

WASC Self-Study Report

CMIS

November 16, 2016

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Chapter 1

Preface

Chapter 2

Student/Community Profile and Supporting Data and Findings

2.1 CMIS Identifying Information

Superintendent Nel Capadona

Year Established 1954

Last WASC Accreditation June 2011

Grades Accredited PK-12

Current Enrollment (May 1, 2016) 498

Enrollment At Last Accreditation (2010-2011) 459

Enrollment At Previous Accreditation (2004-2005) 401

Current Number Of Teaching Staff (May 1, 2016) 69

Number Of Teaching Staff At Last Accreditation (2010-2011) 57

Number Of Teaching Staff At Previous Accreditation (2004-2005) 43

2.2 CMIS: The School and the Community

Chiang Mai International School (CMIS) is located just outside the old city of Chiang Mai, within the boundaries of the Superhighway. Chiang Mai is the largest significant city in Northern Thailand, and the former capital of the Lanna kingdom.

Founded in 1296 AD, Chiang Mai is a growing city with a unique balance of modern conveniences and historic culture. It is located in the northern region of Thailand, approximately 720 km from Bangkok. Chiang Mai covers an area of 20,170 sq. km. and supports a population of 1,682,164 (based on June 2015 data). It is a predominantly agricultural area with a well-established manufacturing and service-based economy. Because of the rich culture, pleasant climate, stable economy, and friendly, relaxed atmosphere, Chiang Mai attracts many expats. Tourism is one of the major industries, attracting more than 2 million foreign visitors annually. The area also supports local and international businesses, NGOs, and mission organizations, which employ foreign professionals.

Our school, the first international school in Thailand outside of Bangkok, has a long and provincial history. Our campus is a testament of this history! From the beginning as an American Presbyterian missionary residence, to now as a 21st century school campus, the land on which CMIS sits has continually developed is a living and learning community with a strong sense of identity and a vision of educational excellence.

Missionaries returning to work with the Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT) after World War II established a school for their children in Chiang Mai. When CMIS was founded in 1954, the school was originally established in the McGilvary house (located on the First Church property along the Ping River). Classes began with eight students on June 1, 1954. In 1958, construction began on the present campus for the Chiang Mai Childrens Center. Student numbers grew as more expatriate families seeking an English-language education for their children moved to Chiang Mai.

In 1984, representatives of the Thai Foreign Ministry and the CCT agreed that the formal establishment of an international school in Chiang Mai was a necessary step to achieving the schools legal status. Classes began in September 1985 for Kindergarten to Grade 8 under the new name Chiang Mai International School (CMIS). High school grades were progressively added from 1992 to 1995.

Our current campus is located in close proximity to private Thai schools, a hospital, a seminary and a university, all of which were founded by American Presbyterian missionaries and owned by the CCT. The existing buildings on the CMIS campus, and their history of construction, are as follows:

1. McKean House (Administration Building) (1906)

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2. Pre-School Building (1958)
 3. Library Building (1958)
 4. Auditorium Building (1988)
 5. High School Building (1990)
 6. Elementary Building (1997)
 7. Gymnasium Building (2007)

Today CMIS is a dynamic international school with over 500 students, but is it is still small enough to retain a friendly and relaxed campus environment. It also remains true to the traditions of its founders, serving missionary families and maintaining the heritage and values of the Christian faith at the heart of the school, while welcoming children of all faiths, cultures, and ethnic backgrounds from the growing international community in Chiang Mai.

Of the five main international schools in Chiang Mai, CMIS is the only one in close proximity to the center of the city. With the growth potential promised by the ASEAN agreement, CMIS has looked toward expanding the current campus to meet the needs of the community while maintaining its characteristic close family atmosphere. Short and long term campus development planning have been a huge focus for the past six years. There is now a long term plan that includes additional buildings and planned renovations to existing buildings. The timeline for development began in July 2014, and actual construction began in April 2016. Construction of a new high school building, a covered court, a new library and cafeteria, and swimming pool are expected to be completed by December 2018. Campus Development Timeline. There are ongoing renovation and enhancement projects to maintain the school grounds and existing facilities. Campus Development Renovation. CMIS Campus Development. CMIS Campus Development Site plan

As a standards-based American curricular school, CMIS offers a challenging educational experience, rooted in Christian values, which helps develop students into global citizens; as reflected in the CMIS vision, mission statement, and learner outcomes:

Student Characteristics

Excellence in academics and ability to form successful relationships in a multicultural Environment.

