



# Principles of Christian Education

The purpose and philosophy of Sanborn Christian School (The Society for Christian Instruction of Sanborn, Iowa) is to educate children according to the standards set forth in the scriptures, the infallible and inerrant Word of God, as summarized in the Reformed Creedal Standards - namely, the Belgic Confession, the Canons of Dort, and the Heidelberg Catechism, along with the Statement of Faith.

The goal of this education is to equip children to know God's Word and His creation, to dedicate the whole human life to God, to love their fellow man, and to be stewards in their God given tasks. To accomplish this, we uphold the following principles of Christian education.

**Have you placed your faith in Jesus Christ for eternal life, and are you personally in agreement with and committed to the basic beliefs of the historic Christian faith as listed below?**

- We believe that God by His Holy Word reveals Himself and renews man's understanding of God, man, and creation. This infallible Word directs man in all his relationships and activities, and therefore guides His people in the education of their children.
- We believe that in their education children must come to learn that the world, and man's calling in it, can rightly be understood only in relation to the Triune God who created, redeemed, and rules all things.
- We believe that man's sin brought upon all mankind the curse of God. Sin separates him from God, his neighbor, and the world, distorting his view of the true meaning and purpose of life.
- We believe that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, by His death and resurrection, took God's curse from us upon Himself. Therefore, in Christ, believers and creation are made right with God, and the meaning and purpose of life are made clear.
- We believe that the primary responsibility for education rests upon parents to whom children are entrusted by God. Christian parents should accept this responsibility in view of the covenantal relationship which God established with believers and their children.
- We believe that Christian teachers, in obedience to God, under the authority of the Board, and in cooperation with parents, educate children by word and example. They must take into consideration the different needs and abilities of each child to prepare him\her to serve God in all aspects of life.
- We believe that the children of believers are members of Christ, and as such must be trained and prepared to assume their covenant responsibilities in their relationships with God, their fellow man, and creation.
- We believe that since parents and their children are part of a broader Christian community, and because the entire community is part of the covenant relationship, it is the responsibility of the entire Christian community to help parents establish and maintain Christian schools through their prayers and their generous gifts of time and money.
- We believe that the Christian school should be organized and administered according to the legal standards and provisions of the state if these do not conflict with the Word of God – the Bible. When

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this is done, the Christian school should be fully recognized in society as free to function according to its own principles.

1. Are you committed, as a Christian parent, to teaching these principles at home? **(Please initial to affirm)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Father                      \_\_\_\_\_ Mother

2. Do you desire Biblical, Christ-centered education for your child? **(Please initial to affirm)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Father                      \_\_\_\_\_ Mother

3. Will you commit your personal support, time, and finances to Sanborn Christian in the educational process? **(Please initial to affirm)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Father                      \_\_\_\_\_ Mother

4. Do you desire for your child to receive training in these beliefs and principles at school, and will you support the school in its endeavors to encourage and to guide your student in applying these principles to life? **(Please initial to affirm)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Father                      \_\_\_\_\_ Mother

Current church membership is at: \_\_\_\_\_

Denomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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