

## **Baton Rouge Lutheran School Philosophy**

Approved by Trinity Lutheran Church Voters' Assembly August 16, 2004

**Mission Statement:** "Baton Rouge Lutheran School, as a ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, will provide a strong, quality 'Education Anchored in Christ' to prepare students and families for service to God and man." We promote this mission statement in every aspect of Baton Rouge Lutheran School. **Motto:** Education Anchored In Christ

An "Education Anchored in Christ" means that through Scripture and the power of the Holy Spirit, students and their families are nurtured and strengthened in their relationship with the Triune God: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We endeavor to meet or exceed all secular curriculum standards while integrating our Christian faith into all subject areas. In all activities at Baton Rouge Lutheran School, we strive to reflect God's desire for our lives.

This Christian education permeates all of the growth processes in students: spiritual, intellectual/creative, physical, social, and psychological. It is also our goal that the Christian education offered at Baton Rouge Lutheran School would permeate the homes and families of our students.

### **Spiritual**

1. Provide daily instruction in God's Word, as a tool of the Holy Spirit, to strengthen faith and help students recognize themselves as children of a loving God.
2. Provide a worship and devotional life centered in God's Word.
3. Provide activities that will help students be good stewards of God's creation and use their time, talents and treasures to bring glory to God with a life of faithful service.
4. Provide training in Christian practices and knowledge of the Scriptures that will build Christian congregations and the Christian Church on earth.

### **Intellectual/Creative**

1. Provide a systematic and thorough instruction in all areas of the curriculum appropriate for students from preschool through grade 8.
2. Teach all areas of the curriculum in the light of God's Word.
3. Provide students with the training, knowledge, and opportunities to encourage them to develop inquiring minds, higher order thinking skills, and skillful study habits.
4. Encourage students to become curious, questioning, life-long learners.

### **Physical**

1. Provide a model of a healthy life style as set forth in God's Word.
2. Provide training and knowledge that encourages students to practice and develop good health habits and regard their bodies as holy temples created by God.
3. Provide opportunities for physical activity.

## Social

1. Provide a Christian school community guided by God's Word.
2. Provide daily means and opportunities for students to live their faith as they interact with others at school, in their homes, and in their communities.
3. Provide training and knowledge that will allow students to live as productive and responsible citizens of their country.
4. Provide training and knowledge that will help students learn respect for the authority of home, school, and government.

## Psychological (Emotional)

1. Provide information, guidance, and support that helps students see themselves as Christ sees them. (Christ-esteem.)
2. Provide training and knowledge that will help students develop personal responsibility.
3. Provide and model skills that will help students develop caring relationships by recognizing the needs, rights, privileges, and individual differences of others.

## Family

1. Build an awareness that our Lutheran school exists to assist parents in their God-given responsibilities toward their children.
2. Provide a variety of opportunities for families to socialize, worship, and work together in a Christian environment.
3. Provide support for Christian parenting and a home life that is centered in God's Word.

As an important ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, Baton Rouge Lutheran School strives to fulfill each of the congregation's five functions: education, worship, evangelism, fellowship, and service.

## Education

1. Teach God's Law and Gospel in proper proportion.
2. Assist students in developing and using their God-given abilities to the glory of God.

## Worship

1. Assist students and families to live lives that reflect an awareness of God's loving presence.
2. Guide students in developing a personal prayer life - learning to pray privately and with others.
3. Assist students in developing appropriate worship practices by providing a variety of worship opportunities.

## Evangelism

1. Teach students that their purpose in life is to expand God's kingdom by sharing their faith with those who do not know God's law and forgiveness in Jesus Christ.

2. Provide knowledge and practice to help children share their Christian faith through words and actions with one another and the world.

#### Fellowship

1. Assist students in recognizing their oneness in the unity of Christ, and, at the same time, stress unique individuality.
2. Assist students in seeing others as valued, accepted, and respected children of God.
3. Provide a variety of opportunities for Christian fellowship.

#### Service

1. Develop in each student an understanding of stewardship of time and God-given talents so that service becomes a natural part of their lives both in and out of school.
2. Foster, in each student, Christ-like compassion and love for all people.
3. Provide a variety of specific opportunities for Christian service in school, church, home, and the community.

Trinity Lutheran Church and, therefore, Baton Rouge Lutheran School, is a member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LC-MS) and as such we teach the doctrines of Christianity espoused by the LC-MS.

- ◆ The Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God. All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God the Holy Spirit and God is therefore the true author of every word of Scripture.
- ◆ The two chief doctrines of Holy Scripture, Law and Gospel, must be constantly and diligently proclaimed in the church of God until the end of the world, but with due distinction.
- ◆ God created and still preserves the world.
- ◆ Man sinned and ruined our relationship with God.
- ◆ God's Son came to earth to live, die, and rise again as a perfect Sacrifice for sinful people and through faith in Him we receive forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and salvation. (We are saved by God's grace alone and not by anything that we do.)
- ◆ The Holy Spirit works this faith in people's hearts through the hearing of God's Holy Word and Baptism.
- ◆ This faith is strengthened by Holy Communion and further study of Scripture, with the Spirit's guidance.
- ◆ This faith leads us to live sanctified lives to God's glory and for the good of others.
- ◆ The primary mission of the church is to make disciples of every nation by bearing witness to Jesus Christ through the preaching of the Gospel and administration of the Sacraments.

We firmly believe that Baton Rouge Lutheran School is a Christian community that can well equip our children and their families to be productive, contributing members of the church and society in their present and future activities.