

New Era Christian School

Statement of Belief

New Era Christian School's mission is based on God's infallible Word, the Bible, as stated in the Apostle's Creed; all association members, including teachers, must subscribe to this summary:

- **GOD.** There is one infinite, holy, loving, personal God who speaks to us in Scripture and reveals himself to us in his acts of creation, salvation, and renewal, as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As finite human beings created in God's image, we declare that it is our purpose and privilege to worship, honor, serve, and obey him.
- **CREATION.** The world belongs to God, who created it and faithfully sustains it by his providence. Creation is the theater of God's glory, displaying his power and majesty. God calls us to discover creation's resources, to receive these gifts with thanksgiving and delight, and to use them wisely as stewards and caretakers who are responsible to God and our neighbor.
- **SIN.** Our ability to carry out our human calling to honor God, serve our neighbor, and care for the creation is marred by the corrosive effects of sin, which touches every part of life. When our first parents listened to Satan's lie, questioned God's Word, and rebelled against him, they brought his judgment upon themselves, their posterity, and the creation. Brokenness, disease, hatred, arrogance, alienation, abuse of creation, and ultimately death are the inevitable fruits of sin in our world.
- **COVENANT.** However, God has not rejected or abandoned his world but has turned to it in love. He gave the rainbow sign to Noah as a pledge of his promise to care for all creatures. He made a covenant with Abraham, promising to be a faithful God to him and his children, and through them to bless all nations. Through his servant Moses, God disclosed his law for the human community, promising rich blessings as the fruit of obedience. God always keeps his promises. We acknowledge with gratitude and joy that he is our God and the God of our children; that we are his people, and that this is his world.
- **REDEMPTION.** As he promised, God in love sent Jesus Christ into the world to save it from sin and its consequences. The atoning death of the Son of God is the only payment for the debt of human sin, and Christ's resurrection is the only liberation from the powers of evil and death. The victorious Lord sends the Holy Spirit to create faith, cleanse and renew hearts, and build a community of love and holiness. It is this community's mission to proclaim and live this good news and to make disciples of nations.
- **KINGDOM OF GOD.** Jesus Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and he reigns over all things for our good. To be a citizen of this kingdom is a privilege, a joy, and a responsibility. Led by His Spirit, we place our every thought, word, and deed in the service of Christ's present and coming reign, and we live daily in the confident hope of his triumphant return.
- **MARRIAGE AND FAMILY.** God instituted marriage, as biblically defined and historically interpreted, to be a sacred union between a man and a woman, and sexual intimacy is best expressed within this design. With this in mind, NECS requires that its "standard bearers" – namely board members, staff, and volunteers with student mentorship roles – adhere to and promote this position and that volunteers with student mentorship roles acknowledge and respect this position.

- **COMMUNITY.** The Christian school, as an enterprise of the entire community, enables and equips all of its children to serve the Lord, love their fellow human beings, and care for God's creation. The school community provides an environment of love and care in which students are nurtured. As an indispensable partner with the home and the church, the Christian school leads children to live according to biblical wisdom.
- **STAFF.** Staff members of the Christian school, living in joyful fellowship with God, model the love of Christ to children. Empowered by the Holy Spirit and dedicated to the highest standards of excellence and professionalism, Christian teachers view their work as a vocation. The calling of a Christian school teacher is to pass on the wisdom of the Christian tradition to students and to help them understand and apply the transforming power of the gospel to contemporary society and culture.
- **STUDENTS.** Children are God's image-bearers, entrusted to parents and the Christian community as his gifts. The Christian school encourages students to develop their gifts in response to God and in loving service to fellow human beings. Students are led to know God and to respond to him in every dimension of the creation and in every aspect of their lives.
- **CURRICULUM.** The Christian school curriculum is developed and organized so that children may come to know God more deeply and richly and live for him more faithfully. Since human experience in all its rich variety is a good gift from the Creator who remains involved in his world, the Christian school curriculum explores all dimensions of creation. God's design for the creation and his will for human society and culture must be understood and obeyed. This is the way of godly wisdom. Students are taught to recognize the brokenness that sin brings to God's carefully designed world and are challenged to bring the healing power of Jesus Christ to a fallen world.