

SAINT
ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL
SCHOOL

Who We Are



What does it *mean* to be an Episcopal School?

* Episcopal Schools are created to serve God in Christ in all persons, to strive for justice and peace among all peoples, and to respect the dignity of every human being.

* Episcopal Schools work to be comprehensive, inclusive communities with respect for other beliefs.

* Episcopal Schools value reason as a way to true understanding.

* Episcopal Schools embrace honor, tolerance, and intellectual curiosity.

* Episcopal Schools provide a safe and open community in which students can wrestle with the big questions that life presents.

MISSION

The Mission of St. Andrew's Episcopal School is to provide an enriched academic program within a Christian environment emphasizing the fulfillment of each student's potential.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

St. Andrew's seeks students of character and intelligence from diverse ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds, and maintains a scholarship program to support that diversity.

The school strives to help young people achieve their potential not only in intellectual understanding but also in esthetic sensitivity, physical well-being, athletic prowess and moral decisiveness so that they may lead productive, responsible lives, not only for themselves, but also for their community

CORE VALUES COMMUNITY

Based on trust, traditions, communication, appreciation, and support

SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION

To develop moral behavior

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Reflected in both the knowledge base and behavior of the faculty, staff, students, parents, and board members.

CARING, CELEBRATION, AND HUMOR

Fostered by kindness and collegiality

Following are excerpts from "The Idea of an Episcopal School," written by the Religious Life Committee of the Board of Trustees of Oregon Episcopal School in Portland, Oregon.

"Our church encourages respect for the other person's beliefs. An Episcopal school may be expected not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, or national origin, and actively seek out faculty and students of diverse backgrounds and traditions in the belief that they bring something to be valued and respected, and because we would like to be broadly inclusive of the community we serve. An Episcopal school will look for the values that unite people rather than those that divide, and not allow factionalism to undermine the life of the whole."

"The unity of an Episcopal school is based on rite and tradition rather than doctrine."

"In an Episcopal school there will likely be no single dogma to which

we all subscribe, no list of rules that define who we must be as a community."

"God has given us the freedom to seek truth without fearing where it may lead. This suggests that our understanding of truth may grow and change, that God welcomes questions, and that we may subject all our ideas and beliefs to our critical faculties."

"Clearly, then, an Episcopal education is not indoctrination, not about enforcing an unquestioning acceptance of a fore-ordained set of doctrines. An Episcopal education should begin from the premise that we (faculty, students, administrators, staff) are all a community of explorers, that we all need to continue to learn and to grow. It should encourage all students, faculty, and staff to pursue questions wherever they lead, to use their critical faculties, to value the learning and thought we have inherited from the past. It should also, one would think--and here we part company with secular education--refuse to allow students to separate religion and

spirituality from the rest of the curriculum, since the Anglican insight is that reason and learning are ultimately intended to serve our exploration of the deepest issues of humankind. An Episcopal education will raise issues of meaning, identity, and ultimate truth (with) every opportunity in all parts of its program but also will acknowledge the limits of human reason."

"The school will help students to understand that they do not exist apart from society, that society's issues are their issues, and that they are called to respond to the needs of others."

"We must act out of love, teach love, model love, and love one another in our community above all else, or all else will be meaningless."