

# **The Commission on Independent Schools**

## **Membership and Responsibilities**

### Current Membership – 23

- 19 heads of school, one lower school director, one Assistant Head of School, two public members
- Representation from six states and many types of school
- Members are elected for a three-year term at December annual meeting of delegates

### Responsibilities

- Oversee the accreditation process, policies and procedures
- Recommend changes in Standards to the Board of NEASC
- Receive reports from visiting teams
- Decide on continuing accreditation status of schools
- Recommend to the Board of NEASC concerning initial accreditation or removal from accreditation

### Commission Meetings

- The Commission meets in February, June, and November
- Schools are reviewed by one of two committees: elementary or secondary
- One member reviews the self-study, financial data and visiting team report and makes a recommendation to the Commission
- All committee members receive the visiting team report and participate in discussion

### Possible Actions Concerning Schools

For a school seeking initial accreditation:

- Accreditation (if all standards are met)
- Accreditation and some specific stipulation (if all standards are met)
- Tabling of action pending completion of a specific response from the school (action will be tabled if a school has a rating of 4, 5, or 6 on any standard)
- Denial of accreditation (This is an adverse recommendation and is subject to the appeal process of the Association.)

For a school seeking continued accreditation:

- Continued accreditation (if all standards are met)
- Continued accreditation and some specific stipulation (if all standards are met)
- Continued accreditation with failed standard(s) rating of 4, 5, or 6 (the school will have no more than one year to correct)
- Continued accreditation on Warning (This is a non-public action which entails a special report and focused visit.)
- Continued accreditation on Probation (This is a public action which is usually taken only after a period on Warning. This is an adverse recommendation and is subject to the appeal process of the Association.)

- Continued accreditation with stipulations suggests to the Commission that some follow-up activity beyond the regular interim reports is warranted.

#### Follow-up Actions

- All schools must file a 2-Year Interim Evaluation Report and a 5-Year Interim Evaluation Report
- The Commission may request a Special Report on any subject and timetable
- The Commission may schedule a Focused Visit to the school following a Special Report
- A One-Year Report documenting compliance with any standard not met at the time of the visit

#### The Interim Evaluation Report

- The school documents how it has met any Standards not met at the time of the visit
- A narrative report on all Major Recommendations, as identified by the Commission
- A report on the school's response to all other recommendations