

REACH 2019 Edition

Standards Checklist

for EE–12 North American and International Schools

STANDARDS/INDICATORS CHECKLIST For EE–12 North American and International schools

■ Name School/Program:

■ City/State/Country:

NC = NON COMPLIANCE

The trait or quality in the indicator does not exist or is not in practice.

PC = PARTIAL COMPLIANCE

The trait or quality is observed but not consistently. Policies may be in writing but not followed or practiced. Training is inconsistent. This area needs some improvement to be at the desired level.

C = COMPLIANCE

The trait or quality is consistently in practice by the school. Written policies are regularly reviewed. Practices comply with the indicator in quality. Training for ongoing development is evident. A systematic review process has been developed.

EC = EXCEEDS COMPLIANCE

Trait or quality is consistent across levels and faculty. Staff go above and beyond requirements. Results are documented, evaluated, and used for school improvement. Related policies are regularly reviewed, carefully implemented, and updated as needed. Training for development is ongoing.

NOTE: All indicators in boldface are considered Critical Indicators. Indicators in Standards 2, 3, 4, & 6 which are marked with an asterisk () must be met at the “compliance” level or higher for a team visit to occur. Indicators in RED type are for early education programs (EE–12 or standalone EE programs).*

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Standard One:

The school has developed written statements of philosophy, mission, vision, core values, and schoolwide expected student outcomes, as well as a statement of faith. These statements are well defined, systematically reviewed, and broadly implemented throughout the school. They outline the school's Christian distinctives and communicate a clear purpose and direction for school effectiveness and student growth and development.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.1 The statement of faith and the philosophy, mission, vision, core values, and schoolwide expected student outcome statements of the school are established and are reviewed regularly and systematically in a collaborative manner. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.2 The school communicates its philosophy, mission, vision, core values, and schoolwide expected student outcome statements to its constituents and community. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.3 The foundational documents are consistently applied as integrative, coordinating, and examining devices throughout all aspects of the programs, operations, and curriculum. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.4 The executive leadership, faculty, and staff continually support the advancement of the philosophy, mission, and vision of the school. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.5 From a distinctively Christian perspective, all staff demonstrate a commitment to the development of the whole child—spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally, and socially (Luke 2:52). (C)

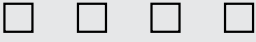
Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:

2

Standard Two:

The school has Christ-centered governance and executive leadership that promotes effectiveness of the school and growth of the student through an established structure that contributes to an operationally and financially sound Christian educational institution. The executive leadership and governing body work in partnership to ensure the integrity, effectiveness, and reputation of the institution through the establishment of written policies and procedures. The head of school is responsible for the supervision of all operations of the school and implementation of board policies.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.1 A governing body has been established, and its primary responsibilities include: developing general school governance policy; hiring the head of school; providing direction and strategic planning; ensuring the financial stability, effectiveness, and consistency between all campuses of the institution; defining the role of the governing body; defining the role of the head of school, and conducting systematic board self-evaluation and training. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.2 The governance and executive leadership team of the school reflects a clear Christ-centered governance and executive leadership model. A policy is in place that requires a testimony and evidence of faith in Jesus Christ from all board members and executive leadership. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.3 The governing body supports the head of school's prerogatives and responsibilities, and it provides for an appropriate annual evaluation of the head of school. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.4 Constituents and stakeholders are given opportunities to provide feedback to leadership regarding decisions of the school, a practice that promotes a culture of participation and transparency. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.5 Established written policies and procedures promote effective operations in admissions, governance, finance, and other operational aspects. Appropriate legal documents and clearly articulated articles of incorporation, governing body policies, and bylaws are established and are available for review. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.6 Established written policies are in place to see that the educational and developmental needs of each admitted student are being met on the basis of biblical principles, professional ethics, and high standards. Staff members are sensitive to the culture, gender, language, and special needs of students and their families. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.7 Financial resources are available to fulfill the mission and programs of the school, and financial operations and decisions are conducted with integrity and in accordance with biblical principles. Income received from tuition is appropriately used for education-related expenses within the school. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.8 The budget is constructed carefully—using input from program heads—and is managed properly in accordance with the stated goals of the school. The budget reflects an accurate assessment of the cost of educating a student, including instructional supplies and informational technology. Stated student outcomes are appropriately financed. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.9 A review of the school's finances is conducted by an external CPA, who has no vested interest in the school, at the time of initial accreditation and renewal. The annual statement of financial practices is submitted with the annual accreditation report. (See <i>Options for Meeting Indicator 2.9</i> for details.) (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.10 Just compensation packages are documented for all employees and are commensurate with the training and services rendered. (C)



