

**NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF ACCREDITED SCHOOLS  
Third Party And Research Committee**

Clark County School District  
Curriculum and Professional Development Building  
3950 S. Pecos-McLeod  
Las Vegas, NV 89121-4396

**Minutes  
April 1, 2008**

1. Welcome and Introductions.  
**Present:** Chair Dr. Joanne Erickson, Stan Baker, Les Daenzer, Bob Donaldson, Keith Savage, and Jack Schuster.  
**Absent:** Jay Eslick, Dr. Salam Noor, and Terry Ogborn.  
**Staff:** Executive Director, Dr. David Steadman, and Associate Director, Leonard Paul.
2. Minutes.  
**MOTION: To approve the amended minutes – passed.**
  - a. Discussion on the motion. The committee reaffirmed the need to conduct a survey every three years.
3. Research. The committee reviewed the NAAS February 2007 survey in order to determine its next actions. Dr. Erickson summarized the results and procedures for survey administration. She reported that the number of responses were adequate to obtain an valid survey. She reported that high schools were the largest responding group at 50.9 % and special purpose schools and middle level schools responding at 16%. 60.9% of the responses were from public schools. The majority of the responses to the questions were in the 'Agree' followed by 'Strongly Agree' categories.

The committee reaffirmed the need to conduct the survey every three years as approved earlier in the minutes in order to establish longitudinal data. It was emphasized that the next survey would allow:

- a. a summary page for the report;
- b. establishing a three year on-going event;
- c. disaggregating the data by state;
- d. the work to be done by the committee (not only Dr. Erickson);
- e. a change in survey item number four so that it could become a 'response' item rather than a 'write-in' item; and
- f. the committee to continue to use a web survey such as *Survey Monkey*.

The committee emphasized the need to continually look at research opportunities. It was determined that:

- a. During each of the years between the satisfaction surveys there would be one focus question as a research topic. The committee established research topics for the next two years.

- b. 2008-09 survey would focus on comparison of the standards and indicators with the following:
  - i. third-party agencies;
  - ii. other regions; and
  - iii. research.
- c. 2009-10 survey questions would focus on the NAAS' standards revisions.

**MOTION: To accept the 2008-09 survey topic comparing Northwest Association of Accredited Schools standards with our third-party agencies, other regions, and research. To accept the topic of Northwest Association of Accredited Schools' standards revisions for the 2009-10 survey – approved.**

- 4. Third Party Agencies. The committee reviewed a list of the seven third-party agencies including names of the executive directors and their addresses.
  - a. Schools listings. The committee reviewed the third party schools listing by agency. There were one-hundred eighty-five third party schools listed.
  - b. Interim Reporting Schedule. The committee reviewed the reporting schedule for third party agencies interim reports to the committee. See Appendix A.
  - c. Interim Report Instructions. The committee reviewed the fifteen policy criteria and corresponding prompts that agencies received in order to prepare for the interim report to the committee. See Appendix B.
  - d. Report on visits to Third Party Accreditation Agency and/or Accreditation Meetings. The associate director reported that he had attended third party association meetings and participated on various visiting teams. A discussion was held as to how to get more participation of NAAS members on third-party visiting teams. The committee agreed upon the need to emphasize active participation in third party visitations by state representatives other than state committee members. It was also agreed that a member of this committee would participate on a third-party agency visiting team prior to the agency's interim report.
  - e. Christian Schools International (CSI) Interim Report. James DeKorne, Vice President of Schools Services for CSI made the interim presentation. He reviewed CSI's compliance with the fifteen criteria policies required for approval. He announced the appointment of a Northwest district coordinator, Elaine Brouwer. Ms. Brouwer was located in Seattle, WA and this division maintains its own website at [www.nwcsi.org](http://www.nwcsi.org).
  - f. Association of Christian Teachers and Schools (ACTS) Interim Report. A team of ACTS representatives provided the interim presentation in the absence of Dr. Jay Nelson who was recovering from surgery. The team members were Greg Miller, Administrator and Wyn Jones, Elementary Principal, from Layton Christian Academy in Layton, UT, Clint Behrends, Superintendent of the Cedar Park School, along with Dr. Mac Culver, Elementary Principal, of Cedar Park Christian School in Bothell, WA. ACTS is the accreditation agency for select Assembly of God schools. The ACTS standards were reviewed. There was discussion that the committee would like to see a NW point of contact for schools located in the region.

**MOTION: To approve the continued third-party relationship with CSI – passed.**

Discussion on the motion. The committee reported that it was impressed with the professionalism and organizational structure as well as the CSI presentation.

**MOTION: To continue the third-party relationship with ACTS with the following provisions:**

1. **To consider appointing a Northwest region representative that would be a point of contact for NAAS accredited schools;**
2. **Align teacher licensure/certification with the state where they are located.**
3. **NAAS Third Party Committee involvement on an ACTS team visit within the next three years.**
4. **ACTS to develop an outline of ACTS accreditation delineating the required processes and associated activities – passed.**