

## **CAPITAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ACCREDITATION UPDATE 2016**

On March 24, 2014, a team of professional educators representing ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) and WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) were on campus to review the work we accomplished since our last accreditation renewal in 2008. Our Early Education Center through 12<sup>th</sup> grade was awarded a six-year term of accreditation from both the ACSI and WASC Accreditation Commissions through June of 2020. Since the visit of the ACSI/WASC Team in March of 2014, CCS administration and staff have been working diligently to address the recommendations given to our school, as accreditation is an ongoing process here at CCS and it is our desire to continue to improve. Basically, accreditation is a process of self-assessment based on clear, consistent, and educationally sound accreditation practices and requirements. In addition to the Major Recommendations from the March 2014 Visiting Team Report, CCS continues to work on the CCS Strategic Plan. The two main areas of focus for the Strategic Plan are Academics and Communication. (Copies of the CCS Strategic Plan are available in the Superintendent's office.) CCS is already making strong progress in meeting the Major Recommendations from the March 2014 Team visit. Below is a summary of progress on the six Major Recommendations from our March 2014 visit:

1. **Distribute more targeted surveys at frequently scheduled intervals in order to receive more quality and timely feedback.**

### **IN PROCESS**

As an initial step in meeting this major recommendation, a survey was distributed to teachers and staff in the spring of 2015. During the following summer, and into the fall of 2015, administrators on each campus made a concerted effort to address the areas of needed improvement identified by the teachers and staff. This same survey will again be sent to our teachers in staff this spring. Additionally, an all-encompassing survey will be sent to CCS stakeholders this spring. CCS has contracted with a professional survey company that works primarily with Christian Schools to conduct this survey. Results will be communicated to CCS stakeholders.

2. **Establish a policy that all faculty and staff read the Emergency Preparedness Manual before the first day of school and document upon their completion ensuring that all employees are up-to-date.**

### **COMPLETE/ONGOING**

The intent of this recommendation is in place and the process for annual updates is ongoing. Teachers and staff were again asked to read the Emergency Preparedness Manual and sign an acknowledgement form. These forms are tracked and filed in the Superintendent's office.

3. **Develop and upgrade the stadium and athletic facilities in order to meet the needs of athletes, coaches, and fans involved in the athletic program.**

### **IN PROCESS**

At a cost of 2.1 million dollars, the athletic stadium, new snack bar, restrooms and CCS Sports Complex entrance are complete and fully utilized by CCS. The dollar amount also includes some field preparations for the next phase of this plan. Additional field renovation deadlines have been revised and are dependent on additional "Let Us Play" Campaign funds. As money permits, the additional field renovations will begin.

4. **Expand the ongoing review and analysis of the Advanced Placement (AP) and College Preparatory (CP) courses across all subjects.**

### **IN PROCESS**

The administration and faculty expand the ongoing review and analysis of the Advanced Placement (AP) and College Preparatory (CP) courses across all subjects to ensure constant improvement and increased academics. (This plan is integrated into the CCS Strategic Plan 1.3, Exhibit "A")

School Year 2015-2016; Year 2 of Accreditation Update:

Current test results continue to be used to improve instructional practice. The AP pass rates are charted and assessed reflecting state and national averages. AP teachers look at not only averages but the number of students receiving 1 through 5 on the exam. AP teachers are focused on critical reading and essay writing. AP teachers have looked at the content of their exams to focus their efforts, as well as reorder their teaching and pacing. Some AP teachers have connected with the AP Teacher Community. All AP teachers are encouraged to take advantage of professional growth opportunities through AP Central.

SOAS reports were printed to update the PSAT chart as well as communicate results to the English and Math Department Chairs. These teachers analyzed the results and communicated them to the teaching staff.

In September of 2015, the Superintendent, Curriculum Coordinator, and Academic HS Principal met to discuss the possibility of offering dual credit opportunities for CCHS in the 2016-2017 school year. During the Department Chair meeting on October 27, 2015, a collaborative discussion took place regarding possible courses that could be offered to further challenge our students. The courses suggested were: CAD, AP Biology, AP Statistics, AP Psychology and other Honor class offerings.

In November, 2015, the English Department Chair shared the new additions to the SAT with the HS Department Chairs, noting how each department could help students do well on these tests. The English Chair suggested and modeled strategies that need to be built-in across disciplines to strengthen all CP courses and to prepare students for the SAT.

5. **Advance professional development or coaching in the area of 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching strategies to fully engage students and further aid teachers in meeting all learning modalities.**

**COMPLETE/ONGOING**

CCS continues to employ an Educational Consultant who specializes in the training and coaching of both the teachers and administrators in 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching strategies. Administrators target and document these strategies in all their teacher observation reports and staff training. The use of Essential Questions and 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching strategies has increased this school year, as our Educational Consultant's March 2015 professional growth session again focused on 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching strategies.

The Educational Consultant again worked with the new teachers in August of 2015, teaching the basic strategies that veteran CCS teachers have been learning and utilizing over the past 2 and ½ years to best meet the learning needs of all students. The Educational Consultant will mentor and coach two times this year on each campus. The campus administrators, as stated above, have also been trained by the Educational Consultant and are equipped to observe and mentor their teachers in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching strategies.

6. **Implement an "Introduction to Bible" class for new students and ISP students to better support their transition into the culture of CCS and to equip them in the development of a biblical worldview.**

**COMPLETE**

Two class sections of "Introduction to Bible" are currently part of the HS schedule.