



DIVISIONAL ACCREDITATION DIRECTOR



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Another school year is rushing toward completion as time marches forward. Often, I wish I could hit the pause button – if it only existed! As you look toward a break in the coming months, I hope that you are able to pause from the often heavy responsibilities in a school and find true rest and refreshment.

I have several reminders and announcements. First, **please email directly to me or Kim (email addresses above) with ANY questions pertaining to accreditation. Contacting any other office at ACSI will just delay a response getting to you. International schools have some unique aspects to accreditation; we are best equipped to answer your questions.**

We frequently receive questions about survey instruments. ACSI now has resources available for international schools in meeting this requirement – and in providing very valuable data for schools.

- The Flourishing School Culture Instrument (FSCI) was designed to identify elements of school culture that contribute to flourishing. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Instruments created by the Christian Coalition of School Accreditors are available for international schools. These may be fully adapted to fit your school context. Click [here](#) to download those documents.

ACSI's new accreditation protocol, *Inspire*, is available at this [page](#) on the ACSI website. Documents continue to be available in draft form with the full release still set for

August 2023. Five international schools on 3 continents are piloting *Inspire* with planned visits for next school year. Take a look, and let us know if you have any questions.

At this point a year ago we were hoping for all onsite visits this year. As it turned out, for 2021-2022 we had only 5 live onsite team visits; 4 visits were completely virtual, and 7 more visits were hybrid (with team members onsite *and* virtual). We still had a significant number of postponements as well. We are again planning for onsite visits for the 2022-2023 school year – but with a bit more confidence this time. Time will tell as we work with each school to answer that question.

In this newsletter, I would like to highlight a fellow international educator, Michael Essenburg, who has an excellent blog on a wide range of topics pertaining to accreditation: leadership, school improvement, REACH and *Inspire* protocols, etc. Check it out [here](#).

Congratulations to the following schools that received accreditation at the recent meeting of ACSI's Commission on Accreditation.

Bundang International School, Korea – Initial Accreditation
Christian International School of Prague – Czechia – Reaccreditation
Heritage International School – Uganda – Reaccreditation
LIFE International School – Spain – Initial Accreditation
Sekolah Pelita Harapan Lippo Village – Indonesia – Reaccreditation

ACADEMIC SERVICES NEWS

Annual Reporting

We thank you for all your hard work through these past two years of Covid. As we look forward to the 2022-2023 school year, we want to remind schools that Annual Reports will be due in October 2022, completed in full. Among other items, the Annual Report must include an update on Major Recommendations as well as an up-to-date Certification Spreadsheet. Administrators and teachers are encouraged to submit their applications to the Certification Department early in the summer to beat the rush leading up to the Annual Report due date. If you have any questions for the certification department, you can email certification@acsi.org or reach them here: [Certification Questions](#).

Revision Update

We are continuing the accreditation revision process in the transition to the *ACSI Inspire* protocol. Along with the standards and indicators, the [ACSI Inspire revision webpage](#) contains the Standard 11 checklist. The purpose of the Standard 11 checklist is to allow the team chairperson to review many of the compliance issues prior to the visit. This will enable the on-site visit to be more collaborative between the visiting team and the school with a greater focus on school improvement. Watch Dr. Taylor's video on the new protocol here: [ACSI Inspire](#).

The following is a condensed timeline of our next few steps:

- Summer/Fall 2022 – Refine manual and handbooks to assist schools and teams with the process
- Fall 2022 – Begin creating training materials
- Spring 2023 – Pilot schools host visits and provide feedback

Flourishing Schools Institute Chicago Learning Lab
Thursday, June 23, 2022, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

How Can an Effective Student Assessment Program Help Your School Flourish?

Come prepared to share and hear from your peers, as well as the ACSI Student Assessment Program team, about how to effectively improve student achievement utilizing various assessment options.

There is not a one-size-fits-all model when you consider school culture, standards, and curriculum. Schools might use admissions, placement, and benchmark testing, along with summative or college and career readiness assessments. Let's put our heads together as practitioners to discuss which assessment model and data analysis approach is right for your school.

Bonus: Learn how a quick activity can help you better understand your students. What are their strengths and weaknesses? How do they learn? How can you help them?

Register for this post-event Learning Lab here: [Assessment Learning Lab](#). There is no additional cost for participating in the post-event learning lab.

Digital Learning and Other Innovative Initiatives

Since the early navigation of the pandemic, we have seen an increase in innovative initiatives among our accredited schools. One type of initiative about which many schools have inquired is the launch of an online school to operate as an extension of the traditional school. The question arises: "How can we include this new online school in our accreditation?" While ACSI does have a protocol to accredit online schools, one important requirement for schools to keep in mind when creating their program and partnering with online course providers is that ACSI expects all courses to be taught by Christian teachers and all courses to be taught from a biblical worldview. ACSI cannot accredit an online program that uses a secular course provider for the majority of their courses. There are Christian online course providers, so we encourage schools to explore those options as they design their program. Contact us at accreditation@acsi.org if you have any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Flourishing Schools Institute Chicago Learning Lab, Thursday, June 23, 2022, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM**
- **Annual Reports will be due in October 2022**

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