

Metrolina Christian Academy Diversity Statement

Metrolina Christian Academy holds to core beliefs found in God's Word that guide us in everything we do regarding diversity.

1. **Our thoughts, attitudes, and actions are shaped by the power of the Gospel:** God's spirit and power within us makes it possible for us to demonstrate love, honor, and respect for God and others as we should. Economic, cultural, and racial differences are often areas where the sin condition of man is evident. However, God has called us to live differently as Ephesians 2:14-16 declares. This verse reminds us that God has put to death this sin and hostility. In its place, God has made it possible for us to celebrate the goodness and grace of God through our differences.

"For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in His own body on the cross, He broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in Himself one new people from the two groups. Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of His death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death." Ephesians 2:14-16

2. **As believers, we know that every person has great value in the Kingdom of God:** Every person bears the image of God and with that image they possess inherent value and dignity. This value is not dependent on an economic, cultural, or racial status. Each person is given a cultural heritage which is to be celebrated and embraced for the good gift that it is.

"Yes indeed, it is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: "Love your neighbor as yourself. But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law." James 2:8-9

3. **We embrace the wisdom and beauty of God's design for humanity:** God's design for humanity is perfect and we recognize that each person is truly God's workmanship according to Ephesians 2:10, which says, **"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."**

"You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it." Psalm 139:13-14

4. **Everyone in our school community is important to us and our love for them is evident:** It is the desire of our community to believe the best about each other, to create a culture of mutual respect, and to have deep affection for everyone in our community. We believe that such a learning environment will produce a people that will honor God with their actions, attitudes, and lives.

"I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one." John 17:20-22

Core Principles

1. Our approach and mindset to race and ethnicity will reflect our commitment to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:19-22 "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

2. We will seek to live lives that are in line with Scripture, but we will also realize that there will be mistakes or failures that we will accept responsibility for. We will work to make these failures right quickly and provide for an atmosphere of grace and mercy. We will humbly walk together in the spirit of love and forgiveness demonstrating an understanding that until we reach heaven we remain sinners in need of grace and mercy.

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

3. MCA will take the lead in setting classroom instructional objectives and campus behavioral standards with the home and church as supportive partners.

Proverbs 22:6 "Train up your child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 "You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

4. MCA does not tolerate racial discrimination or bullying. Discipline will be administered for racial infractions equitably for students of all ethnicities, redemptive with Christlikeness as the objective, and progressively.

II Timothy 3:16-17 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

Matthew 10:31 "Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."