



# The Prairie Page

## NOW AVAILABLE

Digital Christian Educators Journal: You can now read CEJ online! As part of your PCCE membership, you have access to this engaging and thought-provoking journal that speaks directly to Christian educators! Have a [look here!](#)

Some articles you may be interested in:

- Using memoir and autobiography in middle and high school classrooms
- Books for every young reader
- A deep look at Jonathan Haidt's "An Anxious Generation"

## Living

You prepare your heart in anticipation of Easter. You reflect on the cross and its significance. You feel the long, heavy pause between Good Friday and Easter Sunday — waiting for the discovery of an empty grave and a risen Savior. And then it comes. He comes!

And then it's Monday (or Tuesday, in our case).

The temptation is to treat Easter like it's an ending. The eggs have all been found, Jesus is risen, you went to church, and now it's back to "normal life." But nothing was normal after Jesus.

[Easter was a revolution](#). It was the day after which nothing was the same ever again. When a man who claims to be God rises from the dead, "business as usual" isn't a thing.

Easter isn't just a time to pause and reflect on some nice truths forgotten about the rest of the year. It is the entire crux of the Christian faith. It is the only reason for hope.

If there was ever a time for significant life changes, it should be the Monday after Easter.

Because Easter is a beginning, not an ending.

It's THE beginning, the fresh start all hearts long for. It isn't about fluffy bunnies and pastel colors — it's about the radical death, relentless love and revolutionary power of God. The cross, the empty grave and the [resurrected Jesus](#) not only give a reason to hope for change, they give the power to change. Rather than us trying to change from our own efforts, the resurrection changes you.

In Romans 8 (English Standard Version), Paul says: "If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."

And in 2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV), "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

My identity is not in the choices I make or what I accomplish, but in who Christ's resurrection has made me to be.

(Patreya Prasertvit)

## Learning

### Celebrations of Learning

As schools imagine how to tell the good stories that are happening in their schools, some are experimenting with what a Celebration of Learning might look like in their school community. A couple weeks ago, Lacombe Christian School (LCS) had a big turnout at their Celebration of Learning as they showcased the fantastic learning experiences happening at their school and used Storyboards, Throughlines, Learning Targets, reflections, etc. to connect their learning to God's story. Check out the pictures in [THIS FOLDER](#) to catch a glimpse of how teachers at LCS invited their community into their learning. And in [this video](#) we see each step of the journey that Michele Noort invited her grade 9's into. It was a great event to be at with some live performances, [a fun bingo/scavenger hunt](#) and even some soup made by the grade 8's as part of their FLEEx.

## Leading

**LAST CALL: Leadership Cohort Gathering:** [Registration is now open](#). All school-based leaders are invited and encouraged to attend: principals, assistant-principals, executive directors, chaplains, or other members of your leadership team. We look forward to seeing you in May. **Registration deadline: April 25.**

