



# BELLEVILLE

## MENNONITE SCHOOL

### Admissions Guide

The educational philosophy of Belleville Mennonite School is based on the belief that all truth emanates from God; that it is revealed in the Bible and in the person of Jesus Christ, and that it may also be discovered through the sciences, the humanities and the arts. The Bible is accepted as God's inspired Word and is considered to be the final authority for faith and life.

Education, then, is understood to be that entire process whereby persons are guided in developing a comprehensive life orientation which is centered on God and which is based on both revealed and discoverable truth. The primary responsibility for this task belongs to parents. At their request the Christian school becomes a partner in providing this education. Thus, Belleville Mennonite School purposes to educate toward academic excellence for such a life orientation. The school has been established to offer children and young people, regardless of denomination, race or national origin, a high quality Christian education.

The following admissions policy has been adopted to assure a consistent standard of admissions in agreement with the philosophy and charter of the school.

#### ADMISSIONS POLICY

Parents and students who are interested in the objectives and purposes of Belleville Mennonite School are invited to apply for admission. Admission of a student into school means that the parents or guardians automatically become members of the patron body with the responsibilities and rights that go along with such membership.

#### Admissions Procedures

1. An application must be completed and returned to the Superintendent. In addition, parents must provide a copy of a transfer student's school records.
2. Prospective parents will be interviewed by the Superintendent and either Principal.
3. The Board of Trustees, after hearing the recommendation of the Superintendent and said Board Member, will vote on acceptance to the patron body and the school.

#### Admission Requirements – Parents/Guardians

1. It is expected that at least one parent/guardian be a Christian, that they accept the basic doctrines in the school's Statement of Faith, and that they agree to support the school in fulfillment of its mission of providing a Christian education within the context of said Statement of Faith.
2. A commitment of cooperation with the school shall be made by the student and parent.

#### Admission Requirements - Students

1. Capacity to do the course work as evidenced by test scores or other satisfactory evidence. All prospective students in grades K through 12 may be given an entrance test to determine grade placement and to determine if the prospective student fits the educational capabilities of the school.
2. Transfer students shall have no discipline action, either pending or final, barring them from returning to the school previously attended. The Board of Trustees may refuse to admit a student with severe academic, disciplinary or psychological problems.
3. Prospective kindergarten students must be five years old by September 1 of the school year.

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

1. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. We believe that God is the Creator of all things, a God of providence, and the Author of our salvation through Christ.
3. We believe in Jesus Christ the divine Son of God, who for our salvation took upon Himself human nature. He was born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, and revealed God to the human family, suffered a vicarious death, was resurrected and ascended to the Father, where He now appears as our intercessor. We believe in His personal return to power and glory.
4. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, that He was sent by the Father and Christ, that He loves, searches, testifies, guides, empowers, and intercedes for the believers.
5. We believe the Holy Scriptures are verbally inspired of God and are our only infallible rule of faith and practice.
6. We believe that man was created holy and that through disobedience fell and therefore is by nature and practice, a sinner separated from God and can become God's child only by His grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and that from all eternity God knew who would be the believers in Christ, and as such are elected according to the foreknowledge of God.
7. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and unsaved; those who are saved unto the resurrection of life, those unsaved unto the resurrection of damnation.
8. We believe that the Church is the Body of Christ, a brotherhood of redeemed, a disciplined people obedient to the Word of God, who live by the principle of love and who refrain from force and violence in human relations with an inner urge to build and extend the Kingdom of God by the conversion of men to Christ.
9. The Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all we believe. For purposes of doctrine, practice, policy and discipline, our Board of Trustees is the school's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

## **STATEMENT OF SEXUALITY AND MARRIAGE**

1. We believe that God immutably creates each person to reflect His image as male or female.
2. We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography or any attempt to change one's sex, or disagreement with one's biological sex, is sinful and offensive to God. We do not consider homosexuality, bisexuality, and transgenderism as acceptable alternative lifestyles or sexual "preferences." They are incompatible with the divine design for sexuality and the marriage covenant, as well as unhealthy and destructive to individual persons, families, and society.
3. We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning and that is marriage sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive and lifelong union, as delineated in Scripture.

4. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.
5. We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the school, and to provide a Biblical role model to the students and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Belleville Mennonite School in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, must abide by and agree to this Statement on Sexuality and Marriage and conduct themselves accordingly.
6. We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Compassion compels us to support the healing of those who wish to change their destructive behavior.
7. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Accordingly, hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with scripture nor the policies of the school. Sympathy must be extended to those who struggle with unwanted same-sex attractions, and every effort should be made to assist such persons to overcome these attractions, as many already have.