2.11* The school ensures compliance with applicable local, state, and federal laws, and it is in good standing with all regulatory agencies. (C)

Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:

3

Standard Three:

The school exists and functions as an institution of reliability and authority by exhibiting a pattern of respect, trust, accountability, and dignity to its constituents, both internally and externally. Effective communication and relationships are fostered with constituents, as well as among constituents. A wide range of strategies are used to incorporate involvement by the parents and the community. It is expected that the school meets the educational and developmental needs of the students it enrolls. Services at the appropriate levels include guidance (both academic and personal) and student activities (curricular and cocurricular). Appropriate resources and planning occur to ensure that the mission, vision, and philosophy are being carried out to meet the expected student outcomes.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.1 Enrollment is sufficient to establish the viability of the school and all divisions it offers (i.e., EE, elementary, secondary). (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.2 The school conducts regular demographic assessments of its constituents in order to better fulfill its stated mission: 1) educational levels, 2) ethnic diversity, 3) faith backgrounds, and 4) other pertinent family information. (See regional Accreditation Manager for guidelines.) (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.3 The length of the school day and year, as well as the number of instructional hours and days, complies with applicable laws. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.4 Regular, established, and effective two-way communication occurs between the school and its constituents. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.4a The program has a plan for collaboration and communication with the families regarding the child's developmental milestones, individual learning goals, and classroom experiences, while developing effective strategies to support learning at home. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.5 The school has established biblical principles for resolving differences between the school and its constituents. These policies are written, reviewed, and communicated for effective implementation. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.6 The school systematically seeks input/feedback from parents, staff, and current and past students in order to adjust its instructional and operational practices. Survey data is regularly gathered and analyzed for feedback regarding program satisfaction. (See Appendix E in the Standards Manual.) (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.7* The nondiscrimination statement is published and evident in the actions, relationships, and programs of the school. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.8 Guidance services are provided at age-appropriate levels and communicated to families. High school guidance services provide academic course selection along with college and career planning. (E/S)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.9	The school has a process to identify the unique learning needs of individual students, and support is provided in order for them to meet the expected student outcomes. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.10	Confidential records of students are complete, organized, current, accessible only to appropriate personnel, compliant with applicable legal requirements, and kept in a safe location. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.11	The school has a written plan in place for the transfer of student records to an appropriate accredited school, association, or local school district in the event of closure. (C)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - STUDENT ACTIVITIES	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.12	Student activities are consistent with the mission of the school, are a balanced variety, and are reflective of the needs of all students. (E/S)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - PERSONAL CARE, SUPPORT, AND ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.13	The director ensures that daily transitions and regrouping of children are minimized through organization, written policies, and staffing. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.14	Each group of children has one primary teacher/caregiver to help ensure that the individual child is cared for and nurtured. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.15	Staff members receive professional development on how to intentionally prepare and maintain an emotionally healthy environment (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.16	The program utilizes a research-based developmental screening tool within three months of enrollment and has a written early intervention plan for helping children who exhibit varying developmental delays or challenges in the learning environment. Staff are trained annually in implementing the plan. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.17	The program has an established plan offering a variety of engagement opportunities for families supporting their participation in the education of their child while promoting the inclusion of multicultural and linguistic diversity. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.18	Families are provided with information, materials, and resources from local or state agencies or services to assist with the health, developmental, and educational needs of their children. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.19	Families are provided with an annually updated handbook outlining policies and procedures of the program, and parents/guardians sign acknowledgement indicating agreement with the information. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.20	The program has a marketing and recruitment plan to attract families to their distinct mission and vision for high quality care and early education. (EE)

Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:

4

Standard Four:

