



## DIVISIONAL ACCREDITATION DIRECTOR



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It's August 2021. Schools are starting up all over the world. We all thought we would be in a different place right now, didn't we? A year ago, we expected that the pandemic would be behind us at this point. But here we go again. A good friend recently sent me some devotional thoughts. It was an encouragement to me – I hope it is to you!

Sometimes events whirl around you so quickly that they become a blur. Whisper My Name in recognition that I am still with you. Without skipping a beat in the activities that occupy you, you find strength and Peace through praying My Name. Accept each day just how it comes to you. Do not waste your time and energy wishing for a different set of circumstances. Instead, trust Me enough to yield to My design and purposes. Remember that nothing can separate you from My loving Presence; you are mine.

**"But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.'" Isaiah 43:1**

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**Congratulations to the following schools that received accreditation at the Commission meeting this summer:**

Christian Academy of Guatemala, Guatemala City, Guatemala – Reaccreditation  
Crossroads Christian School, Panama City, Panama – Reaccreditation  
Evangelical Christian Academy, Madrid, Spain – Reaccreditation  
Hillcrest School, Jos, Nigeria – Reaccreditation  
Life International School, Sihanoukville, Cambodia – Initial Accreditation  
Mexico City Christian Academy, Mexico City, Mexico – Initial Accreditation  
Morrison Academy, Taichung, Taiwan – Reaccreditation  
NorthStar Academy, Southaven, Mississippi – Reaccreditation

## ACADEMIC SERVICES NEWS

### ANNUAL REPORTS

Keep in mind that accreditation Annual Reports will be due on October 1. You should have received the necessary forms by now – if not, please contact us. Schools with midterm reports/visit during this school year will receive instructions along with a template for the report very soon.

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### COMPLAINTS PROCESS

As an accrediting agency, ACSI does have a formal complaint process for issues that relate to accreditation, membership, and teacher/administrator certification. However, ACSI is not a government or regulatory agency. It does not solve or mediate disputes between parties such as parents, students, and/or teachers and the schools they are involved with. Its only authority comes in the accreditation and membership of schools or granting of certification of individuals.

[SEE PROCESS](#)

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### DUAL ACCREDITATION WITH COGNIA

We understand that Cognia is updating their accreditation standards, and dually accredited schools may have received an email with information on those standards. The current process for schools that are dually accredited with Cognia with ACSI in the lead position remains in effect, using ACSI's protocol and process. ACSI will be completing a standards alignment with the updated Cognia standards this coming year,

### CLASSROOM OBSERVATION TOOL FOR ACCREDITATION (COTA)

ACSI will NOT be asking team members to formally complete and submit COTA forms for classroom visits this year. Chairs and team members should use the [COTA instrument](#) as a guide for classroom observations; however, they will not be submitted to the accreditation department. For chairs that are interested in tallying the ratings of their team on their own, we do have a spreadsheet you can use. Please contact [accreditation@acsi.org](mailto:accreditation@acsi.org) for access to that spreadsheet.

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### ACCREDITATION REVISION UPDATE

The revision of the accreditation protocol is underway. Last school year, the Standards were drafted, sent out to a certain number of individuals familiar with accreditation for comments, and revised based on that feedback. ACSI wishes to extend a big 'Thank You' to those who took the time to reply!

[READ MORE](#)

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### ACCREDITATION VISITS

While we hoped and prayed that we would be back to fully on-campus accreditation visits for the 2021-2022 school year, that is not going to be the case for some schools. These decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis and are dependent upon: 1) local conditions with regard to the coronavirus, 2) whether or not travel is permitted to the country, 3) whether or not a quarantine is required, 4) the school's desires, and 5) our ability to secure team

so dually accredited schools do not have to do anything with Cognia's updated standards at this time. However, if you want to share feedback with us, feel free to do that. We welcome your input.

members. We will be contacting each school individually that has an upcoming accreditation team visit to determine whether it can be on campus or must be virtual. Here are some statistics for international schools from this past school year: The indicators with the most major recommendations were 5.2 with nine; 5.6 with six; 2.1 with five; 5.7 with five; and 5.8 with five. Indicators 1.1, 5.1, 8.4, and 8.5 followed with each having four major recommendations. The standard with the most major recommendations was Standard 5, and the standard with the least major recommendations was Standard 7.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Watch for your **Membership Renewal Invoice** coming to your email. 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 it 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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