

**NCPSA RECOGNIZED
ACCREDITING ASSOCIATIONS**

Accreditation International

*Accrediting Association of Seventh-day
Adventist Schools, Colleges, and
Universities*

Alabama Independent School Association

American Montessori Society

*Association of Christian Teachers and
Schools*

*Association of Independent Schools of
Florida*

*Association of Waldorf Schools
of North America*

Christian Schools International

Christian Schools of Florida

Council on Occupational Education

*Florida Association of Christian
Colleges and Schools*

Florida Catholic Conference

Kentucky Nonpublic School Commission

*National Accreditation Board of
Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch*

*National Independent Private
Schools Association*

*North American Christian School
Accrediting Agency*

*Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
School Accreditation*

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**NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR
PRIVATE SCHOOL
ACCREDITATION**



NCPSA

**A CONSORTIUM OF ACCREDITING
ASSOCIATIONS FOR THE RECOGNITION &
ACCREDITATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD,
ELEMENTARY, & SECONDARY
PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

PURPOSE

Established in 1993, (NCPSA) the National Council for Private School Accreditation has the following purposes:

- 1) To encourage the accreditation process as an organizational witness of credibility for the early childhood, elementary, and secondary private school sector, as characterized by voluntary peer recognition based on accepted and published standards of excellence;
- 2) To provide national leadership and communication for private school accreditation through the recognition and voluntary association of credible and responsible private school accrediting associations and member accredited schools;
- 3) To recognize, encourage, and improve the quality and diversity of private early childhood, elementary, and secondary education including, but not necessarily limited to, the development of educational and research activities, services, and opportunities related to accreditation;
- 4) To obtain state, regional, national, and international recognition from government and non-government officials, other organizations, and associations.

ACCREDITATION IMPERATIVES

NCPSA recognizes that a valid responsible accreditation process will contain the following elements for both the national organization as well as its member accrediting associations and its member accredited schools.

- Standards.** To effect and validate academic and professional quality, an accrediting association must establish and publish its standards for quality assurance and school improvement.
- Self-Study.** Integral to the entire accreditation process is the opportunity for a school to engage in a self-study process whereby it may assess its own effectiveness based on the established standards & guidelines, make any necessary school improvements, and report its results.
- Site Visit.** A site visit serves three functions: (1) to verify that all materials submitted by the school are accurate; (2) to validate, by on-site inspection, the results of the self-study, and (3) to allow qualified professionals to make recommendations for the overall improvement of the school.
- Publication.** In order to be credible and responsive to various publics, the accrediting association must publish its standards and procedures and make them available to prospective applicants as well as its defined publics.
- Re-evaluation.** Accreditation is both a result and a process for school improvement. Re-evaluation is essential to insure that members are maintaining and advancing the quality education for students and schools. Annual reports and periodic site visits are required.

NCPSA BENEFITS AND ACTIVITIES

- Consortium of private school accrediting agencies and member accredited schools engaged in the professional, collegial recognition, development, and promotion of private education issues at the national level.
- Validation of accreditation standards, procedures, and implementation by recognized professional accreditation organizations and professionals.
- Annual meetings & conferences with representatives of recognized professional organizations.
- Opportunity for accredited schools to participate in regional, trans-regional, national & international accreditation.