The school hires personnel who have made a personal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and endorse the school's statement of faith. They are committed to the written philosophy, mission, vision, and core values of the school. Faculty and staff engage in ongoing professional development to improve instructional practices leading to continual growth in student learning and development of the instructional program. The executive leadership, instructional, and support staff are sufficient in number to provide for the effective delivery of quality education and are appropriately credentialed, degreed, trained, and qualified for their assigned duties.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.1 Each staff member has a clear testimony of faith in Christ, has signed the school's statement of faith, and endorses the school's code of ethics/lifestyle statement. (See <i>Guidelines for Outside Contracted Teachers or Instructors.</i>) (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.2 The executive leadership of the school ensures staff members know and understand the ethical considerations of their respective positions. Examples include: appropriate student/teacher relationships, confidentiality with student information, and use of copyrighted material. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.3* All personnel, including volunteers and substitute teachers, have the appropriate screening and background checks on file, and they are supervised by qualified staff. Orientation for new staff members is thorough and is conducted before any new staff have contact with the students. (See the <i>EE Annual Staff Training Guidelines.</i>) (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.4 K–12 head of school and all K–12 principal qualifications are demonstrated in one of the following ways: 1. The K–12 head of school and all K–12 principals hold ACSI administrative certification OR current state, national, or provincial administrative certification* plus Christian philosophy and Bible requirements (Other administrators, such as academic deans, directors of curriculum and instruction, assistant principals, etc. may be included with the teacher and professional staff certification required in Indicator 4.6.) Schools may use a combination of ACSI certification and state, national, or provincial certification, as demonstrated on the Certification Spreadsheet, to meet the indicator. OR 2. The school has an approved School-Based Professional Development (SPD) plan, sufficiently documenting the ongoing professional development of the administration within that plan, with annual reporting to ACSI. See www.acsi.org/school_based_pd for more information. An approved SPD plan would enable the school to fulfill indicator 4.4 without submitting a Certification Spreadsheet. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.4a The director of the early education program has professional training as evidenced by having obtained, at minimum, one of the following: 1) a bachelor's degree (BA/BS) in early childhood education/child development or related field from an accredited institution; 2) a bachelor's degree (BA/BS) in a nonrelated field from an accredited institution and a CDA; 3) a bachelor's degree (BA/BS) in a nonrelated field from an accredited institution AND nine credit hours of college coursework in early childhood education/child development or related field; 4) a national or state level Director's Credential; or 5) a professional growth plan developed and monitored annually by the employee and their immediate supervisor which includes goal setting, training/coursework, and mentorship, and is approved by ACSI Early Education staff. (See Options for Meeting Indicator 4.4a for details.) The director also has a working understanding of business practices as evidenced by college coursework in administration, business, leadership development, or supervision of adults, OR ongoing professional development in administration and a letter of verification of experience in the above from the board, resume, etc. (EE)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.5 All K–12 teachers hold, at minimum, a bachelor's degree from an accredited college/university or an institution recognized by ACSI. Contact the ACSI Certification Department for information regarding recognized institutions. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>4.5a Early education teachers have obtained, at minimum, one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) an associate's degree (AA) in early childhood education/child development or related field from an accredited institution; 2) an associate's degree (AA) out-of-field AND six credit hours of early childhood/child development in college coursework; 3) an associate's degree (AA) degree out-of-field AND either a CDA or 120 documented clock hours of professional development in early childhood; 4) a CDA with documented experience working in the early education classroom; or, 5) a professional growth plan developed and monitored annually by the teacher and their direct supervisor which includes goal setting, training/coursework and mentorship, and is approved by the school's supervisor of early education. (See Options for Meeting Indicator 4.5a for details.) (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>4.5b Early education teacher assistants/aides have obtained one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) CDA or equivalent; 2) completed college coursework in early childhood education; 3) state teacher assistant credential; 4) 60 documented (accrued) clock hours of professional development in early childhood within two years of employment; or, 5) a professional growth plan developed and monitored annually by the teacher assistant/TA and their direct supervisor which includes goal setting, training/coursework, and mentorship, and is approved by the school's supervisor of early education. (See Options for Meeting Indicator 4.5b for details.) (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>4.6 K–12 faculty qualifications (which includes teaching faculty and professional positions such as guidance counselors, athletic directors, library/media specialists, etc.) are demonstrated in one of the following ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A minimum of 80 percent of faculty and professional staff, based on full-time equivalents (FTEs), hold current ACSI certification OR current state, national, or provincial certification* plus Christian philosophy and Bible requirements. Schools may use a combination of individuals holding ACSI certification and individuals holding state, national, or provincial certification, as demonstrated on the Certification Spreadsheet, to meet the indicator. (See Guidelines for Outside Contracted Teachers and Instructors.) <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The school has an approved School-Based Professional Development (SPD) plan, sufficiently documenting the ongoing professional development of K-12 faculty within that plan, with annual reporting to ACSI See www.acsi.org/school_based_pd for more information. An approved SPD plan would enable the school to fulfill indicator 4.6 without submitting a Certification Spreadsheet. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>4.7 Professional development for K–12 faculty, guidance personnel, informational resources staff, and other appropriate staff is ongoing and integral to the school and aligned with specific goals and instructional programs, and it includes training in biblical studies and the Christian philosophy of education. (E/S)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>4.7a All EE staff who are responsible for the care and education of the children in the program participate annually in a minimum of 12 documented clock hours (state requirements for additional clock hour training must also be met) of continuing education or professional development relating to topics specific to early education. All professional development clock hours must align with one or more of the ACSI Core Competencies. (Refer to the <i>EE Yearly Professional Development Report</i> and the <i>EE Core Competencies</i> document.) (EE)</p>

