

BCS Self-Study 2002-2004

Bellevue Christian School is in the second year of the self-study/re-accreditation process, which is part of an ongoing accreditation cycle. Last year we conducted a K-12 self-study, using an evaluation tool developed by Christian Schools International (CSI). Twenty-two committees, made up of faculty, therapists, support staff, administrators, and parents, worked together to evaluate a wide range of programs and aspects of our school. Each committee was responsible for studying a specific topic within the categories of Community, Staff, Students, and Curriculum. The committees collected and examined documents, conducted interviews, developed surveys, and studied policies and practices of the school. Results of the surveys were published and made available to the school community.

Last spring all of the committees completed their initial reports, which include their evaluations, as well as celebrations and recommendations for improvement. As a further step in the process, each committee examined their recommendations in light of the Plan for Renewal. They aligned their recommendations with attributes of the Plan for Renewal, which is the basis for our school improvement plan. After reading and editing the committee reports, the Steering Committee prepared a notebook, including the committee reports and documentation for each category. Copies of these documents are available in the school offices.

Site Visit

On October 21, 22, and 23 a team of educators from public and private schools and from Seattle Pacific University visited the elementary and secondary campuses. Before arriving at BCS, they had received the self-study committee reports and documentation. While here they studied reports, documentation, and survey results, visited classrooms, and interviewed individuals, including faculty and staff, administrators, students, parents, and board members. Team members have written their initial reports, providing observations, evaluations, celebrations, and recommendations. They presented an initial oral report to faculty and administration on October 23 in which they focused mainly on celebrations and commendations including

- ? The rich heritage and solid philosophical foundation of the school
- ? Effective organization and sound financial management
- ? Strong parent support
- ? Dedication of faculty, staff, and administration with deep heart commitment to Jesus Christ and His kingdom
- ? Effective admissions process
- ? Wide range of curricular and extra-curricular offerings for students
- ? Stewardship of physical facilities

- ? Well-developed curriculum, including philosophy, goals and objectives
- ? Evidence of a truly Christian approach to teaching and learning

The team also gave a preview of some of their recommendations, which include

- ? The challenge to preserve the rich heritage and philosophical foundations for future generations
- ? Consistent evaluation of all personnel
- ? Increased funding for professional development

The team affirmed the work of the Self-Study and the reports of the committees. They also unanimously recommended the re-accreditation of Bellevue Christian School. On November 13 representatives of the visiting team will present their written report to the Bellevue Christian School Board.

Following the site visit, the BCS Self-Study Steering Committee will consider the findings and recommendations of the visiting team, prepare the final school improvement plan, using the CSI evaluation tool and The Plan for Renewal. The school improvement plan will be submitted to the school board for approval and will be made available to the school community. By April 15 the school improvement plan will be submitted to Christian Schools International and to the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. BCS will receive re-accreditation through both CSI and NASC.

We are grateful for the hard work and dedication of BCS faculty, staff, administration, and parents who have given a great deal of time and energy to the self-study process. We are also grateful to the visiting team who took time from their busy schedules to offer their expertise and service to BCS. We greatly appreciate their conscientious and thorough efforts on our behalf. It was a pleasure to have them visit our school and we extend our heartfelt thanks.

Members of the Visiting Team October 2003

Elaine Brouwer, chair, Co-director of Alta Vista and District Coordinator of Northwest Christian Schools International

Patti Weber, Director of Curriculum and Staff Development, Mercer Island School District

Jay Faber, elementary math and technology teacher, Kent School District

Dr. Luke Reinsma, Professor of English, Seattle Pacific University

Dr. Rick Eigenbrood, Associate Professor of Education, Seattle Pacific University

Tim Visser, Principal, Shoreline Christian School

Ray Klapwyk, retired Superintendent, Mount Vernon Christian School

Harlan Kredit, science teacher, Lynden Christian High School

Vonnie Roosendaal, third grade teacher and curriculum coordinator, Shoreline Christian School

Don Kok, principal, Lynden Christian Elementary and Middle Schools

Steve Stein, Principal, Ellensburg Christian School

Ron Mahan, Principal, Eastside Christian School

Beth Vandebroek, first grade teacher, Oak Harbor Christian School

**BCS Self-Study Steering Committee
2003-2004**

Committee Chair	Jackie Campbell
Chair of Category 1:	Jan Beltz
Chair of Category 2:	Doug McCardle
Chair of Category 3:	Bill Safstrom
Chair of Category 4:	Dan Ribera
Special Academic Services	Joni Hanna
Preschool	Juliann Phillips
High School Teacher	Merry McCreery
Elementary Teacher	Debbie Symonds
Elementary Teacher	Carol Murphy
Board Representative	Terry Pheifer
Facilitator	Ron Souza
CSI Consultant	Elaine Brouwer

**BCS Self-Study Steering Committee
(2002-2003)**

Committee Chair	Jackie Campbell
Chair of Category 1:	Jeanette Thorson
Chair of Category 2:	Doug McCardle
Chair of Category 3:	Bill Safstrom
Chair of Category 4:	Dan Ribera
Special Academic Services	Joni Hanna
Preschool	Juliann Phillips
Board Representative	Terry Pheifer
Facilitator	Chuck Pasma
CSI Consultant	Elaine Brouwer

Sub-category Chairpersons

CATEGORY I: COMMUNITY

1.1: Philosophy, Mission, Goals	Joel Ulrich
1.2: Organization	Ken Olfert
1.3: Financial Management	Bob Hibbard
1.4: Public Relations	Amy Bruinius
1.5: Parents	Jan Beltz

CATEGORY II: STAFF

2.1: Professional and Support Staff	Jean Brown
2.2: Administration	David Seymour
2.3: Teachers	Evelyn Seymour
2.4 Career Ladder	Tim Bruinius
2.5 Collaboration	Merry McCreery

CATEGORY III: STUDENTS

3.1: Admissions	Judy Robinson
3.2: Student Services	Karen Johnson
3.3: Physical Facilities	Jennifer Smith

CATEGORY IV: CURRICULUM

4.1: Curriculum Procedures	Candi Donovan
4.2: Instructional Procedures/Resources	Bill Weston
4.3: Written Curriculum	Richard Jones
4.4: Enrichment	Marjolynn Brasseur
4.5: SAS	Joni Hanna