School Identity

Developing academic excellence within a multicultural environment committed to Christian Values.

2.3 CMIS Vision

Educational excellence in a caring community, committed to Christian values, equipping international students for lives of learning and positive contributions, both locally and globally.

2.4 CMIS Mission

CMIS instills in students the capacity to effectively identify and pursue personal and academic goals based on educational excellence and strong moral foundations.

1. Academic opportunities are designed to ensure student readiness for college, career, and life. Learner Outcomes:
 - At CMIS, students will learn to:
 - Embody a work ethic that values learning and academic integrity
 - Exhibit thinking that is creative and takes risks
 - Pursue personal growth as adaptive, independent learners
 - Utilize resources and technology to effectively support learning and work
2. Positive community participation is emphasized in daily life at CMIS in order to ensure the continuing development of lasting, deeply-rooted student character. Learner Outcomes: At CMIS, students will learn to:
 - Understand Christian virtues and character
 - Demonstrate integrity through consistent respect for people of all faiths
 - Build cultural awareness and an appreciation for diversity
 - Serve as responsible, proactive members of the global community

2.5 Enrollment Patterns

Overall student enrollment has increased incrementally by 10 to 20 students per year over the past five academic years. More than half of the increase came through filling existing vacancies in the Elementary School. While the Elementary grew at an average rate of 6% per year, total school enrollment increased by only 2% per year. Prior to 2012, Grade 6 was classified as Elementary, whereas

from 2013 to present, Grade 6 is classified as Middle School. Despite the categorical change, Middle School enrollment actually declined slightly throughout the reporting period. In the 2016-2017 academic year, total school enrollment surpassed 500 for the first time in history.

CONTENT PLACEHOLDER

Enrollment 2012-2016 graphs and data

2.6 Student Diversity

The CMIS student body represents a diverse international community, with students from over 30 different countries. The largest single group are those who have dual passport status or parents from two different countries. Many factors are taken into consideration when selecting our CMIS students. Age, gender, and nationality are certainly among them. However, academic potential, the ability to follow instructions, personal maturity, social skills, and overall potential to succeed are of greater importance. Regardless of nationality or ethnic identity, all successful applicants must be qualified personally, socially, and academically.

We give priority enrollment to qualified applicants from the Western world. There are no restrictions placed on our dual citizens or those coming from Western countries, such as the United States, Canada, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, and English-speaking countries in Europe or Asia. We do not make exceptions for our missionary or diplomatic communities, but we do reserve spaces for them and give them priority for acceptance, if qualified. In the 2016-2017 academic year, the percentage of American, Australian, Canadian, Dual, and United Kingdom students is as follows:

- American = 117 (23%)
- Australian / New Zealander 21 (4%)
- Canadian 8 (2%)
- Dual (%)
- United Kingdom 26 (5%)

Thai, Korean, Chinese, and Japanese applicants are considered on a space-available basis. Our target goals for each of these populations compared to our current enrollment are as follows:

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- Thai 25% = 183 (36%)
 - Korean 20% = 75 (15%)
 - Chinese 10% = 24 (5%)

CONTENT PLACEHOLDER

MORE ENROLLMENT DATA GOES HERE

2.7 Criteria for Admission of Students

2.7.1 Standards for Entry

CMIS strives to maintain a balanced, harmonious international environment where English is the language of inclusion. We welcome applications from international students who:

1. Qualify academically (as determined by school records and standardized entrance assessment results) and
2. Meet the required English-language proficiency expectations for their grade level (as determined by CMIS guidelines).

CMIS strives to keep class sizes small, and thus provide the individualized, differentiated instruction that is needed to help each student succeed.

