



Lexington Christian Academy

Mission Statement Review

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Lca.edu

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What I did:

Since its founding in 1946 Lexington Christian Academy has, by God's grace, maintained a clearly evangelical confessional and pedagogical position in the New England preparatory school milieu.

My selection as the Head of School provided a natural opportunity to examine, affirm or/and modify our mission statement – a process that ought to take place periodically in the course of any institution striving to maintain a culture of review and excellence. With the approval of the LCA Board of Trustees I submitted this review as my desired Van Lunen Project.

The ancillary value of such a process would be to naturally unfold my management “style” – i.e. collegial, interactive and consensus building. We did this through the *6 Thinking Hats* strategy of Edward de Bono. Crafting logic, creativity, gut-feeling and history all together, 6 Hats allows a deliberate process of role playing to discern ideas.

What did I learn?

What we all learned was that board/community stewardship of the vision had endured and been transmitted to successive generations of faculty and was being implemented in a dynamic faith/integration context with an application to higher education and vocational contexts.

Central to the process/outcome was a respect for colleagues who think outside traditional boundaries, and having patience with the same. We learned to trust one another and found God establishing oneness of purpose as we unanimously affirmed the one change to the Mission Statement. The rationale for the resulting change is outlined in the project report.

What difference did it make?

At the board level there was an affirmation of Head of School leadership in the process, an expressed re-commitment to our evangelical heritage and the centrality of an allegiance to the personal work of Christ as our foundation for existence and the Word of God as the eyepiece by which this academic community of faith sees reality.

We have often expressed it in that magisterial declaration of the 20th Century Dutch Prime Minister and theologian Abraham Kuyper – “There is not one square inch of the created domain over which the ascended Christ does not gaze and proclaim ‘This is Mine!’”.