

# Attributes and Abilities: end statements

*End statements describe what people with these attributes and abilities are and do. They are not especially age specific and are as relevant for adults as for exiting students. Indeed it is interesting to reflect on their worth by looking on them as descriptors of all those working in Lutheran schools.*

## **Self-directed, insightful investigators and learners, who:**

- initiate, set goals and take responsibility for their own learning
- identify and develop effective ways to learn and build skills
- identify and fully examine assumptions and evidence
- frame questions that guide exploration of issues and help form deeper understandings
- systematically examine and analyse, using appropriate resources and strategies
- reflect on and assimilate their experiences to continue learning and growing

## **Discerning, resourceful problem solvers and implementers, who:**

- identify and define issues that affect the quality of life in local / global communities
- locate and use a wide range of information, tools and resources to thoroughly analyse the factors and their interrelatedness
- frame complex questions that look beyond conventional approaches
- critically examine the evidence for validity and relevance to make meaning and develop feasible alternatives
- evaluate alternatives for consequences and implications – ethical, social, economic, political and environmental
- translate solutions into designs and proposals for action
- find alternative strategies for achieving plans of action

## **Adept, creative producers and contributors, who:**

- generate ideas, products and services which meet or exceed agreed upon standards of excellence and have value for others
- locate and use available resources ethically to create constructive courses of action
- engage in productive activities in a highly skilled and imaginative way
- give of their time and talents to undertake activities and projects which benefit others and improve the quality of life in their communities

## **Open, responsive communicators and facilitators, who:**

- foster a respectful, inclusive atmosphere in which people can communicate confidently and with trust
- solicit and consider information and opinions from all stakeholders to form a deeper understanding of issues and possibilities
- seek clarification of the facts / points of view offered and help make it possible for all points of view to be understood
- use a variety of communication skills and forms to process and share information in ways that clearly convey its substance and intent
- manage and organise the exchange of information and ideas among individuals and groups to achieve desired outcomes
- encourage and support others in seeking and achieving agreement on a course of action

## **Principled, resilient leaders and collaborators, who:**

- identify and examine key issues or conditions that affect the quality of life in their local and global communities
- engage others in tackling these issues or conditions and proposing ways to improve them
- invite and use the experience and expertise of all participants in identifying and deploying strategies and resources to tackle these things in ways that safeguard the rights and welfare of all participants
- develop ethical ways to continue moving forward in the face of challenges and obstacles to these initiatives
- persevere and overcome challenges in carrying through actions

## **Caring, steadfast supporters and advocates, who:**

- identify and examine issues and conditions influencing their own health and wellbeing and that of their neighbour
- treat themselves and others with consideration, respecting differences in viewpoints, values and beliefs
- work in partnership with others to formulate common goals and ways of working together interdependently
- guide, inspire and counsel others to create, develop and realise their own vision
- defend and promote what is worthy, even in the face of criticism and adversity
- interact intuitively and sensitively to the feelings, needs and circumstances of others

## APPENDIX 2

# Core Values: elaborations

The following is an expansion of each core value; brackets are purposely open to indicate that the meanings can be added to and further refined as appropriate. The suggested Bible verses are just some that further define the values, and you may well want to add or substitute other texts. Correlations between core values and Bible verses have been made using the NIV translation of the Bible. Other translations may vary slightly in their wording and perspective

**Love** (adore, worship, care for, devotion to, fidelity, kindness, peace, trust, resilience, happiness, have esteem for, honour ...)

For Christians, the expression of love is always a response to God's love. It is a way of being that leads to inner peace. Love flows from the heart and manifests itself in caring, kind and respectful thoughts, words and actions.

Psalms 136, John 15:12-13, John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 13, Ephesians 5:1-2, 1 John 3:18, Philippians 2:12-13, Romans 12:9-11 ...

**Justice** (integrity, honesty, truthfulness, honour, veracity, uprightness, fairness ...)

Through genuine concern, and the developing of a conscience for the rights and wellbeing of everyone in the human family, justice focuses as much on understanding and responding to the reasons for suffering and injustices as it does on responding to unjust conditions. It requires integrity between beliefs, words, and actions. It may necessitate taking a stand and acting with courage.

