

SIoux FALLS CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

Constitution

Article 2 – Purpose

The purpose of the Association is the establishment and maintenance of a Christ-centered program of Pre-K, elementary, middle and secondary education in which instruction shall be provided in accordance with Article 4 religious principles and to grant diplomas to those who are deemed proficient and fit to receive them.

Article 3 – Basis

The basis of the Association is the infallible word of God written in the scriptures of the Old and New Testament, as they are generally interpreted in the historic reformational confessions of faith. In accordance with these confessions, we hold unreservedly to the sovereignty of God, revealed in the Lordship of Jesus Christ over the world and thus over every department of human activity, and submit unconditionally to the authority of Holy Scriptures, thereby recognizing these Scriptures as the supreme and final standard for Christian education and all other matters of faith and life. On this basis we subscribe to the following articles:

- Sec. 1** **We believe** in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally and infallibly inspired by God, and that they are the supreme and final authority in faith and life.
- Sec. 2** **We believe** in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Sec. 3** **We believe** that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and is true God and true man.
- Sec. 4** **We believe** that God is the creator of the heavens and the earth. Man is an image bearer of God and was created by an immediate and direct act of God. Man sinned, and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also that spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature and become sinners in thought, word, and deed.
- Sec. 5** **We believe** that the Lord Jesus died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as representative and substitutionary sacrifice; and that all who believe in Him are justified by faith on the ground of His shed blood.
- Sec. 6** **We believe** in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into heaven, and His present life there for us, as High Priest and Advocate.
- Sec. 7** **We believe** that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will personally return to judge the living and the dead.
- Sec. 8** **We believe** that all who are born again by the Holy Spirit and receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ become children of God.
- Sec. 9** **We believe** in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the eternal blessedness of the saved, and the eternal retribution of the lost.

We, therefore, believe in

- God the Father, creator and sustainer of creation, first Person of the trinity.
- The deity, virgin birth, vicarious death, physical resurrection, ascension, and personal return in glory of the Lord Jesus, the only source of true wisdom.
- The personality, deity, and work of the Holy Spirit.
- The reality of Satan. He is a personality who is very active and who desires to destroy the church and the kingdom of God.

- The great scriptural doctrines of sin, salvation by grace, redemption, regeneration, justification by faith, prayer, physical resurrection, the reward of believers and retribution of unbelievers.

Article 4 – Religious Principles

The Lord God has revealed to his people in the Bible principles relevant to education.

- Sec. 1 We believe** that God by His holy word reveals Himself; renewing our understanding of God, of man or self, of our fellowman and of the world; directing us in all our relationships and activities (Colossians 1:16-20); and therefore guiding us also in the education of our children.
- Sec. 2 We believe** that in their education children must come to learn that the universe and their calling in it should rightly be understood only in their relation to the triune God who directs all things to the coming of His kingdom and the glorification of His name.
- Sec. 3 We believe** that our sin alienates us from our Creator and distorts our view of the true meaning and purpose of life.
- Sec. 4 We believe** that through our Savior, Jesus Christ, there is renewal of our educational enterprise because He is the Redeemer of and the Light and the Way for our human life in all its range and variety. Only through Him and the work of His Spirit are we guided in the truth and recommitted to our original calling.
- Sec. 5 We believe** that the purpose of Christian schools is to educate children for a life of obedience to their calling in this world as image-bearers of God. This calling is to know God's Word and His creation, to consecrate the whole of human life to God, to love others, and to be stewards in our God-given cultural task.
- Sec. 6 We believe** that the primary responsibility for education rests upon parents to whom children are entrusted by God, and that Christian parents should accept this responsibility in view of the covenantal relationship, which God established with believers and their children. We seek to assist parents in their responsibility through school associations and school boards, which engage the services of Christian teachers in Christian schools.
- Sec. 7 We believe** that Christian teachers, both in obedience to God and in cooperation with parents, have a responsibility to educate the child in school.
- Sec. 8 We believe** that Christian schools must take into account the variety of abilities, needs, and responsibilities of young persons; that the curriculum will best prepare them to fulfill their principal task in life, namely to glorify God.
- Sec. 9 We believe** that because God's covenant embraces not only parents and their children but also the whole Christian community to which they belong, and because Christian education contributes directly to the advancement of God's kingdom, it is the obligation not only of the parents but also of their Christian community to establish and maintain Christian schools, to pray for, work for, and give generously for their support.

We believe that Christian schools, organized and administered in accordance with legitimate standards, should be fully recognized in society as free to function according to their principles.