

HORIZON CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Statement of Vision

OUR MISSION

Horizon Christian Schools is an educational community gathered around the person of Jesus Christ and grounded by Biblical truth. We seek to provide a comprehensive education, in harmony with the purposes of God for each student and in partnership with parents, producing students who are *fully alive*.

OUR MOTTO: *“Bringing LIFE to Learning”*

OUR CORE VALUES:

Horizon Community Church *Shared Values:*

Jesus: Our focus is Jesus Christ and a personal relationship with Him.

Missional: God has called each of us to follow the example of Jesus by loving our neighbors, community, and world.

Balance: This is a safe place where the Good News is shared with grace and truth.

Relevant: We are committed to engaging our culture with the love of Jesus.

Authentic: We are committed to being real people with a real Jesus.

Relational: We value on-going, meaningful relationships within the Church community and beyond.

Growing: As we learn to apply the Bible to our lives and pray, we become more like Jesus.

Enjoyable: We believe part of God’s plan for us is to laugh and enjoy life.

Horizon Christian Schools (HCS) Core Values:

Life. We seek to impart life into our students by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God and the loving investment of our staff. Our goal is to help develop students who are FULLY ALIVE!

Culture. We seek to create an educational culture that is loving, encouraging, empowering, safe and fun; where students can be students and grow and develop into all God has in mind for them.

Presence. It is the presence of God that makes a distinguishing difference; and in Horizon Christian Schools, we will intentionally seek God's presence as individuals and as a school system.

Student Focused. HCS will make decisions and establish educational programming that make the best interests of students a clear and consistent priority .

Heart. As a staff we will lead with the heart. We will make HCS a place where kids know that they are loved, valued and a priority to us and to Jesus.

Faith. The history of Horizon Christian Schools is full of testimonies of the miracles of God. We fully expect that God's miracles will continue as we seek Him and are obedient to His leading.

Family and Church Friendly. We believe that students need much more than the school community in order to fully mature and embrace God's purpose. We strongly believe that the institutions of family and church have been established by God and will intentionally seek to foster these connections in students and develop a calendar that reflects these values.

OUR VISION

Comprehensive Education. HCS's philosophy of education goes beyond the classroom and beyond the core competencies of academia. We believe a comprehensive education includes *Academics, Spiritual Formation, The Arts, Community, Athletics, Service and Purpose.*

Strengths-Based Education. At HCS we believe that *every student* is smart, and uniquely gifted and called by God. We seek to help students to discover, embrace and develop their divine purpose so they can BE and DO all that God desires.

Interdenominational: The vision of HCS is to develop a great school system for the glory of God and as a ministry to the greater Portland metro area Christian community.

Whoever Will May Come: HCS is not just open to Christians but to everyone who feels called here and is willing to abide by the code of conduct, realizing that Jesus and the Bible will be intentionally and boldly taught at all levels.

Changed Lives. We believe that the power, purpose, presence and people of God will change lives. We will use every opportunity to declare the Good News of Jesus and the life-changing value of the Word of God.

Developing Champions. We believe in students and believe that God's purposes are not only clear but compelling. We will seek to fully unleash the potential of each student in full expectation that God has in mind great plans and victories. We believe that victory and success are ultimately futile without character and that "A champion's heart is a Christ-like heart."

HCS VISION PATH

Academics

- iSMART program in the ES
- Strengths Based agenda system-wide
 - “Setting the *right* expectations for the level of the learner.
 - Discovering the *key* to unlocking each learner/FULLY ALIVE (Eric Liddel of Chariots of Fire)
 - Celebrating success
- Curriculum Maps tied to state standards
- Seamless transitions between Horizon schools

Spiritual Formation

- Key Focus: *Jesus, Faith, Bible, Prayer & Spiritual “Disciplines,” Calling, Character, Caring and Community.*
- Classes: Every grade level and electives.
- Chapel: Weekly
- Small Groups: Weekly/Monthly
- Special Events: Spiritual Emphasis, Special Retreats, Missions/Service Trips and other functions.

Arts

- Fine Arts curriculum additions including a system wide art instructor.
- Performing Arts additions of Choir (MS & HS), Drama (HS) and Band (future) to go along with existing Worship Teams and Ensemble Choir.
- Events: System wide art exhibit/community fair

Community

- Intentional development of staff “family” and system “team.”
- Special Activities and Events
- Small Groups
- Special communications with students and families (Supt’s Blog/Edline)
- Communicating the value and reality of “The Horizon Family” across the system.

Athletics

- A unique emphasis and value at Horizon.
- 80% of high school students were involved in a team sport in the 2008-2009 school year.
- Communicating and inspiring students with the motto “A champion’s heart is a Christ-like heart” and resourcing that reality.

Service

- Development of Service Clubs on campus.
- Community Service events that include the entire Horizon family or individual school events
- Special missions and service trips where students will serve locally, regionally and internationally.
- Promoting and connecting students with existing service opportunities in the faith community or community at large.

Purpose

- Developing the “Three Tracks” philosophy of 1) Career (Professional/Vocational), 2) College Prep and 3) Scholar.
- *Discovery* of Purpose: Using online tools and assessments to help students determine their areas of strength and calling.
- *Embracing/Development* of Purpose an integrated element in every academic discipline from every instructor.
- *Pursuing* of Purpose: Partnerships with local businesses/Apprenticeships/College Placement