Isaiah 26:7-8, Romans 12, Matthew 5:7, Ephesians 2:1-5, Jeremiah 23:5-6, Job 8:3-7...

**Compassion** (mercy, sympathy, empathy, concern, kindness, consideration, gentleness, care ...)

Having compassion is being loving and attending to people's innermost needs. It is exercising the ability to reach out, to walk in another's shoes, to be open and responsive to the needs and concerns of others and being active in caring for others.

Philippians 2:1, Hosea 11:4, Matthew 5:44, John 15:17, Romans 12:9-13, Colossians 3:12-15 ...

**Forgiveness** (benevolence, grace, mercy, amnesty, excuse, pardon, understanding, kindness, absolve, acquit, reprieve ...)

Forgiveness is breaking the cycle of un-grace, pardoning the wrongs others have done to us and seeking pardon for the wrongs we have done to others. Forgiveness often comes with pain and can involve stepping over our hurt. Forgiveness releases both ourselves and others, enabling new starts and new beginnings, another chance.

Matthew 18:21-22, Luke 17:3-4, Romans 4, Colossians 3:13, Matthew 5:7, Ephesians 4:32 ...

**Service** (help, assistance, benefit, good turn, aid, support, good deed, charitable act, faithfulness ...)

There is a saying you can serve without loving, but you cannot love without serving. Service involves selfless giving, loving others and making a difference in their lives by identifying and responding to their needs, individually and collectively, and carrying out that service without expecting recognition or reward.

Luke 12:35-37, Matthew 20:28, John 12:26, John 13:12-17 ...

**Humility** (humbleness, modesty, unassuming nature, meekness, gentleness ...)

Acting with humility involves recognising and valuing one's own gifts/abilities and the gifts/abilities of others as being equally valid but of no lesser or greater importance. It is using those gifts/abilities in service to others with an attitude of selflessness. It is being thankful rather than boastful and willing to respect and learn from the experience of others.

Proverbs 22:4, Matthew 5:5, Matthew 20:20-28, Mark 9:35, Philippians 2:3-4 ...

**Courage** (valour, bravery, nerve, pluck, daring, fearlessness, fortitude, boldness, perseverance, intrepid ...)

Courage is the strength of heart that enables people to stand up for their convictions to do the right thing, even when it is hard or fearful. It involves being firm of spirit despite the ups and downs of life and it means 'having a go' even when success is uncertain.

Psalms 112:8, Luke 21:19, Acts 20:24, Philippians 1:27-30, 2 Timothy 1:7 ...

**Hope** (expectation, trust in, faith in, anticipation, look forward to, expect, desire, aspire, optimism ...)

Hope enables us to look forward with expectation and confidence, placing our trust and faith in God's provision of the things we need to handle all kinds of situations and events that occur. Hope is open-ended, open to all possibilities and not limited by what we might wish for. Hope allows God to define our lives.

Psalms 31:14-15, John 6:20, Romans 8:38-39, Ephesians 3:11-12, Philippians 4:6-7 ...

**Quality** (value, worth, excellence, merit, effort, usefulness, of important ...)

People bring their gifts, abilities, skills and talents to fruition seeking excellence, striving always to do their best, giving careful attention to every task, every relationship, every interaction. They ensure that their input and efforts result in quality outcomes that, in turn, lead to the successful use of their gifts, abilities, skills and talents for the benefit of others.

Psalms 148:1-14, Matthew 5:14-16, 1 Corinthians 10:31, 2 Peter 1:5-7,...

**Appreciation** (admiration, approval, enjoyment of, gratitude, thankfulness, value, recognition, respect, wonder and awe, comprehension ...)

Appreciation is recognising and valuing highly the gifts and blessings given to us and surrounding us. It is an attitude of gratitude for learning, loving and being. It is a positive attitude that responds in wonder and awe to, and with respect for, the created world – its fragility and its potential.

Psalms 148, Habakkuk 2:20, Philippians 4:4-9, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, 1 Peter 2:17,...