

Section 1: Mission and Vision

STANDARD 1:

The School Is Mission Driven.

OVERVIEW:

List significant changes that have been made by your school in this area during its previous accreditation cycle.

- 1: In our last cycle of accreditation the visiting team gave the faculty the task to research the aspects of sound psychological principals to determine if they apply to our philosophy as we did not understand the complete background of educational psychological principals. Our staff researched and studied this topic during this past accreditation cycle. After studying our philosophy and reviewing psychological principles that include educational psychology, best practices, and classroom management, we determined that our philosophy does meet the accreditation standard. For example, the following statements from our philosophy are in accordance with sound psychological principles:
 - Children are equipped
 - Sound instruction is provided
 - Education occurs daily
 - Students receive encouragement and instruction to live in service to Christ and others
 - Students are encouraged to develop and use their abilities in further schooling and in adult life
 - Teachers strive for excellence as they use effective up-to-date learning and teaching materials
 - Students are prepared to become responsible stewards of their talents
 - Teachers provide a Christian model
 - Fellowship is enjoyed by all members of the school community
 - Each person's uniqueness is recognized
 - Individuals are helped to achieve their full potential
 - Teachers and students work together to maintain a classroom atmosphere of love and joy
 - Children are led to help others, not only in the school but also in the community and the world
 - Teachers encourage Christ-like compassion and love for all people

- 2: In our last cycle of accreditation under Philosophy Section One; the visiting team gave the Board of Education the task to encourage present faculty members to complete the colloquy program and make rostered status financially attractive for all faculty members. The visiting team also recommended that the Board of Education call rostered teachers for all new hires or require new teachers to enter the colloquy program to achieve roster status. During the past seven years the Board of Education continued to encourage present faculty members to become rostered. The BOE has decided that no lane changes can be made on the pay scale unless a teacher is rostered. All full time teachers who are not rostered have a spouse that is rostered; working as a Pastor, DCE, or teacher/ principal. Current tax laws make it financially difficult for these staff members to have both spouses on the roster at the same time.

Required Indicators of Success:

Indicate whether or not the school meets the required indicators of success by circling **Yes** or **No**.

YES NO * 1:01 The written mission statement reflects a school philosophy and purpose rooted in Holy Scripture.

YES NO *1:02 The school's mission statement, beliefs, and the school's expectations for student learning guide the procedures, policies, and decisions of the school and is evident in the culture of the school.

GENERAL INDICATORS OF SUCCESS:

Evaluate the level of implementation for each of the other indicators of success. Tally and record your point total at the end of this section.

1:03 The school's mission is aligned with its core values and those of its various stakeholder groups and organizations.

X Met in Full (3) ___ Mostly Met (2) ___ Rarely Met (1) ___ Not Presently Met (0) 3

COMMENTS: The school's statement of philosophy is based upon and is in agreement with the operating congregation's constitution. Article II of the constitution relates to the school and part of this article is cited in the school philosophy.

1:04 The school's mission aligns with its core values and charts the course for accomplishing its mission.

X Met in Full (3) ___ Mostly Met (2) ___ Rarely Met (1) ___ Not Presently Met (0) 3

COMMENTS: Our school's vision is embedded in our philosophy statement and is identified within the five main areas of Education, Worship, Evangelism, Fellowship, and Service. These five core values enable the staff to accomplish our mission.

1:05 The school's mission was developed in accordance with governance policy.

X Met in Full (3) ___ Mostly Met (2) ___ Rarely Met (1) ___ Not Presently Met (0) 3

COMMENTS: The statement of philosophy, the mission statement, and the motto is reviewed yearly by church and school staff, the school administrator, and the Board of Education, which has two Deacons appointed to it and who represent the congregation. The statement of philosophy is on the school board's calendar to review and approve on an annual basis.

1:06 The school's mission and vision is communicated effectively to staff, parents, students, and operating congregation(s).

X Met in Full (3) ___ Mostly Met (2) ___ Rarely Met (1) ___ Not Presently Met (0) 3

COMMENTS: The school's mission and vision are communicated via our Parent/School handbook, our website, and home visits. The mission and vision are reviewed annually with staff and the Board of Education in the spring.

1:07 The school's goals, learner outcomes, and activities are aligned to the school's mission.

X Met in Full (3) ___ Mostly Met (2) ___ Rarely Met (1) ___ Not Presently Met (0) 3

COMMENTS: The statement of philosophy is expressed via five main school goals. The five goals of

education, worship, evangelism, fellowship, and service are the basis and starting point as we develop school goals, learner outcomes, and school activities.

1:08 The school annually reviews its core values, mission and vision.

X **Met in Full (3)** ___ **Mostly Met (2)** ___ **Rarely Met (1)** ___ **Not Presently Met (0)** ___ **3**

COMMENTS: The staff and Board of Education annually reviews its core values, philosophy, and mission in the spring of each year as preparation for a new school year are being made. Students and parents annually review these items in the fall.

1:09 The school uses a variety of data indicators to ensure that expectations for student learning reflect student needs, community expectations, and local, state and national standards.

X **Met in Full (3)** **X** **Mostly Met (2)** ___ **Rarely Met (1)** ___ **Not Presently Met (0)** ___ **3**

COMMENTS: IOWA Basic tests, feedback from former students and parents, feedback from high schools that former students attend, and NAEP participation are used.

Total: **21**

COMMENT ON THE WHOLE SECTION ON MISSION & VISION:

- A. Are all Required Indicators of Success complete and available for review? **Yes**
- B. What is your point total for Standard 1? **21**
- C. Is the total for the GENERAL Indicators of Success a minimum of 14 points? **Yes**
- D. Have you provided comments of explanation of proposed actions to meet any of the GENERAL Indicators of Success that are not fully met? **Yes**