

LUTHERAN SCHOOL
LUTHERAN FAMILY VALUES POLICY

A school that *is* a mission. _____ Lutheran School is operated by _____ Lutheran Church. _____ Lutheran Church is a Member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LC-MS).

_____ Lutheran School is a school *with* a mission, but it is more than that. The _____ Lutheran Church considers _____ Lutheran School to *be* a mission, one form of Christian mission to its members and to the community. LCMS Christians believe that the purpose of education is not ultimately to prepare people for life in this world, but to “make people wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.” (1 Tim. 3:15).

Christian beliefs, as understood and taught in the LCMS, pervade everything that is done at _____ Lutheran School. Christian instruction is not only carried out formally, but it is integrated into the study of every subject. Students are immersed in a Christian atmosphere, surrounded by teachers, administrators, and school employees whose very presence is a testimonial to the Lutheran faith and way of life.

The LCMS is a creedal church with definite beliefs on many points of Christian faith. For instance, the LCMS affirms the sanctity of human life, including the life of an unborn child; the importance of stable family life and of fidelity in marriage; and abstention from illegal drugs. The LCMS opposes a homosexual lifestyle and cohabitation or sexual relations outside the marital relationship. These are only example of the LCMS’s positions on a number of contemporary questions of conduct and morals.

_____ Lutheran School expects that families of its students will not act in a way that is contrary to or disrupts the teachings of the LCMS in matters of religious faith and personal conduct. Family members who are not LCMS members are of course not required to believe or confess the teachings or beliefs of the LCMS. However, family members may not, in a way that may affect the school, promote beliefs that are contrary to those of the LCMS or otherwise weaken the LCMS Christian atmosphere at the school. Family members are expected to lead personal lives that do not violate the teachings of the LCMS on matters of personal conduct, so that all family members in their daily lives not undermine _____ Lutheran School’s mission as an LCMS Christian institution. If a family member of a student or applicant for enrollment challenges LCMS teachings at _____ Lutheran School or conducts his or her life in a way that is contrary to those teachings, the student or applicant may be expelled, suspended or refused enrollment.

LCMS doctrine and practice are derived from the Christian Scriptures, the Lutheran confessions, and the applicable resolutions of the LCMS. For the purposes of this policy the decision of the Principal of what constitutes the beliefs and teachings of the LCMS and what actions or conduct constitutes a violation of this policy shall be final and binding. Family members who are unfamiliar with LCMS beliefs and teachings on any subject should inquire about them from the Principal. He or she can refer questioners to appropriate publications or, if necessary, can arrange for the family member to be counseled by a pastor of an LCMS church.