

FOUNDATIONS

The Project's History and Program Objectives

The *Foundations* project was first proposed to the Commission on Parish Schools in the fall of 2007. With steadily declining enrollments and annual school closings, the project was initially viewed as an effort to restate the mission and purpose of WELS educational institutions. The intent was to clearly restate our educational identity at all levels of instruction, including childcare programs, early childhood education, elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools. A year later Northwestern Publishing House accepted the proposal. A team of dedicated writers was commissioned, and the wheels for designing the program's conceptual development were put into motion.



Six stated objectives emerged to sharpen the project's focus and guide the way for a comprehensive program that would reinforce the brand that WELS Lutheran schools have enjoyed over the years.

1. Reestablish God's Word as the bedrock for Christian education.
2. Serve as a powerful witness for Jesus as the Lord of life and our Savior from sin.
3. Reassert the proper application of law and gospel as the basis for the motivational model used in WELS schools.
4. Reorient WELS schools to a supportive role that assists the work of parents in training their children in body, mind, and spirit.
5. Provide opportunities for non-member parents to participate in group Bible study during their children's first years in a WELS school or childcare center.
6. Embrace the parent-teacher partnership as a critical component of the Christian education model.