

Education Vision Document

As followers of Jesus Christ, we declare with joy and trust, “Our world belongs to God!” Because our world includes the realm of learning, we affirm the following principles related to our Christian faith and the role of education.

Creation: We affirm that in the beginning God—Father, Son and Spirit—called this world into being out of nothing and gave it shape and order. God continues to direct all that happens in the world.

Fall: We affirm that our disobedience to God has broken the relationship between God and us. Looking for life without God, we find only death, leaving us blind to our place in the world and to the meaning of life.

Redemption: We affirm that Jesus Christ, the eternal Word made flesh, conquered sin and death. Being both God and man, Jesus is the only mediator between God and us. He alone paid the debt of sin; there is no other Saviour. It is through Christ that all areas of life, including education, are redeemed and restored. Therefore, it is only in Christ that we are able to discover the meaning and purpose of life.

Restoration: We affirm that, in Christ, one day God will make all things new. In fact, God is already involved in restorative work. In the beginning, God invited people to care for creation; now we are called through the Holy Spirit to share in God’s ministry of reconciliation and redemption, in all parts of the world actively declaring, “This too belongs to God!”

Scripture: We affirm that the Bible is the Word of God, leading us to know God and have life in Jesus Christ. It infallibly tells of God’s mighty acts, reveals God’s will and proclaims God’s plan of salvation.

School: We affirm that a primary task of the Christian school is guiding students into a deeper understanding of who God is, God’s work in creation and history and their role in God’s Kingdom. Christian schools help nurture children in the Biblical faith so they can take up their calling as faithful stewards of their God-given tasks.

Students: We affirm that students, of whatever ability, are people who bear God’s image and have a place in His plan. Christian schools strive to guide students into a deeper understanding of God’s story so that they can live joyfully, playing their part in God’s Kingdom both now and in the future.

Teachers: We affirm that parents and guardians entrust Christian teachers with the responsibility of instructing students. Teachers, in co-operation with families, are responsible for integrating a Christian perspective in all aspects of schooling, including the curriculum, and also for living a God-pleasing life.

Parents and Guardians: We affirm that the responsibility for the education of children rests primarily with parents and guardians, to whom children are entrusted by God.

The Christian Community: We affirm that since Christian education plays an important role in the growth of the Kingdom of God, the wider Christian community has a responsibility to come alongside families, nurturing children and playing an active role in their education.

(Some parts are based on Our World Belongs to God, a document of the Christian Reformed Church)