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.7b A minimum of four clock hours annually of biblical studies (a formal group or individual Bible study) is accepted with documentation of completion. (See <i>EE Biblical Studies Form.</i>) (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.7c Eighty percent of all early educators, including program leaders/directors, teachers, and teacher assistants, completed ACSI's <i>Principles and Practices of Christian Early Education</i> course. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.8 Policies and procedures that reflect ethical employment practices regarding faculty/staff and separation from service are implemented and regularly reviewed. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.9 Executive leadership supports the implementation of effective instructional practices of faculty/staff through annual observation, evaluation, and goal setting to more effectively achieve desired student outcomes. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.9a The director ensures that a formal evaluation of new employees takes place no later than six months after the start date. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.10 The number and professional preparation of instructional and support staff is sufficient for the scope of the school. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.11 Teachers and administrators work collaboratively with each other to positively affect school culture, encourage student learning, and promote organizational effectiveness. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.12 The program policy provides a schedule for teaching staff that includes compensated planning time. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.13 Breaks are reflected in the staff work schedule as per federal/state labor laws. (EE)

Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:

5

Standard Five:

The instructional program consists of carefully developed, thoroughly documented, and well-executed curriculum elements that include educational philosophy, schoolwide expected student outcomes, a variety of effective instructional strategies, adequate resources, and appropriate assessments that are based on current research and quality practices. The curriculum of the school is driven by well-written policies and procedures. Core instructional areas include Bible, language arts (reading, English, literature, grammar, and writing), mathematics, science, and social studies/history. It is sufficiently funded, collaboratively reviewed on a regular basis, and compiled using the school’s mission, vision, core values, and schoolwide expected student outcomes to ensure a biblical foundation for instruction. A method for assessing the effectiveness of schoolwide expected student outcomes is in place, and the results of the assessments are communicated regularly to all stakeholders.

