



Jackson Christian

## Community Covenant

Our Purpose:

*Leading students in continual learning that grows from a foundation of faith in God and modeling the teachings of Christ in every aspect of life.*

*“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, . . . And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” (Colossians 3:16-17)*

In view of the mission of Jackson Christian, and of our calling as Christian educators, we must embrace the words of Jesus as found in Luke 6:40. In doing so, we recognize that our ultimate goal is to make our students like us as we strive to become like Jesus. Therefore, as members of the Jackson Christian community, we must commit ourselves to a standard, both individually and collectively, that constantly strives for Godly excellence in all that we do. This standard is not established as a pharisaical practice, but as a standard we are willing commit to as Jackson Christian employees and trustees.

Our *Portrait of a JCS Graduate* serves as a constant guide and reference point for all of our activities, programs and decisions. By it and through, it we answer a simple yet important question: “What will our students look and be like when we are actively fulfilling our mission?” The *Portrait* is not an end, but rather a means to ensure that our mission goes beyond mere words to become a vibrant, ongoing, and fully integrated reality in the lives of all who work and learn at Jackson Christian.

In order to fulfill the mission and vision of Jackson Christian and to assist our students in the process of embodying the attributes, qualities and skills outlined in our *Portrait of a JCS Graduate*, an excellent employee or trustee acknowledges his/her dependence on the power and grace of our Heavenly Father. We commit and strive to live according to these covenants:

- We will model the Golden Rule and a Christ-centered mindset as demonstrated by our actions and interactions with administrators, colleagues, students, and parents (Matthew 7:12; Colossians 3:2);

- We will pursue holiness in every aspect of our thought and behavior (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Thess. 4:7; Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:15-16).
- We will recognize and embrace the inherent diversity of our school community and work successfully within it as an active and engaged participant in fulfilling the school's mission (I Corinthians 12:12-26; Ephesians 4:11-13);
- We will be active in ongoing personal and professional development in all areas of life, including spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically (Luke 2:52; Ephesians 4:14-16);
- We will handle conflict and concerns in a professional, courteous and Biblical manner (Matthew 5:23,24 and 18:15; Ephesians 4:29);
- We will uphold the sanctity of life, from conception to death, as the unique image-bearers of God (Gen. 1:27; Psalm 8:3-8; 139:13-16);
- We will live consistently with the sex and gender God chose for us at birth, recognizing that we are created "in the image of God" and that He Created male and female." These distinct and complementary genders reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27) We will honor God's choice as Father and Lord, far above our own human choice. (Luke 9:23);
- We will abstain from sexual immorality, including the use of pornography, pre-marital sex, adultery, homosexual behavior, and all other sexual relationships outside the bounds of a monogamous marriage between a man and woman. (Gen. 2:22-24; 1 Cor. 6:9-10,18, Eph. 5:31-33; Rom 1:21-27; Heb. 13:4);
- We will treat our own bodies, and those of others, with the honor due the very temple of the Holy Spirit. Of particular concern are issues related to the illegal use of drugs, alcohol, and other addictive behaviors (1 Cor. 6:17-20).

- A. No member of the JCS Community may **illegally** use drugs, whether prescription drugs or those banned by law, at any time.
- B. No member of the JCS Community may use tobacco in any form at any and all school-related events on or off campus, or otherwise in the presence of a JCS student (other than one's own children).
- C. The Bible requires moderation in the use of alcohol, but does not require abstinence. Yet, because alcohol is addictive to many, its dangers clearly warned against in Scripture, and because impressionable students are the core focus of the JCS Community, there is the need for great caution and responsibility in this area.

- 1) The JCS campus, properties and vehicles, and all JCS school related events whether on or off campus, will be alcohol free at all times.
- 2) In personal activities, members of the JCS Community will live within an ethic of high responsibility and unquestionable moderation in any private use of alcohol. For the sake of providing a good example to JCS students,

abstinence in the presence of JCS students (other than one's own children) is required.

3) Members of the JCS Community will not attend any event on the JCS campus or in which JCS is participating if they have consumed alcohol in the hours prior to the event.

- When needed, we will make public statements (social media, media interviews, and any other forms of communication), including those made within the scope of an individual's role with Jackson Christian, that will not be in conflict with the principles contained within Jackson Christian's *Community Covenant* and *Statement of Faith*.

## **Commitment**

*I commit as a Jackson Christian employee, board member, or non-faculty coach or volunteer, that I have read and affirm the Jackson Christian Statement of Faith and have read and agree to abide by the Jackson Christian Community Covenant. I understand that should I fail to fulfill this commitment, my behavior could lead to penalties including the termination of my employment and/or relationship with Jackson Christian.*

## **Additional Covenants for Educators:**

- We will embody a love for learning and be passionate for teaching our subject matter from a Biblical worldview (1 Corinthians 15:58; Colossians 3:23,24);
- We will communicate effectively (both orally and in writing) and in a timely manner with regard to grades, student/parent correspondence, and work responsibilities (Colossians 4:6; 1 Peter 4:11);
- We will be innovative and creative in our use of teaching methodologies and instructional technologies to effectively teach students at all ability levels (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 1 Corinthians 9:19-23);
- We will establish and maintain a level of classroom discipline that is conducive to learning, fosters proper respect for authority, and is consistent with broader school guidelines and expectations (Proverbs 6:23 and 10:17; Romans 13:1-3);
- We will be fair, clear and consistent in our expectations of and interactions with students, parents, and colleagues, and show no favoritism or partiality (Luke 6:37,38; James 3:11);
- We will regularly review the test scores (both regular and standardized) and completed assignments of individual students and groups of students to ensure understanding and improve teaching and curriculum (2 Peter 1:5-8; Philippians 1:9-11);
- We will maintain up-to-date, accurate records (grade books, lesson plans, attendance, etc.) and provide regular and clear feedback to students and parents (1 Corinthians 4:2; Luke 12:48b);
- We will be team players, and be willing to “go the second mile” to assist students, parents, and colleagues (Matthew 5:41,42; Romans 12:4-8);