

At Ben Lippen School, we believe that all people are created in the image of God (*Genesis 1:27*), all Christians have been made one through Christ (*Ephesians 2:19-21*), and we are called to love one another (*Mark 12:31*). In the fulfillment of our mission to impact the culture for Christ, we affirm God's intent for the world to be diverse (*Galatians 3:28/ Revelation 7:9*). It is our desire to foster a community where Christians who disagree on some things can find safety, unity, and fellowship in their mutual love for Christ. For these reasons, Ben Lippen School creates and encourages an environment of love and respect for each member of our community, embraces and values diversity according to Scripture, and fosters belonging and character in the following ways:

1. By recognizing that all members in the body of Christ are uniquely, fearfully, and wonderfully made in the image of God. (*Psalms 139:14*) At Ben Lippen School, we define diversity to include differences in age, ethnicity, sex, family structure, socioeconomic status, the unique gifts of persons with disabilities, and spiritual gifts.
2. By answering God's call to love your neighbor and fostering an environment in which everyone feels welcome and a sense of belonging. (*Matthew 5:43-44*)
3. By understanding and appreciating the differences in each of our backgrounds and ensuring that every member of our community will have equal access and opportunity to fulfill God's unique calling on his or her life. (*Matthew 28:19*)
4. By advocating for what is right and true, in God's sight, and equipping members of our community to boldly proclaim God's truth. (*Micah 6:8*)