

### Faculty and Staff Statement of Faith

Gowensville Christian School is a private, religious entity working in close coordination with Gowensville Baptist Church. Our statement of faith is not denomination specific, and we believe the elements listed here are crucial to providing a truly Christian education, given by Christian educators.

1. God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things and is the Source of all Truth.
2. God is Sovereign and maintains control over His entire universe. He is omnipotent, omnipresent, and omniscient. In all things He is limited by nothing other than His own nature and character.
3. The one living and true God exists eternally in three persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
4. God has revealed Himself in a general way in His world and universe, and in a specific way in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. These Scriptures are made up of 66 books, from Genesis to Revelation, the authority of which depend not upon the testimony of any man or church and are all to be received as the Word of God.
5. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, the only inerrant and infallible rule of faith and practice.
6. In the deity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in His sinlessness, in His miracles, in His vicarious atonement by the shedding of His blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His return in power and glory.
7. All individuals are lost in sin apart from Jesus Christ, and that the only way of salvation is through faith in Jesus Christ enabled by the Holy Spirit.
8. Salvation is by God's grace alone and that Christ's vicarious atonement on the cross secured our salvation.
9. We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically and mentally challenged, and every stage or condition from conception through natural death. As believers we are called to defend, protect, and value all human life.

10. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complimentary genders and sexes together reflect the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex physically, in language or any other way is the rejection of the image of God within that person and cannot be supported.

11. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 2:18-25)

12. We believe that any form of sexual immorality is contrary to the Bible's teaching, is sinful, and offensive to God.

13. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are not condoned and are not in accord with Scripture or our beliefs.

14. We believe Christianity to be a faith of enlightenment and intelligence. All sound learning, therefore, is part of our Christian heritage. In Christian education there is a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. The freedom of a teacher or curriculum in any Christian institution is limited by the preeminence of Christ, the authoritative nature of the Scriptures and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

15. We believe that membership in a local church is the plain teaching of Scripture and that the regular gathering of this people is on the first day of the week, Sunday. Gowensville Christian School will not schedule school events on Sundays and asks that all faculty commit to a local body of believers as examples to their students.

16. We are in agreement with the "Nashville Statement" on biblical sexuality and the "Dallas Statement" on social justice.

By signing below, I testify that this statement of faith is representative of my own and acknowledge that divergence from this statement of faith in my beliefs, teaching, or lifestyle in the opinion of the Board of Gowensville Christian School may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

\*signature block\*