Informational resources exist to carry out the mission of the school by supporting the instructional program with ample and appropriate print, media, and technology resources. Qualified staff provide effective services to students, staff, and parents.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - CURRICULUM GUIDE/MAPPING
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.1 The curriculum documents developed by the school provide a well-documented biblical basis for all courses consistent with the goal of developing a biblical worldview in students. (See <i>Guidelines for Accepting Credits from Other Sources.</i>) (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.2 The curriculum guides/maps drive the instructional program. The guides/maps are current and include the following components: 1) schoolwide expected student outcomes, 2) course goals and objectives, 3) biblical integration concepts, 4) school-selected standards, 5) resources, 6) time allotted for each unit, 7) instructional methods, and 8) assessments. A document, often called a <i>Scope and Sequence</i> , is available to guide the overall curriculum plan through electronic means (curriculum mapping software) or a traditional written format. The guides/maps are accessible to all faculty and inform instruction that clearly values the development of the whole child—spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally, and socially. (See Appendix H regarding initial vs. renewal visit expectations.) (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.2a The program has developed a curriculum guide/plan that flows out of the philosophy and foundational statements and that is based on current early education research and principles. The curriculum plan includes the following components: 1) an educational philosophy of teaching and how children learn based on early education research, 2) schoolwide expected student outcomes, 3) mapping of instruction for each age group, 4) incorporating overall goals and objectives aligned with state/national standards for each domain: spiritual, social, emotional, physical, and cognitive, 5) developmentally appropriate instructional methods, 6) instructional resources, and 7) evaluation and assessment strategies (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators.</i>) (EE)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.3 Bible content and instruction are required in the core curriculum. (ACSI will accept alternative and innovative ways of meeting the Bible content and instruction requirement. The school's method can be approved for meeting (or exceeding) compliance in advance of an accreditation visit by submitting a description of the process the school uses to the team chairperson and ACSI regional office. The plan must include: goals, objectives, and outcomes; assessment; how it meets the spirit of the indicator and rubric.) (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.3a There is age-appropriate biblical instruction integrated into the core curriculum. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.4 The school systematically evaluates its instructional strategies, learning activities, and instructional technology, ensuring they are research-based and reflect sound educational practice. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.5 Instructional strategies and equitable learning activities focus on active student engagement, the achievement of essential knowledge and skills, biblical wisdom and understanding, and higher-order thinking skills. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.5a Appropriate instructional strategies include the following developmental domains: spiritual, social, emotional, physical, and cognitive to include Bible, language, math, and science/discovery (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.5b Teachers incorporate appropriate instructional strategies and learning activities in the lesson plans that reflect the goals of the program and connect with the overall expected child outcomes (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.5c The daily schedule provides for stability, security, and flexibility to meet the group's needs, capitalizing on the children's interest and attention span. The classroom schedule includes a balance of activities that are age appropriate in length (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - ASSESSMENT
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.6 There is a systematic process in place for the assessment of student learning and development that includes multiple assessment measures over time to accomplish the expected student outcomes. (See Appendix F in the Standards Manual.) (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.6a Developmentally appropriate child assessments such as portfolios, work samples, and observation data are collected at least twice per year and shared with parents. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.7 The school analyzes student performance data including: 1) implications of schoolwide trends seen from year to year; 2) monitoring the progress of individual students; 3) disaggregation of data by gender, ethnicity, and other factors important to the school; and 4) comparison to outside groups. Teachers are trained in data assessment and analysis for program improvement. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.8 The school uses the analysis of data in making educationally sound decisions regarding students, instructional strategies, and programs to better attain expected student outcomes. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.9 The school has implemented procedures for regular communication of student achievement to all stakeholders. This communication includes the following: 1) major tests used, 2) schoolwide trends in achievement, 3) accomplishment of schoolwide expected student outcomes, and 4) annual progress of individual students. (C)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.10	Age-appropriate instructional and information resources which support teaching and learning are appropriate in number, culturally representative of the students, and include the Christian distinctives of the school. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.11	Information resources are readily accessible to students and staff. Training for students and staff on the use of information resources is supported by specially trained staff. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.11a	Passive media (television, DVDs, CDs), when used, meet the following requirements: 1) are appropriate to the age and the attention span, 2) enhance the effectiveness and values of the program, 3) are previewed by the staff for overall content and age appropriateness, 4) serve as an occasional supplement to daily activities rather than a significant part, and 5) include appropriate teacher involvement in introducing and following up the viewing with questions and activities that elicit children's active involvement. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.11b	If the program includes screen time for children, program guidelines have been developed for classroom use to ensure children's active involvement. Guidelines address strategies to ensure interactive involvement and consider the needs of the young learner. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.12	Instructional technology competencies are incorporated into the teaching and learning process to improve the achievement of expected student outcomes. Well-integrated technology promotes creativity, collaboration, innovation, research skills, problem-solving, and digital citizenship. (C)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.13	The school has a written classroom management philosophy and policies that are developmentally appropriate and biblically based, and they are implemented effectively and communicated to the school community. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.13a	Child guidance policies and classroom management procedures are in place and published for parents and staff. The policies and procedures support staff in maintaining effective orderly classrooms (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.14	Written policies and procedures are in place to allocate and protect instructional time and learning opportunities and support student learning and graduation requirements. The number of students per classroom is monitored for effective learning and student-teacher relationships. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.15	The school instructs teachers and students in the ethical and moral use and evaluation of source materials, including verification, attribution and credit, appropriate referencing, and media literacy. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.16	The school has, and regularly evaluates, a technology plan that includes the acquisition, inventory, and maintenance of software and hardware as well as program philosophy, acceptable use policies, student learning outcomes, and strategies for integration of technology into the curriculum. (C)

Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:

6

Standard Six:

Written policies and procedures are in place to ensure students' well-being—emotional, physical, spiritual, and academic. The school facilities (buildings and grounds) are appropriate in size, furnishings, and space to meet the stated philosophy, mission, and vision for the number and age of students served. The entire campus is a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment for teaching and learning. Safety procedures are documented and clearly understood, and they address the prevention and identification of abuse, bullying, and the presence of unwelcome guests. A relevant and thorough crisis management plan is in place, and the faculty and staff have been trained appropriately to handle various emergency situations. Regular drills and practices occur to assist in preparation for crisis events. Transportation guidelines for staff and students are developed, and written policies and procedures are in place.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - CRISIS PLANNING
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.1* A comprehensive written security and crisis management plan has been developed, regularly reviewed, and implemented, and it is supported by appropriate training for all staff and students. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.2 The school communicates with legal authorities (i.e., the fire department, police department, and other applicable agencies), parents, media, and community members when a crisis or a major incident occurs. (C)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - SAFETY AND HEALTH
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.3 The school complies with applicable local, state, and federal laws regarding safety and health issues. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.3a The program does not offer foods that present a risk of choking to children. Food is cut into small pieces no larger than a one-fourth-inch square for infants and a one-half-inch square for toddlers. A written policy is communicated to all staff and parents. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.4 Students are in compliance with the requirements of civil authorities regarding immunizations, physical examinations, and communicable diseases. Records of health services rendered to students (including accidents and injuries) are appropriately noted and filed. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.5 Written policies and procedures for all areas of health and safety services have been developed, reviewed, and implemented. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.5a The program consults with a health care professional to establish specific written policies that guide the consistent implementation of a wellness and illness management plan as well as staff training in their responsibilities (outlined in the EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators). (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.5b The program has an established plan for sanitizing toys and equipment regularly. Toys that have been contaminated by saliva or other body secretions are washed and sanitized before they are used by another child. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.6 Biblically-based plans and procedures are developed that educate the school community regarding harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Students and families are educated on how to build biblically-based relationships, have caring interaction, and resolve conflicts with peers. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.7* The school has developed policies and procedures that promote child safety; define conduct expectations for staff and volunteers; and provide training for staff, volunteers, and students. Staff training includes legal reporting responsibilities in cases of alleged or suspected child abuse, neglect, or other areas in which reporting is mandated. (C)

