



INSPIRING PROGRESS
ADVANCING EXCELLENCE

Membership Criteria

The school...

1. Has a clear statement of mission and philosophy.
2. Consists of three or more consecutive grades in kindergarten through grade nine or equivalent.
3. Is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization as attested by federal and state records.
4. Has a non-discrimination statement as required by law.
5. Is governed by an appropriately constituted and substantially independent governing board, in accordance with the by-laws of the corporation.
6. Has policies and procedures to ensure that any perceived or actual conflicts of interest for board members are disclosed and managed appropriately.
7. Has an annual audit of school's financial statements, performed by an independent certified public accountant, that demonstrates adequate financial resources to carry out its mission.

Accreditation Standards

Major Standards

1. There is a high degree of congruence between the school's stated mission and philosophy and its operations and culture.
2. Faculty, administrators and support staff are well suited to their specific responsibilities by training, education and/or experience
3. Faculty, administrators and support staff participate in a clearly defined program for professional growth.
4. The school has a clearly defined and implemented program for the regular supervision and evaluation of faculty, administration and support staff performance.
5. The school's curriculum and teaching methods are congruent with its stated mission and philosophy.



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6. The faculty and administration have a consistent process by which they regularly document, review, evaluate, and revise the educational program.
7. The governing board recognizes its role as a strategic, policy-setting body and delegates to the head the task of managing the operations of the school, while also providing appropriate support.
8. The governing board is appropriately organized to carry out its fiduciary responsibilities and to ensure the stability of the school.
9. The school has policies and procedures for the effective oversight of its financial resources.
10. The school has policies and procedures to foster the physical and emotional safety and well-being of its students.

General Standards

11. The school has completed a thorough and inclusive Self-Study as outlined in the AISNE Manual for School Evaluation, documented its strengths and weaknesses, and described any plans to implement change.
12. The school periodically reviews its mission and philosophy.
13. The school has policies and procedures that foster a cohesive and inclusive community in which all students are treated respectfully and are successfully integrated into the school community.
14. The school has a clearly articulated admission process that is consistent with its mission and communicated in writing to prospective candidates and their families.
15. The school has established means for communicating clear, substantive, and timely information to parents/guardians concerning programs, procedures, and the progress and development of their children.
16. The school has established means for families to express their questions and concerns to the appropriate school personnel.
17. The school works to build a positive relationship with the local community.
18. Faculty, administrators, and support staff are sufficient in number.
19. The school's hiring practices are fair, transparent, and inclusive.
20. (If applicable) The school's Internship/Apprentice Teaching program is effective.
21. The school's curriculum is informed by research regarding teaching and learning.



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22. The school periodically collects and uses information and data regarding current students and graduates to inform curricular decisions and classroom instruction, as appropriate to its mission.
23. The school's extracurricular, co-curricular, and ancillary programs are congruent with its mission and philosophy.
24. The school's curriculum reflects appropriate continuity and sequence across the grades and divisions.
25. The program content, teaching methods, and assessment practices accommodate student developmental levels, learning styles, and abilities.
26. The school's teaching practices, curriculum and broader educational program reflect a commitment to social justice, inclusivity and diversity, as appropriate to its mission.
27. The school integrates technology in a way that is congruent to its mission.
28. The school's educational resources, including instructional materials and the library, are adequate and support the curriculum.
29. (if applicable) The residential program is congruent with the mission and is well defined and implemented to provide a healthy, balanced, and enriched experience for students.
30. The governing board periodically plans for the strategic long-range needs of the school.
31. The governing board incorporates diversity and equity in the formulation of school policy as appropriate to its mission and philosophy.
32. The governing board follows processes for board member recruitment, orientation, education, and regular self-evaluation.
33. The governing board hires and enters into a written contract with the head and regularly evaluates the head's performance through a mutually agreed upon procedure.
34. The school provides its employees with clear written policies and has a process for ensuring that those policies are applied equitably.
35. The school's policies, programs and decisions support environmental sustainability.
36. The school maintains and retains accurate, adequate, and secure records on all present and former students and all employees, and these records are available only to authorized individuals.



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37. The school has a clear understanding of its short and long-term development needs and provides adequate resources for meeting those short and long-term goals.
38. The school's physical facilities are adequate to support its program.
39. The school has a process for monitoring that its physical facilities are in compliance with all federal, state, and local legal and regulatory requirements.
40. Dining facilities, staff, and menu are adequate for the level of services offered.
41. The school's health care services for students and employees are administered and carried out by personnel whose training and experience are adequate and appropriate for the level of services offered.
42. The school has a process for monitoring its compliance with all federal, state, and local legal and regulatory requirements concerning health and safety.
43. The school has a written protocol to be followed in the case of emergencies and/or crises.