Application to CMIS is competitive, and all students must have a minimum level of English language proficiency before they can be considered for enrollment. The primary conditions for acceptance are academic eligibility, English-language proficiency, and exemplary behavior. As part of the application process, applicants must submit copies of the current and previous years grade reports with teachers' comments, and any relevant standardized test results. We can accept a limited number of academically qualified non-native English speakers, provided that their English-language proficiency falls within the CMIS guidelines for English as a Second Language (ESL) or English for Academic Purposes (EAP). We can also accept a limited number for students with mild-to-moderate learning disabilities (as determined by previous school records, standardized testing, and Individualized Educational Plans), provided their disability falls within the CMIS guidelines for Learning Support (LS) and there is space available.

CMIS offers a Pre-School program for 4-year-old children who have reached their 4th birthday before the start of school in August. The age / grade standard is set accordingly throughout elementary; age 5 for entry into Kindergarten, age 6 for grade 1, etc. All applicants for Pre-School through Gr. 5 must have passed their required birth day by the start of school in August. Students with birth dates after the start of school in August are classified according to their age at the time of enrollment, thus, any single CMIS grade level may have as much as 11 months of variability in the age of the students.

For students who apply for entry to Middle School, applicants must have successfully completed the previous academic level and be within the appropriate age range for entry. The age / grade level standard is adhered to as closely as possible, although an otherwise qualified applicant would rarely be asked to repeat a grade level that has been successfully completed in a comparable academic system. Transferring into CMIS High School is dependent upon the number of credits on the student's transcript, compared to the CMIS graduation requirements.

Although we expect to have annual vacancies at each grade level, we reserve spaces for qualified, priority applicants. Our Priority Categories are as follows:

- Christian Missionary families,
- Diplomatic / Consular families,
- NGO / Non-profit organization families,
- Siblings of current CMIS students, and
- Former CMIS families who are returning from abroad
- CMIS Staff children
- All other applicants are considered on a space-available basis.

CMIS uses the Early Screening Inventory (ESI) for assessing Pre-School and Kindergarten applicants. The test is scaled for children 3 years and 6 months old to 6 years 11 months. Applicants for entry into Grades 1 through 11 are assessed with the WIDA (World-class Instructional Design and Assessment) to determine English-language proficiency. The WIDA is divided into four grade level clusters:

- Grades 1 - 2
- Grades 3 - 5
- Grades 6 - 8

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- Grades 9 - 12

Each form of the WIDA assesses the four language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

2.7.2 Admissions Committee Review Process

The CMIS Admissions Committee is responsible for making all decisions regarding student applications. The Committee consists of the Admissions Director, School Superintendent, Dean of Students, Elementary Principal, Elementary Counselor, Middle School Counselor, and High School Counselor. Learning Support Specialists serve as adjunct members of the Committee, and may be asked to comment, provide additional assessment, or recommend further testing.

In their assessment of an application, the Committee takes the following information into account:

- applicant's profile
- previous academic background
- performance on CMIS entrance assessment
- English-language ability
- availability of space at the recommended grade level / support program

In brief, applicants are expected to:

- qualify academically (above average grades in a comparable academic system)
- meet the English-language proficiency expectations for their grade level
- fit into a CMIS priority category or add value to our CMIS community
- be able to succeed academically without ESL or LS, or fit our criteria to qualify for those support programs
- meet behavioral and social expectations of the CMIS student body

The Committee determines the applicants qualifications for each criteria by:

- reviewing academic records (minimum of 2 years, as appropriate) and standardized test results

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- conducting entrance assessments
 - reviewing psychologists' assessments or other supporting documentation
 - meetings with the applicant and family
 - reviewing letters of recommendation

CMIS uses Open Apply, an online application system. Applicants and enquirers are encouraged to register their interest, schedule an appointment for a meeting with the Admissions Director, and to complete their application electronically.

Newly admitted students families are given a New Family Survey to help identify areas we need to focus; both in terms of the student application process and advertising. We use this data to refine how we reach our target audience and provide a better experience for our new families.

2.8 Student Post-Graduation Plans

CMIS graduates gain admission to colleges and universities around the world, with many electing to study in North America. Approximately 98% of CMIS students attend postsecondary institutions upon graduation. For a list of colleges and universities to which CMIS Class of 2015 graduates were offered acceptance, please see our Current School Profile.

