



Quality Education¹

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Themes for the Workshop

“Renewal is not just innovation and change. It is also the process of bringing the results of change into line with our purposes.” (John Gardner. *Self-Renewal: The Individual and the Innovative Society*. p. 6)

“Contemporary secular society is profoundly influenced by rationalism and its roots in Hellenistic philosophy . . . in contrast, the Hebrew cultural and religious roots of Christianity point toward true knowledge as that which is acted on.” (Ward. *Bibliotheca Sacra*. No. 556, p. 292)

“In the quest for excellence, Christian . . . education may have become intoxicated with the intellectual snobberies so glorified in worldly academia.” (Ward. *Bibliotheca Sacra*. No. 556, p. 293)

“A teacher’s purpose is to help people learn. A true education is concerned about what and how people learn.” (Ward. *Bibliotheca Sacra*. No. 556, p. 300)

“One of the reasons why mature people are apt to learn less than young people is that they are willing to risk less. Learning is a risky business, and they do not like failure.” (John Gardner. *Self-Renewal: The Individual and the Innovative Society*. p. 14)

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Characteristics of a High Quality Education	Special Concerns of a High Quality Christian Education
Administrator-Teacher Relations ()	()
Teacher-Teacher Relations ()	()
Academic Outcomes ()	()
Social Outcomes ()	()
Student-Student Relations ()	()
Teacher-Student Relations ()	()
Teacher-Parent Relations ()	()
School-Parent Relations ()	()

1. What is a philosophy of education?

2. Of what use is a philosophy of education?

3. With what matters should a philosophy of education be concerned?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

4. What sort of philosophy of education fits most appropriately into the purposes and presuppositions of the curriculum for the Alliance Academy?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5. All teachers differ to some extent. In reference to the matters you listed for item 3, which are most and least important that teachers at Alliance Academy be most consistent (like one another)?

MOST:		Why?		LEAST:		Why?	
		Why?				Why?	

6. What do you see as the major needs for Alliance Academy faculty as a working team if a truly Christian education is to be provided?

Premise 1: WE AREN'T PERFECT

Considering that we haven't all gone to heaven yet and that there are areas where each of us falls short of perfection, what are some of the ways in which Alliance Academy could be more effective if the faculty and administrators were a bit more effective?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Premise 2: THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS AN IDEAL SCHOOL

As an institution, a school is less than the people who make it up. No amount of cheering or propagandizing will change some of the facts of life. What are some of the stubborn realities of situation, circumstance, tradition, pressures and other impediments which need to be confronted or at least firmly nudged?

Premise 3: Alliance Academy is PEOPLE—MOSTLY WELL-INTENTIONED PEOPLE

The hopes and aspiration of a school's constituencies are vital to its progress. Who are these groups of people and what are their hopes?
