

I would particularly like to challenge Proposition C, regarding preferencing staff. There is a misunderstanding of where this would be justified.

1. Because no teaching, no text, no statement of fact is neutral, but all communication comes with a bias (and usually with an attached agenda), it makes a huge difference to a Christian school to be able to hire a Christian teacher to teach not only biblical studies, but also history and technology and even mathematics.

For example, I believe that history is God's story, that it has a beginning in his plans and purposes, which are fulfilled throughout time, and will be consummated at the end of time, when Christ returns. I agree that we need to hear multiperspectival views of events in history because it is complex and often contradictory – but there are not multiple “truths”.

In the classroom, those multiperspectival views need to be taught well so that students can make informed choices.

2. You have redefined my faith to consist of liturgy and religious practices, which only shows that you do not understand it. Christianity is not observance of rules and liturgies, it is a life choice that seeks to bring thinking and practice of all things to come out of love for God and for our neighbours.

In our school we often had discussions in pastoral care about matters that our Christian worldview affected – and robust discussions were had, not indoctrinating harangues. But a person who does not hold a Christian worldview could not lead such a discussion.

I think the result of your changes would take away consideration of a Christian worldview and lifestyle, leaving students with less informed choices to make.