2.8.1 College and University Placement

In recent years, CMIS graduates have been accepted to a wide variety of international colleges and universities, as listed below. In keeping with this tradition of excellence, students in our 2015 graduating class have been offered acceptance into an impressive array of colleges and universities throughout the world. Those universities in which our current graduates have been offered acceptance are indicated with an asterisk

United States

- Baylor University, Waco, TX
- *Bentley University, Waltham, MA
- Boston University, Boston, MA
- Biola University, La Mirada, CA

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- *Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA
 - *California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA
 - California State University Fullerton, Fullerton, CA
 - *Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
 - *Carroll College, Waukesha, WI
 - Clark University, Worcester, MA
 - *Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
 - Davidson College, Davidson, NC
 - Emory University, Atlanta, GA
 - Fordham University, Bronx, NY
 - *Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
 - *Hult, International Business School, Boston, MA
 - *Ithaca College, New York, NY
 - Lancaster Bible College, Lancaster, PA
 - Lafayette College, Easton, PA
 - Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR
 - Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI
 - *Messiah College, Mechanicsburg, PA
 - Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
 - Mississippi State University, MS
 - *Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA
 - *New York University, Greenwich Village, NY
 - *Northeastern University, Boston, MA
 - Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, OH
 - Penn State University, State College, PA
 - Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
 - Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
 - Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

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- Rice university, Houston, TX
 - Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), Savannah, GA
 - State University of New York, (SUNY), Buffalo, NY
 - Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
 - Texas AandM University, College Station, TX
 - *University of Akron, Akron, OH
 - *University of California, Irvine / Davis / Riverside, CA
 - *University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
 - *University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, Champaign, IL
 - *University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
 - *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
 - University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
 - University of Washington, Seattle, WA
 - Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
 - Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, VA
 - *Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL

Canada

- Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario
- *Trinity Western University, BC
- University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC
- * University of Toronto
- *University of Waterloo, Toronto

Europe

- *Ecole hoteliere de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- *Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands
- Erasmus University College, Rotterdam, Netherlands

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- *Hague University of Applied Science, Netherlands
 - *Hanze University, Groningen, Netherlands
 - University College Roosevelt, Middelburg, Zeeland, Netherlands
 - University of Groningen (RUG), Groningen, Netherlands
 - *University of Aberdeen, Scotland, UK
 - *University of Nottingham, England, UK
 - *University of Sheffield, England, UK
 - *University of Stirling, Scotland, UK
 - *University of Strathclyde, Scotland, UK

Australia

- *Le Cordon Bleu, Culinary Arts Institute, Sydney
- *Blue Mountains, International Hotel Management School, Sydney

Thailand

- *Assumption, University, (ABAC), Bangkok
- *Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
- *Mahidol University, Bangkok
- Payap University, Chiang Mai
- *Thammasat University, Bangkok

Other Parts of Asia

- *Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Oita, Japan
- *Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- *Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China
- *State University of New York (SUNY), Seoul, Korea

2.8.2 University Entrance

2.9 Faculty and Staff Data

CMIS is licensed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, owned by the Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT), a national Protestant organization, and operated through a nine-member Board of Directors. The day-to-day activities of the school are run by a School Management Team (SMT) composed of a Director (Thai), a Superintendent (non-Thai), two Principals (Pre-K - 8 and High School; non-Thai), a School Manager (Thai), and an Assistant School Manager (Thai).

Director: Manoonvatana Sirisujin director@cmis.ac.th

Superintendent: Ronelda (Nel) Capadona superintendent@cmis.ac.th

ES/MS Principal: Tyler Stinchcomb elementary@cmis.ac.th

HS Principal: Aaron Willette hsprincipal@cmis.ac.th

Manager: Patcharin (Nang) Jingkaojai manager@cmis.ac.th

Asst. Manager: Peay Tananone assistant_manager@cmis.ac.th

CONTENT PLACEHOLDER

Teacher and Admin Qualifications

2.10 Staff Professional Development

CMIS is committed to providing and supporting professional development opportunities for its full-time teachers to improve teaching and student learning. This commitment is grounded in the belief that professional development is a continuous process, one which may be individualized depending on the skills and needs of the teacher for the purpose of benefiting the teacher, CMIS and its students.

