



Jon Harkema

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CHILDREN: Mary (@ Cornerstone University), Lillian (@ Indiana Wesleyan University), William (10th @ SCHS)

WHY DO YOU FEEL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT?

I feel Christian education is important because we are instructed over and over again in the Bible to teach our children in the way of the Lord. A few examples are Proverbs 9:10, Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Colossians 2:3.

EDUCATION AT SOUTH CHRISTIAN IS BASED ON A REFORMED UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE AND THE WORLD. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU, AND HOW DOES THIS MAKE SOUTH CHRISTIAN DIFFERENT FROM OTHER PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL HIGH SCHOOLS?

Reformed understanding of Scripture means to me that all Scripture is God breathed by the Holy Spirit. Not made up by the human mind. That God rules over all creation. Nothing is by chance. It all is a part of God's plan. That by God's grace, I am saved. He sent his son to this earth to die on the cross to deliver me from my sins so that one day I will be with him in Heaven. I understand that my earthly good works and deeds will not get me to heaven alone. With South Christian holding to the same belief, that makes it stand out from other private schools.

HOW IS YOUR LIFE CHRIST-CENTERED?

I try to live everyday as an example of Christ in all I do and say. Starting the day in prayer asking God to help me be a example of Christ.

WHAT SPECIFIC SKILLS OR ABILITIES DO YOU SEE YOURSELF BRINGING TO THE BOARD? (Examples might include education, legal, finance/budgeting/planning, building facilities, fundraising, promotion or marketing, strategic planning, interpersonal skills.) ALSO, IDENTIFY ANY LEADERSHIP OR VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES YOU HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN.

Served 2 terms on Dutton Christian School board

Served 3 terms as deacon at Friendship CRC

Chaired or was a part of many committees. Examples - Building and Grounds, Scholarship, Finance, Budgeting, Fundraising, Tech, Benevolence

Been serving as a Sunday School teacher for over 20 years.

Served as a youth leader.

WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU SEE FACING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN GENERAL (AND SOUTH CHRISTIAN SPECIFICALLY) IN THE COMING YEARS? FEEL FREE TO SHARE IDEAS YOU MAY HAVE FOR FACING THESE CHALLENGES.

Worldly influences - Not to fall into the ways of the world. It's ok to stand for your Christian beliefs.

Affordability - Keeping tuition and operating cost low.

Growth - we are growing fast now, how are we going to handle it.