

To: Indiana State Board of Education From: Office of School Accountability

Date: May 22, 2024

Subject: Accreditation Petition for Calumet Christian School

This memorandum provides a summary of the information provided by the school in its petition for performance-based accreditation and the final recommendation from the Indiana Department of Education (Department) regarding the accreditation of Calumet Christian School (CCS).

Background & Demographic Information

Calumet Christian School, formerly Calumet Baptist Schools, Inc. currently operates in Griffith, Indiana and serves students in kindergarten through grade 12. The school operates strictly inperson. CCS has been in operation since 1962. CCS currently has accreditation through American Association of Christian Schools (AACS).

Calumet Christian School exists to "support families by equipping students spiritually, academically, socially, and physically through Biblical truth to serve God faithfully".

CCS currently has 179 students and projects that it will enroll roughly 231 students in the next five years.

Operations

Facilities: CCS operates at 826 N. Harvey Street, Griffith, Indiana. The school is hosted at the facility belonging to Griffith Baptist Church. The school and church are unaffiliated and separate entities. The church provides eleven classrooms, a library, a nearly full-size practice gym, an auditorium, in addition to multiple offices for the school's use. The school has approximately 20,000 square feet of space. A rented modular has provided two additional classrooms. The church has allowed CCS to build an addition which will add approximately 3,600 square feet in 6 additional classrooms. This property has been inspected and passed all local and state requirements with no compliance violations noted.

Tuition: Annual tuition and fees for CCS is \$7,800 per year for K-12 students. Fees are \$200 for new students and \$100 for current students. There are additional costs, totaling \$806 for early and after care fees, Chromebook fees, hot lunch, and athletic fees. CCS currently participates in the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

Staffing: The school operates under Head of School/Administrator, Wayne Morosco. He has a master's degree in Christian education and was Director of Operations/Interim Principal at Summit Christian School for two years. Jessica Cheers-Lloyd is the elementary school principal at CCS. Ms. Cheers-Lloyd has experience as an elementary school teacher. Tashena Melton is

the secondary school principal at CCS. Ms. Melton has a Master's degree in English and has an Indiana teaching license.

Currently, CCS has 14 teachers, one of which has an Indiana teaching license.

Academic Programming

Students will be instructed in the areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, library, keyboarding, Bible, art, music and physical education. CCS follows the state standards in mathematics, science, English/language arts, and social studies.

Students are accommodated based on their different learning styles. Extra support is available if needed. CCS provided understanding of the required Indiana state assessments and which grades are required to take each state assessment.

Department Recommendation

Calumet Christian School has been in operation for 62 years, with their enrollment growing at a reasonable pace. In addition, Calumet Christian School has plans for steady reasonable growth for the future. Based on the submitted petition and accompanying materials, Calumet Christian School has a fair understanding of the requirements of being an Indiana performance-based accredited school. Therefore, the Department recommends granting Calumet Christian School provisional state performance-based accreditation as a nonpublic school in Indiana.