

## **The TeachBeyond Distinctive**

Our Vision Prayer: *We wholeheartedly desire to serve our Father's world, to love Jesus Christ, and to see individuals and societies transformed by His Spirit through education.*

We hold to a collection of characteristics and qualities, which taken in sum, constitute our approach to transformational education. Our distinctive is the way we embrace these tenets, beliefs, and ideas which, in and of themselves are not necessarily “distinct.” They are:

### **1. Our calling to “transformational education”**

We are called to an age-old idea in Christian education, which we call “transformational education.” This is the simple, yet profound belief that through the power of God’s Holy Spirit active in the medium of education, children and adults can undergo redemptive, holistic transformation, which makes them increasingly like Christ in their world.

### **2. Our commitment to the idea of “teaching beyond”**

We are committed to “teaching beyond.”

- teaching with an attitude of teachability
- teaching creatively in both formal and informal settings
- teaching in local communities, but always thinking beyond to the world and its needs
- teaching for effectiveness in society, but also teaching for affirmation and fruitfulness in God’s eternal Kingdom

### **3. Our commitment to cultivate a learning community**

We see ourselves as a reflective learning community. This means we seek to grow corporately in our understanding of our global mission and identity as we think together. It also means that we seek to grow personally and in our vocational competence, in our engagement with our community and world, and in our love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **4. Our vision to foster a global movement to which God has called us**

We see ourselves as part of a global community of like-minded people. We envision this community becoming a vibrant global movement that the Spirit uses to impact our world in redemptive ways. We see ourselves participating in this movement and nurturing it through the services we provide.

### **5. Our multi-ethnic composition and unifying organizational structure**

We seek to be as ethnically rich and diverse as the Church itself, focused on our commitment to transformational education. This keeps us working in unity and harmony, in spite of legal and cultural barriers that would otherwise divide us. Our organizational structure fosters this cooperative spirit and ensures that we work together in effective ways that extend our local and national endeavors. We view our national legal entities as expressions of TeachBeyond and derivatives of a global community committed to the ideals of TeachBeyond.

### **6. Our statement of faith**

We ascribe to the statement of faith of the World Evangelical Alliance that grounds our understanding of God and His world.

### **7. Our values**

We ascribe to and embrace nine values which inform our beliefs, guide our actions, and define our character: faith, integrity, holiness, love for people, creativity, cultural relevance, congeniality, partnering with others, and excellence.