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**Mission Statement:**

**The Emerald Coast Christian School goal is to show children Jesus, nurture their love for Him and others, teach them to think, and to empower them to serve.**

**Philosophy**

The Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes God as the ultimate source of existence and truth. In the beginning, God created in His image a perfect humanity, a perfection later marred by sin. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, God’s character and purposes can be understood as revealed in nature, the Bible and Jesus Christ. The distinctive characteristics of Adventist education, derived from the Bible and the inspired writing of Ellen G. White, point to the redemptive aim of true education: *to restore human beings into the image of their Maker.*

While God presents His infinitely loving and wise character as the ultimate norm for human conduct, human motives, thinking, and behavior have fallen short of God’s ideal. Education in its broadest sense is a means of returning human beings to their original relationship with God. Its time dimensions span eternity.

Adventist education seeks to develop a life of faith in God and respect for the dignity of all human beings; to build character akin to that of the Creator; to nurture thinkers rather than mere reflectors of others’ thoughts; to promote loving service rather than selfish ambition; to ensure maximum development of each individual’s potential; and to embrace all that is true, good and beautiful.

An education of this kind imparts far more than academic knowledge. It fosters a balanced development of the whole person - physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually. Working together, homes, schools, and churches cooperate together with divine agencies in preparing learners for responsible citizenship in this world and in the world to come. \*

**The Emerald Coast Christian School** is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian school. Because of our beliefs, we prohibit students from engaging in any sexual conduct/activity, including same-sex relationships.  We have chosen to define sexual conduct/activity to include anything that advocates for, promotes or supports the homosexual lifestyle in any forum, including in social media. Sexual conduct/activity also includes any consensual sexual behavior that occurs before marriage, such as sexual intercourse, public displays of affection, intimate contact, homosexuality or behavior that exhibits a same-sex relationship, pornography, and actions (for example, spending the night with someone of the opposite sex), that may lead to situations of temptation, regret and immoral conduct.

\*This statement is the general philosophy for all schools of the Southern Union Conference and Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.