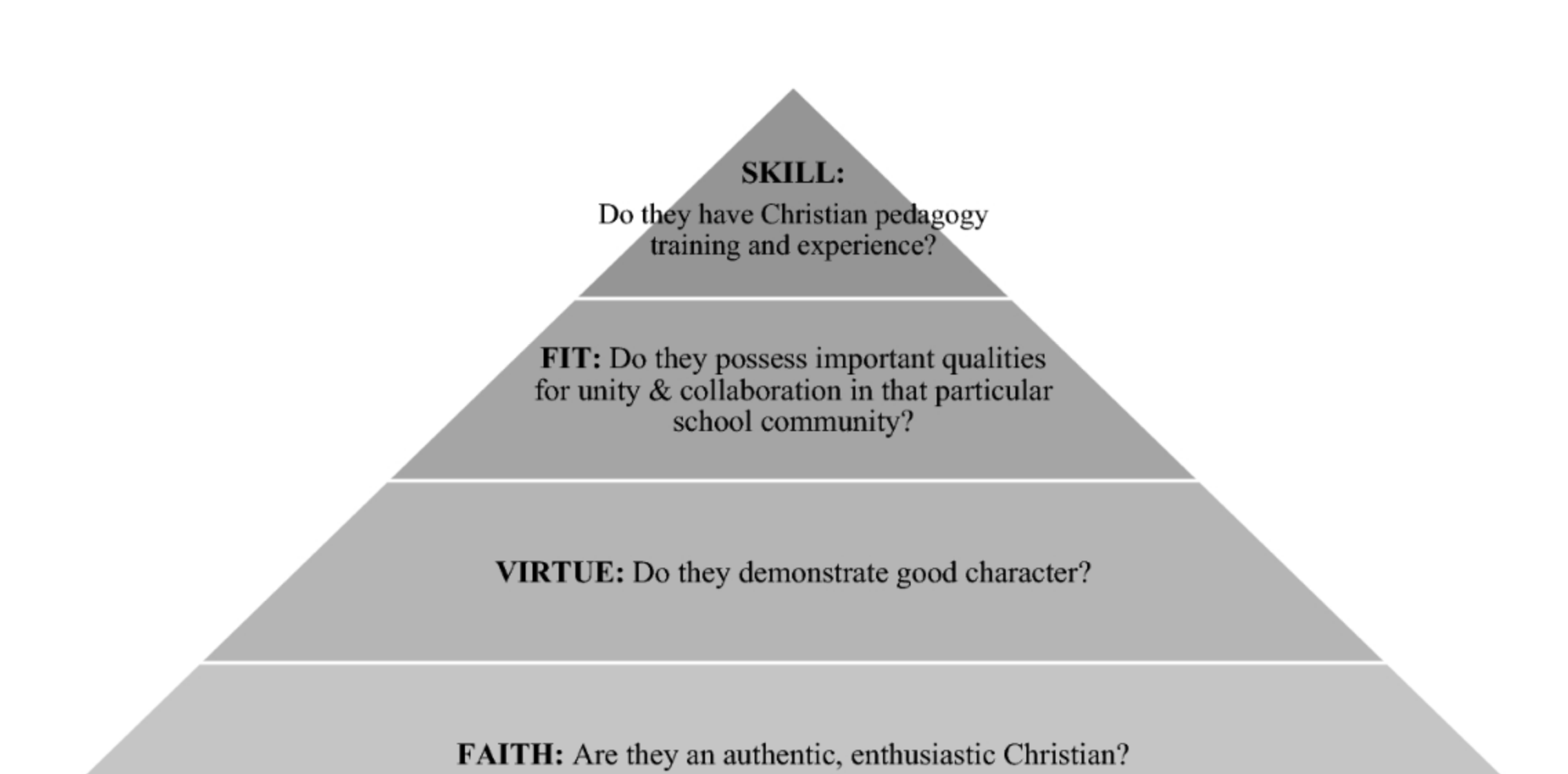
**Job Postings:** A reminder that PCCE schools can post job openings on the PCCE website, as well as [SCSBC's](#) and [Edvance's](#), free of charge. To post on the PCCE site, contact our office ([office@pcce.ca](mailto:office@pcce.ca))

### Hiring Practices in Christian Schools

As we move into "hiring season," we'll take the next few weeks to dive a bit deeper into the process of identifying and hiring high-quality teachers. We'll use this [article](#) by Dr. Lynn Swaner et al as our basis.

Let's now take a deeper look at each of the aspects noted below as the criteria school leaders use when hiring. The final aspect schools look at are the **Professional Skills, Knowledge and Experience** of the applicant. Some things mentioned in the research include:

- Was the area with the most variety in terms of what leaders preferred in terms of experience and training
- A non-negotiable was the ability to teach in a distinctly Christian manner
- Some leaders were willing to compromise on whether the new hire was already experienced in Christian pedagogy, or whether they had supports in place to provide this training.
- Ways of providing training and support for those needing it include mentor programs, additional courses & workshops.
- There was not agreement among the leaders regarding the importance of the applicant having attended a Christian university



## Looking Ahead

**May 5:** Pension and Benefits Webinar (3:45-4:45 MDT)

**May 7 - 9:** Leadership Cohort Gathering

**May 23:** Tft 101 - Celebration of Learning (on Zoom)

**October 23 - 24:** PCCE Teachers' Convention - Lacombe, Alberta

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