skill on the admissions exam, the child may be required to repeat the grade at BCS.

A basic developmental readiness test will be administered for Kindergarten applicants. A child should reach the age of 5 years by September 1st of the academic year in which he/she is entering Kindergarten and demonstrate developmental readiness in order to be admitted to Kindergarten. For all other grades, the applicant will be required to demonstrate proficiency in some basic skills such as reading, math, and grammar on the admissions exam.

Bloomfield Christian School's curriculum is rigorous. If it is determined the student cannot keep abreast of the BCS curriculum, for the sake of the child, admission may be declined. Each child will be evaluated independently.

Notification of Interviews

Parents will be notified of an interview with the Headmaster and representatives of the Board.

Admission requirements

Bloomfield Christian School exists as an aid to Christian parents in their God-given responsibility of training their children in the way of the Lord. To this end, the school requires that parents be confessing Christians to assure consistent mutual goals between family and school. Parents and students will be required to sign a parent-student agreement that indicates agreement with the doctrinal statement and promises to maintain a Christian lifestyle in the home. In addition, a recommendation form from the family's pastor is also required.

The parents must support the policies of the school. This is most important in teaching the Biblical principles the school is founded upon, but also in the area of discipline, schoolwork, and parent/teacher support. Both parties prior to final admission of the student should understand the financial arrangements between the school and the parents.

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