

MARANATHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Pastor's Recommendation

Applicant's Name _____ Grade Entering: _____

Name of Applicant's Parents/Guardians: _____

Pastor's Name: _____ Church: _____

Church Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Dear Pastor, Maranatha Christian Academy is a community K-12 school whose mission is to train and equip students for life and service to Jesus Christ through a Biblical worldview, character development, and academic excellence. All families are required to sign and adhere to MCA's Statement of Faith and provide a pastoral recommendation letter during the admissions process. We may also require an updated letter at any time from currently enrolled students.

As a nurturing Christian school, MCA seeks to only admit students whose parents support learning how to initiate, grow, and internalize faith in Jesus Christ. Whether nominal or spiritually mature Christians, parents must agree to support the school's Statement of Faith, Philosophy of Christian Education, and allow their children to personally accept and adhere to the Christian faith. MCA also believes that the home, church, and school must be harmony as to what is taught to children in furthering their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

With that in mind, please examine the MCA Statement of Faith (SOF). As indicated by the first line, MCA holds to the "sola scriptura" (Latin for 'by scripture alone') theological doctrine held by most Protestant Christian denominations which posits the Bible as the sole infallible source of authority for Christian faith and practice.

*Thank you for completing this recommendation form. Your responses to the questions below are very important to the applicant's admission to MCA. This form will be held in strict confidence. **Please email this form directly to admissions@ma-kc.org or mail it to Maranatha Christian Academy, Admissions Office, 7055 Silverheel Street, Shawnee, KS 66226***

Level of involvement in church activities:

	Father	Mother	Applicant
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Attends regularly () () ()

Cooperative; usually willing to help () () ()

Enthusiastic, deeply involved in activities () () ()

How long have you known the family? () <1 () 2-3 yrs () 4+

How well do you know the applicant? () very close relationship () numerous contacts () few personal contacts

To your knowledge, have the applicant and parents made a meaningful personal commitment to Jesus Christ:

Father () Yes () No () Don't know

Mother () Yes () No () Don't know

Applicant () Yes () No () Don't know

Please check the terms which best describe the applicant's attitude toward the church, its active and Godly principles.

() Warmhearted () Passive () Enthusiastic () Respectful

() Contemptuous () Loving () Tolerant () Critical

Please share any information that would help us evaluate this applicant: recent experiences, incidents in the applicant's life, strengths, weak points, etc.

Based on your comments, this applicant is:

() Highly recommended () Recommended () Recommended with reservations () Not recommended

MCA Statement of Faith

Maranatha Academy is a ministry of Eastern Kansas Christian Schools and is interdenominational in its attitude and emphasis. The school stands and operates firmly on the changeless Word of God as expressed in the following statement of historic evangelical Christianity:

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative, and inerrant Word of God¹.
- We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit².
- We believe in the deity of Christ; His virgin birth; His sinless life; His miracles; His vicarious and atoning death; His resurrection; His ascension to the right hand of the Father and His personal return in power and glory³.
- We believe that God is the Creator of all things, including mankind. Men and women were created by God⁴.
- We believe in the absolute necessity of regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation because of the exceeding sinfulness of human nature, that men are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Christ; and that only by God's grace and through faith alone we are saved⁵.
- We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; that they are saved unto the resurrection of life; and that they are lost unto the resurrection of damnation⁶.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ⁷.
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by who's indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life⁸.
- We believe that God wonderfully foreordained and immutably created each person as either wholly male or wholly female in conformity with their biological sex. The sex of a person at birth is their sex as God does not make mistakes. These two distinct yet complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God⁹.
- We believe that the term marriage has only one meaning: the God-created sacrament or union of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive, covenant commitment, as delineated in Scripture, distinguished by sexual exclusivity, permanence and devotion to their good and to the welfare of any children within the family¹⁰.
- We believe that God intends for sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God's command is that there be no sexual intimacy outside of or apart from the man-woman marriage relationship¹¹.
- We believe in the sanctity of all human life, including the pre-born from conception, and consider each person to be of infinite value and each life a gift from God to be cherished, nurtured and redeemed¹².
- We believe that when disputes, disagreements, or other offenses arise among members of the body of Christ, it is a matter of grave concern for the whole body. Conflicts that occur in the body should be resolved promptly. We believe God calls us to proceed with one another with "the same attitude that was in Christ Jesus," and to follow Biblical principles for conflict resolution¹³.

I have read MCA's SOF and from my perspective, it is in sufficient accord (harmony) with our church doctrine so as not to create confusion in the prospective student's mind or heart nor deter his/her spiritual wellbeing (see page three for our Statement of Faith).

Pastor's Signature: _____

Date: _____

¹ II Tim. 3:15, II Peter 1:21

² Gen. 1:1, Matt. 28:19, John 10:30

³ John 10:33, Is. 7:14, Matt. 1:23, Luke 1:35, Heb. 4:15, 7:26, John 2:11, I Cor. 15:3, Eph. 1:7, Heb. 2:9, John 11:25, I Cor. 15:4, Mark 16:19, Acts 1:11, Rev. 19:11,

⁴ Genesis 1 & 2, John 1: 1-5

⁵ John 3:16-19, 5:24, Rom. 3:23, 5:8-9; Eph. 2:8-10; Titus 3:5

⁶ John 5:28-29

⁷ Rom. 8:9, I Cor. 12:12-13, Gal. 3:26-28

⁸ Rom. 8:13-14; I Cor. 3:16, 6:19-20; Eph. 4:30, 5:18

⁹ Genesis 1:26-27

¹⁰ Numbers 30:2, Genesis 2:18-25, and James 5:12

¹¹ I Corinthians 6:18, 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4

¹² Genesis 1:27; Genesis 9:6; Psalm 139:13-16; Luke 1:44

¹³ Matthew 5:23-24; Philippians 2:5 Ephesians 4:26-27 (Matthew 18).