

LCS Points of Emphasis for 2019-20

Gospel-centered schooling

We are engaged in the intentional process of applying the truths of the gospel into all phases of school life. The gospel as revealed in scripture informs us of our fallen nature and need for a Savior and the good news of God's grace and redemption for all who place their faith in Jesus Christ. As we learn to think more deeply about these truths it will shape the relationships and interactions between us and provide the framework for building one another up as well as for addressing conflicts.

Imago Dei

The scriptures clearly teach that all people are made in God's image (Genesis 1; 26-27). God is building His Kingdom with "those from every tongue, tribe, and nation" (Revelation 7: 7-10). It has been said, "The ground is level at the foot of the cross." There is no place for expressions of racist, sexist, or other disrespectful attitudes by anyone. This includes social media posts as well as personal interactions. We are to treat one another as fellow recipients of God's grace and unmerited favor that is ours only through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross for His people. The characteristics of a Christian academic and social community include love (Romans 12:10), unity (I Corinthians 1:10), humility, gentleness, forbearance, kindness, forgiveness (Ephesians 4:32), and encouragement (I Thessalonians 5:11). It is everyone's responsibility to cultivate these virtues in all interactions.

Student safety

Students, parents, and campus visitors are expected to abide by all school safety procedures. We function with a "single point of entry" for morning drop-off. During the day everyone must check in through the Lobby Guard system in the main office or student services. Do not attempt to enter or drop off items to someone in the cafeteria through the Sligh Center entry during the school day. The Blanton Center has limited access requiring those entering the Athletic Office to be "buzzed in" at the front door.

Dealing with disappointment

In a school community including 1100 students, 120 staff, and 650+ families, there is ample opportunity for disappointment and occasional interpersonal friction. Staff, parents, and students are expected to use face to face communication or at least phone conversations to address problems rather than texts or email. Concerns should be addressed with the staff member closest to the situation, i.e. classroom issues with the teacher before contacting the principal, etc.

Preparing the child for the road and not the road for the child

Two of the essential qualities we want to develop in our students are resilience and the ability to solve problems. We want to cultivate the student's ability to self-advocate and engage in conversation with adults and peers to address concerns that occur in the school community. While the age and maturity of the student has to be considered, we recognize that it is impossible to develop these qualities without real problems to solve with real people. In an age of communication via screens, the skills involved with person to person and face to face communication have to be intentionally encouraged.

Student and parent input

We want to present an institutional posture that is open to receive suggestions from students and parents in our quest to make LCS *Always Better*. School administrators, athletic and fine arts directors, and teachers want to be accessible for your questions and input. Students and parents should feel free to make an appointment with the appropriate staff member to ask questions and provide input. Not all suggestions can be implemented, but healthy discussion of different viewpoints or preferences often can enhance understanding and build the sense of community even if agreement is not always achieved.