

Global Christian School Leadership Summit

February 1–3, 2017, Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida

Encouraged in Heart—Strengthened in Unity—Equipped with Knowledge & Wisdom

I beg you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that all of you agree with each other and not be split into groups. I beg that you be completely joined together by having the same kind of thinking and the same purpose.
 —1 Corinthians 1:10 NCV

In keeping with the Apostle Paul's admonition above, leaders from many Christian school associations and Christian universities have joined together to prayerfully consider hosting a global leadership summit. We believe the Lord is calling us to a greater spirit of unity and collaboration in order to equip the next generation of Christ followers to "be blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.' Then [they] will shine among them like stars in the sky as [they] hold firmly to the word of life" (Phil. 2:15–16 NIV).

The steering committee for this initiative currently includes representatives from the Association of Christian Teachers and Schools (ACTS), the Council on Educational Standards and Accountability (CESA), Christian Schools International (CSI), the International Christian Accrediting Association (ICAA), the National Christian School Association (NCSA), Christian Schools Australia (CSA), and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). A subcommittee including representatives from Christian higher education institutions and associations has also been formed.

We believe this will be the first of many such events that could eventually become an international Christian education leadership conference to be held in key cities around the nation and potentially in other countries. In addition to providing inspiring keynote speakers with challenging and visionary presentations for all attendees, we are also planning innovative and relevant breakout workshops and facilitated roundtable discussions for veteran and emerging Christian school leaders.

Colossians 2:2–3 says, "My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." We believe the Global Christian School Leadership Summit will provide an opportunity for Christian school leaders to come together to be encouraged in heart, strengthened in unity, and equipped with the knowledge and wisdom needed to prepare the next generation to stand firm in the truth. Given the cultural and societal challenges that potentially endanger the mission of Christian schools and universities, we believe this summit is being orchestrated by God to bring us together to stand as one for such a time as this.

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 International (CSI)

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Donnie Peal,
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Christian Schools International in both the U.S. and its CSI member schools in Christian Schools Canada