

Valley Christian School

Visiting Team Exit Report

March 24-27, 2019





Association of Christian Schools International

- Our **mission** is to strengthen Christian schools and equip Christian educators worldwide to prepare students academically and inspire them to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ.
- School accreditation is designed around the principle that excellence grows where a commitment is made to systematic school improvement.
- For Christian schools in the business of shaping hearts and minds for eternity, excellence is imperative.



Association of Christian Schools International

- 24,000 Christian schools worldwide (2800 in the US)
- 5.5 million students
- 1000 accredited schools
- 180 international schools
- USA and 100+ countries
- 28 regional offices
(8 in the U.S.)





AdvancED

- 34000 accredited schools worldwide
- Over 4 million educators
- Over 20 million students
- USA and 70+ countries
- Offices in the US and other countries



Accreditation

Accreditation status signifies that a school has met institutional standards of quality and has verified their commitment to strategic, continuous, and systematic school improvement. This process encourages the school to:



- Assess and improve student learning
- Focus on both instructional and programmatic effectiveness
- Evaluate and stay true to its mission

Accreditation Process – School

- **Process** of study and analysis to prepare a school for systematic improvement
- **Involvement** of students, parents, teachers and the school community in a unified approach to advance the school
- **Comparison** of schools with established accreditation standards of quality
- **Assessment** of a school's operation in light of its stated mission and vision
- Development of a **Continuous School Improvement Plan**
- Summary of findings in a **Self-Study**, supported by evidence

Accreditation Process – Visiting Team

The visiting team consists of peers with a variety of expertise to provide valuable feedback. Their purpose is to:

- **Validate** the school's self-study report
- **Confirm** that the school is being true to its mission
- **Evaluate** the school's level of compliance with quality accreditation standards
- **Assess** the school's continuous improvement process
- **Commend** the strengths of the school
- Provide valuable feedback through clear **recommendations** for improvement
- Make a **recommendation for accreditation** to the Commission on Accreditation

Interviews & Observations



6 Administration
Team

10 Teachers

6 Support Staff

13 Students

6 Parents

8 Board Members

20 Class

Observations



Parents and Staff

- **I see VCS as my family**
- **So thankful that I can be who I am in Christ as a teacher**
- **The VCS experience prepared my own child very well for today's world rather than sheltered them from it**
- **Being at VCS is a DREAM situation**
- **My Kids are so well Known**
- **I feel safe leaving my child here.**
- **This is as close to perfect as you can get**
- **Would like to see 9th through 12th grades added**
- **I love how the older kids mentor the younger ones**

Student Comments

- **The teachers help you even when things are not easy for you**
- **The teachers get your homework together for you if you are sick, even if you don't want it**
- **I would like for the principal to have a little kid side kick...all the time**
- **I would like a Gym**
- **When I fell down at the jog-a-thon, the teachers came running**
- **The teachers always pray for us**
- **I wasn't gonna touch that squid at all!**
- **Love to be Open about God**
- **These people change me for the better!**

Major Commendation # 1

The leadership team, faculty and staff commitment to advancing the mission and vision is strong and vibrant.



Major Commendation # 2
All K-8 grade teachers hold a
minimum a Bachelor's degree.



Major Commendation # 3

Valley Christian School has developed an exemplary lunch program that provides highly nutritional meals served by qualified personnel who diligently and faithfully abide by food service standards.



Major Commendation # 4

The Administration of Valley Christian School successfully involved all stakeholder groups in the collaborative planning process of the Continuous School Improvement Plan.



Major Recommendation # 1
Continue to discuss, realign,
and codify the relative
responsibilities of the
principal and board(s).



Major Recommendation # 2

Complete curriculum maps in all subject areas so they are current and include: (1) school wide expected student outcomes, (2) scope and sequence of instruction for each subject area at each grade level, (3) biblical integration concepts, (4) school selected standards and, (5) assessments.



**Major
Recommendation #3
Develop written
policies and
procedures to allocate
and protect
instructional time and
learning opportunities
and support student
learning and
graduation
requirements.**



Major Recommendation #4

**Adapt consistent
procedures for
implementing
security and crisis
management
plans.**



Accreditation Recommendation

Based on our findings from the review of evidence, this Visiting Team recommends that the

Valley Christian School

be ACCREDITED

pending further review and final action by the
ACSI Commission on Accreditation.



What happens next?

- School receives visiting team report within 30 days
- ACSI Commission on Accreditation
 - ✓ reviews the visiting team report
 - ✓ determines accreditation status
 - ✓ determines any changes in the report
- ACSI forwards report to partner accreditation association
- After receipt of final report, the school is expected to:
 - ✓ Review and communicate the findings
 - ✓ Maintain accreditation standards
 - ✓ Update the CSIP to include major recommendations in the school improvement process
 - ✓ Implement strategies for improvement through the CSIP & report annually to ACSI on major recommendations

Final Thoughts

- ***Congratulations***
 - on completion of this stage of the process
 - on hosting a very successful visit
- ***Admiration***
 - for examining yourselves with integrity and preparing well for the visiting team
- ***Heartfelt appreciation***
 - for the warm welcome, genuine hospitality, and eager cooperation!

It has been a personal pleasure and a professional honor to serve **Valley Christian as you seek to provide your students with an excellent Christ-centered education.**

NEW DAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
A FREE METHODIST CHURCH

VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

PARKING
↪

WORSHIP
CENTER
↪

OFFICE
↪

PRIVATE PROPERTY
NO TRESPASSING
NO ALCOHOL
NO DRUGS



Thank you and good Bye