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - FOOD/NUTRITION SERVICES	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.8	The school complies with local, state, and federal regulations regarding preparation, delivery, handling, and storage of food. The school provides a suitable and hygienic eating space for the staff and students. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.9	Meals and snacks offered by the school are based on sound nutritional standards. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.9a	The nutritional needs of children are met and supported by the staff and facilities (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)
NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR - FACILITIES, ENVIRONMENT, AND TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.10*	Required local, state, and federal legal standards for fire protection, sanitation, and transportation are met. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.11	The school maintains the site, facilities, services, and equipment to provide an environment that is safe, secure, and orderly. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.12	The facilities are secure and suitable for the size of the school; the school environment is monitored and maintained to ensure it is conducive to the instruction and development of the whole child. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.12a	The program provides an ongoing maintenance plan that ensures the health and safety of the children (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.12b	Sinks and toilets are readily accessible to children. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.12c	Developmentally appropriate equipment, including child-sized tables and chairs and adequate furniture in good repair, are provided in each classroom to meet the needs of the children. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.13	The recreation area/playground, common areas, and athletic areas are safe, age appropriate, and large enough for the number of students. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.13a	The early education playground supports the developmental growth of children within a context of safety (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.14	Facilities planning is in place to address future programs; enrollment changes; staff, facility, and technology needs; as well as future capital improvements. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.15	Vehicles and drivers used to transport students for all school activities follow the school's policies as well as government and insurance regulations. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.16	Written policies and procedures are in place for routine safety inspections, service, and repair of school-owned vehicles and for reporting vehicle accidents—including communication with all constituents. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.17	Appropriate health, safety, and supervision practices ensure the specific needs of infants and toddlers are met (outlined in the <i>EE Evidence Guide for REACH Indicators</i>). (EE)

Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:

7 **Standard Seven:**

The school shall provide for spiritual nurture and discipleship of its students with the goal of developing a biblical worldview. Spiritual nurturing of Christlike character is planned, intentional, and systematic in implementation. Mentoring and discipleship experiences are necessary components in a spiritual formation strategy. Students are given opportunities to serve others and develop a Christlike attitude toward the poor, needy, and vulnerable. A commitment to a community of faith is modeled by the faculty and emphasized to all students. Spiritual formation assessment is integral to effective and ongoing improvement of the school program.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.1 Schoolwide expected student outcomes include character development, acquisition of Christian values, and spiritual formation. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.2 Christlike respect, compassion, and caring for self and all others is taught and demonstrated by school personnel. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.3 Mentoring and discipleship experiences focus on spiritual formation, character development, and the instilling of Christian values. The school provides a structure whereby each student is known personally by at least one adult who can provide support for that student's spiritual formation. (E/S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.3a Teachers model mentoring and discipleship with each other to demonstrate Christlike attitudes and actions that directly and indirectly influence spiritual growth, character development, and Christian values in the children. (EE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.4 Board, administration, faculty, staff, and student interactions reflect the attitude of Christ. Communication among them demonstrates sensitivity and responsiveness to the individual needs, interests, and temperaments of the students. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.5 All aspects of the school and its instructional program reflect developmentally appropriate application of a biblical worldview and Christlike character and values. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.6 Age-appropriate opportunities for service and missions, including compassionate outreach to the poor, needy, or vulnerable, are provided as a means of spiritual growth and formation. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.7 Active participation in a local Christian church community is required of the faculty and emphasized within the school's philosophy and goals. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.8 Assessment of the spiritual development of students is intentionally included in the ongoing evaluation of the school's effectiveness in formally measuring its schoolwide expected student outcomes. (E/S)

Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:



Standard Eight:

The school must, with appropriate stakeholder input, systematically develop and annually update a continuous school improvement plan (CSIP). The plan, based on the school’s philosophy, mission, vision, core values, and schoolwide expected student outcomes, includes specific goals, as well as action items. The process is driven by data collection and analysis. This plan must have significant focus on how it will promote organizational growth and high achievement of schoolwide expected student outcomes. The CSIP reflects a pervasive culture of ongoing improvement and accountability. The CSIP should reflect major goals determined as priorities through the self-study process.

NC	PC	C	EC	INDICATOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.1 The school improvement plan is developed by utilizing a variety of organizational, achievement, and survey data and input from all stakeholder groups. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.2 The CSIP reflects the fulfillment of the philosophy, mission, and vision of the school and the attainment of schoolwide academic and non-academic expected student outcomes and school effectiveness. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.3 The planning process is organizationally comprehensive and establishes goals and priorities for development. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.4 Each action item in the improvement plan addresses the fiscal, personnel, resources, and time implications for implementation. (C)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.5 The school evaluates and documents the effectiveness and impact of its improvement plan and regularly communicates the results to all stakeholders. (C)

Explanation of why partial or noncompliance is checked:

Additional Resources

Support documents for REACH may be found on the ACSI website (<https://www.acsi.org/schoolaccreditationdocuments>).

