



## DIVISIONAL ACCREDITATION DIRECTOR



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Another school year is upon us; it's surely to be filled with unexpected opportunities and challenges. I recently came across a prayer attributed to John Baillie, a Scottish theologian, that I'd like to share with you as you enter into this new year:

*O Lord, your divine tenderness always outsoars the narrow loves and kindnesses of earth. **Grant me today a kind and gentle heart** toward all things that live. Help me to take a stand against cruelty to any creatures of yours. Help me to be actively concerned for the welfare of little children, and those who are sick, and of the poor, remembering that what I do for the least of these brothers and sisters of His, I do for Jesus Christ my Lord.*

May it be our prayer, as we face the opportunities and challenges of the 2022-2023 school year to, "Grant me today a kind and gentle heart!"

Please take the time now to access your school account and update your school roster. You can actually make updates at any time by going to [your.acsi.org](https://your.acsi.org) and logging in to your account. This information is regularly accessed by ACSI personnel for a variety of purposes—including for accreditation—so it is vital to have accurate and up-to-date information. If you are unsure how to update your school roster, please contact Kim.

Keep in mind that accreditation Annual Reports will be due on October 1. You should have received an email with the link to fill out your annual report by now—if not, please contact us. **Please do not use an old form or an old link.** Schools with midterm reports/visits during this school year will receive instructions along with a template.

Here are some statistics for international schools from this past school year: The indicators with the most major recommendations were 5.2 and 5.8 with nine each; 5.7 had eight; 5.1 had six; 2.5, 4.9, 5.4, and 5.6 all had five. Indicators 1.1, 2.1, 7.5, and 7.8

followed with each having four major recommendations. The standard with the most major recommendations was Standard 5.

ACSI's new accreditation protocol, *Inspire*, will be launching for use beginning in the fall of 2023. Documents are still under revision with many set to be released this fall. You can find the latest information about *Inspire* [here](#).

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

- Buenos Aires International Christian Academy, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Doulos Discovery School, Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic
- Gateway Primary School, Harare, Zimbabwe
- Highlands International School, La Paz, Bolivia
- International Community School, Bangkok & Udon Thani, Thailand
- Kyoto International University Academy, Kyoto, Japan
- Logos International School, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Midlands Christian College, Gweru, Zimbabwe
- Rain Forest International School, Yaoundé, Cameroon
- Silk Road Academy, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- Tien Shan International School, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Taejon Christian International School, Daejeon, Korea - *Boarding*

As always, if you have any questions regarding the accreditation process or ACSI's new accreditation protocol, *Inspire*, please contact either Kim or me directly. We wish you God's rich blessings as this new school year begins!

Blessings to you all,

Tim Thompson

## ACADEMIC SERVICES NEWS

### **New ACSI Accreditation Term Length**

To better align the term of accreditation for many of our dually accredited schools, we have lengthened ACSI's standard accreditation term to six (6) years. We will begin granting six-year terms to schools hosting accreditation visits during the 2022-2023 academic year. For schools dually accredited by an ACSI-recognized agency with a different term, ACSI will adjust its term as appropriate. In some cases, the term may need to be adjusted to meet government requirements. Schools who hosted a visit through the end of the spring 2022 semester were granted a 5-year term.

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### **Accreditation Annual Reports**

Annual reports will be due for all schools during the month of October. The specific date in October varies by region/division, so the appropriate ACSI office will communicate

that specifically to you, along with a link to complete the annual report online. Here are a couple of reminders:

- Most schools will need to submit an updated Certification Spreadsheet (unless they are a school with an approved alternative, such as an Exemplary Accredited school or a school with an approved School-Based Professional Development plan). Please encourage teachers to submit applications for certification *early* to beat the rush.
- Among other items, schools will need to provide an update on their progress on addressing the Major Recommendations from their most recent accreditation visit report. These may be in varying stages of completion; however, schools that hosted their most recent accreditation visit prior to the 2021-2022 academic year should be able to demonstrate progress on those.

Regarding certification, there has been one update this year: A grace period for those switching from a teacher/faculty position to a principal position. There is currently a 1-year grace period for certification for any faculty/administrator who is in their first year at the school. Beginning immediately, we will also extend that 1-year grace period to any faculty member who switches from a teaching position to a principal position of some type (requiring an administrator certificate). For more information on the Certification Spreadsheet, see the [Certification Spreadsheet FAQ](#).

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### **Guidelines for Instruction from Outside Sources**

As schools expand programs and experience teacher shortages, there has been a trend toward using outside or third-party providers for supplemental instruction and other types of programming. These are evident in dual college credit classes, online courses, and programs that are contracted through companies or school districts for instructional and non-instructional purposes, like technology, sports, or music. Some of these may not be staffed with direct hires and not taught under the auspices of the Christian school. ACSI has created a document, [Guidelines for Instruction from Outside Sources](#), that provides guidelines and expectations for how accredited schools should handle these scenarios with their students, specifically in regard to biblical worldview integration.

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### **ACSI *Inspire* Update**

Work on [ACSI \*Inspire\*](#) is ongoing. In August, the Accreditation Directors met in Colorado Springs to set the foundation and chart the path forward for the school, chair, and team training modules. We will also create individual modules for schools who may be in a specific scenario (such as a school that has completed the [Flourishing School Culture Instrument](#) and would like to know how to incorporate that information into the self-study). Here is a brief timeline of upcoming elements related to ACSI *Inspire*:

- Fall 2022 – publication of the manual, school coordinator handbook, and chair/team handbook
- Spring 2023 - pilot school visits utilizing ACSI *Inspire*
- Summer 2023 – revise and finalize documents based on pilot school feedback
- Fall 2023 – full launch of *Inspire*

Also, the August Maximize Your Membership webinar focused on ACSI *Inspire* as well as the updated School-Based Professional Development program. You can find that webinar, and any other Maximize Your Membership webinars, here: [Maximize Your Membership](#) (you will need to be sure you are logged in to your portal for access).

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## Bible CEUs

There are many ways for teachers and administrators to complete Bible CEUs for their ACSI certification.

- Accredited schools are automatically ACSI-approved CEU providers, so they can provide Bible CEUs to their teachers.
- ACSI has dedicated a page to various options for Bible CEUs: [How to Earn Bible CEUs](#).
- Additionally, the Colson Center has a [page dedicated to educators](#) and several Bible CEU options listed **at no charge**.
  - [Worldview Formation](#) (0.39 Bible AND 0.39 Education CEU)
  - [Worldview Formation 201](#) (0.60 Bible OR Education CEU)
  - [Worldviews & Cultural Fluency](#) (modules only = 1.67 Bible OR Education CEUs; modules + discussion elements = 5 Bible OR Education CEUs)
  - ["What Would You Say?" Teacher/Student Guide](#) (not approved for CEUs)

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## RightNow Media is back!

As of July 1, 2022, RNM is once again an ACSI Approved CEU Provider. They have approximately 100 approved videos for ACSI CEUs. So, if your school has a RNM membership, check out their [website](#) to see what has been approved. Of course, if you have any questions, please contact the ACSI CEU Coordinator at: [ceus@acsi.org](mailto:ceus@acsi.org).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Watch for your **Membership Renewal Invoice**. The LDRP and optional state fees will each be invoiced separately.

## FLOURISHING School Culture I N S T R U M E N T

If you are interested in the Flourishing School Instrument developed by ACSI, you may be able to get them at a reduced price if your school qualifies. You may contact [research@acsi.org](mailto:research@acsi.org) for more information.

## EVENT CALENDAR



## October 1: Annual Reports Due

Association of Christian Schools International | 731 Chapel Hills Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
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