

## ***BIBLICAL INTEGRATION POLICY***

### ***Rationale***

***The integration of Biblical principles into the teaching of every subject is the most distinctive feature of Christian education. Christian teachers, Christian students and Christian parents may all be found in public schools as well as Christian schools. However, only in the Christian school can Christianity be openly proclaimed and discussed and every subject taught from a Biblical perspective. The Christian school is unique because it alone integrates the truths found in natural revelation (God's World) and special revelation (God's Word).***

***Biblical integration can occur at several levels. First, it should be evident in the policies and procedures which guide the operation of the school. All policies and procedures should be drafted with an awareness of the related Biblical principles. Second, Biblical principles need to be integrated into the thinking and lifestyles of all School employees and volunteers. School Board members, employees and volunteers need to understand and be committed to sound Christian doctrine. Third, all subject matter (knowledge, skills, attitudes, behavior) needs to reflect those Biblical principles which relate to it.***

***It is unfortunate but indisputable that while Biblical integration often occurs at the first two levels, it is too often neglected at the third level. At the level which most directly impacts the students and is most critical for the development of a Christian world view in them, Christian schools are falling short. This is true for several reasons. First, teachers are seldom if ever trained in how to integrate the Bible with their subject matter. They simply do not know how the two relate. Second, there are few materials available to help teachers do the work of integration. Third, there is so much work to be done in the preparation of courses and marking of papers that integration is easily left to the last and thus often neglected entirely. Fourth, integrating Scripture with one's teaching is hard, intellectually demanding work which not everyone is equipped to do. It requires a thorough knowledge of both the Scriptures and one's subject matter. Not every teacher possesses both.***

***This problem is acute in Canada because many schools make use of the same textbooks which are used in the public schools. While it is true that a Christian teacher can use these humanistic textbooks to advantage, pointing out the biases and anti-Christian viewpoints, it is also true that this often is not done. Certainly it is not done as often as it should be. Dependence on the teacher to ensure that this will happen is highly problematic. Teachers vary in their ability to do the job of integration. They vary in their understanding of the task and commitment to see it happen on a regular basis in their classroom. Moreover, teacher turnover will ensure that Biblical integration is forever being relearned by new teachers entering the Christian school setting. If Biblical integration is not taking place on a consistent basis from class to class, teacher to teacher, and year to year, then students will not be developing a thoroughly integrated Christian world-view capable of guiding them as adults in a secular world.***

### ***Policy***

- 1. The School will employ textbooks from Christian publishers wherever possible to ensure that at least a minimal amount of Biblical integration occurs on a***

- consistent basis.*
2. *All teachers are to make use of the Biblical integration provided by Christian texts and expand upon them where appropriate.*
  3. *Bible class will be a required core subject and given as much scheduled time as other core subjects. Part of this Bible class will include a weekly chapel.*
  4. *The Principal will be responsible for the approval of alternate materials where no suitable textbooks are available from Christian publishers.*
  5. *The Principal, in consultation with the teachers, will develop a plan whereby Biblical principles shall be systematically integrated into all subject areas and the Principal shall report annually to the School Board regarding the implementation of this policy. Ungodly ideas or values will be addressed. Specific attention is to be given to the following perceived ideologies: Evolution, Humanism, Materialism, Pantheism, Cults, the Occult, etc. and to anti-Christian values in the areas of Family, Marriage, Sexuality and the sanctity of life.*

### **RESOURCE MATERIAL:**

1. Biblical principles must be integrated in such a way as to be readily accessible by any teacher called upon to teach the course. That is, Scripture references should either be written into the teacher copy of the textbook or into the teacher manual as opposed to a teacher's day plans only.
2. The Principal may choose to set aside some days each year plus some time at each staff meeting exclusively for the development of Biblical integration.
3. The Principal shall invite the participation of other schools in the project so that the work load may be spread across a multitude of schools and all may benefit.