The quality of our Teachers has been identified as the main factor in attracting new students to CMIS. Recognizing that, CMIS provides teachers and staff with high quality professional development opportunities, both internally and externally. The school provides funding in the amount of 10,000 Baht for each school year, for each full-time teacher to engage in professional development opportunities for the purpose of benefiting the teacher, CMIS and its students.

PD funds can be accrued up to 5 years. Any (projected) unspent amount will be returned to the general PD fund at the end of the 5-year period or earlier if the teacher leaves CMIS employment.

The PD budget may be used toward professional development (PD) recertification, workshops, conferences, professional memberships, or position-specific training. Travel, per diem, accommodation, registration, tuition, and required materials are also eligible for reimbursement, based on established guidelines. Transportation budgets are limited, and staff are encouraged to look for PD opportunities within the region.

All professional development funding and leave must be approved by the divisional principal, superintendent, or director. CMIS believes that professional development is a continuous process, which may be individualized depending on the skills and needs of the teacher in the support of student learning. Any professional development opportunity should be related to schoolwide, student learning focus.

All applications for professional development are considered carefully based on the following:

1. Location of the event with priority set in the order of Chiang Mai, Thailand, SE Asia, outside of SE Asia, as well as if the course or seminar is offered online.
2. Relevance to the school wide, student learning focus.
3. Benefit to CMIS.
4. Length of time away from school.
5. Budget availability (early application is best for this).
6. Timing of request, advanced notice is preferred.
7. Staff members seniority or stated plans to stay at CMIS.

CMIS promotes the continued professional development of its teachers in the following ways:

1. Advanced Placement (AP) Training.
2. Chiang Mai based Conferences and Seminars.
3. Online courses and seminars.
4. Conferences and seminars held in Thailand.

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5. EARCOS Conference.
 6. Out-of-country conferences and seminars.
 7. Sharing the Experience. Upon the staff members return to school, he or she is expected to share with the school what was learned. This will be arranged with the Superintendent/school Principal and a time set at an appropriate meeting to share. Staff members will also file a written assessment of the program through the Professional Development Assessment Form that will be made available for the staff to review.

CONTENT PLACEHOLDER

Professional Development Data

2.11 Non-Academic Activities

2.12 School Finance

2.13 Discipline

2.14 Student Health

2.15 Student Service

2.16 Student Performance

2.17 School Community Services

2.18 Facilities Development - School Development Plan

2.19 Parent Teacher Group

Teachers, administrators and parents or guardians of CMIS students are all automatically members of the Parent Teacher Group (PTG). The PTG is your "voice" at CMIS, as it provides a forum for sharing ideas and concerns about our school, and creates opportunities for you to establish friendships and networks within the CMIS community. The primary objectives of the PTG are:

- To promote communication between CMIS parents, teachers and administrative staff.
- To promote and actively support CMIS educational programs, sports, activities and events.

We achieve this through volunteer work and fundraising. The PTG welcomes and encourages all parents and teachers to take an active role in the school. You may do this by attending our monthly meetings, and by volunteering your

time, resources and abilities to make CMIS the best place that it can be - for the sake of our children and their education.

2.20 School Executive Team

The school executive team (SET) is made up of the director, manager, and superintendent. The SET is responsible for implementing the school vision and mission, and serving as a bridge between the Board and the school. They meet weekly to make high level decisions affecting school policies and procedures. SET, as members of the school board, ??? and raise issues to the school board. The current school executive team members are:

CMIS Director Manoonvatana Sirisujin

CMIS Manager Patcharin Jingkaojai

CMIS Superintendent Ronelda Capadona

2.21 School Management Team

The school management team (SMT) exists to further implement SET decisions. The SMT is responsible for the day-to-day, administrative, operation of the school. The SMT would be involved with issues affecting the school facility, curriculum, and student body.. The SMT consists of the SET plus the Assistant Manager, the Elementary/MS Principal, and the High School Principal.

The current school management team members are:

CMIS Director Manoonvatana Sirisujin

CMIS Manager Patcharin Jingkaojai

CMIS Superintendent Ronelda Capadona

CMIS Elementary / Middle School Principal Tyler Stinchcomb

CMIS High School Principal Aaron Willette

Assistant Manage Peay Tananone

2.22 School Board

CMIS is governed by a Board of nine Directors, four of whom are appointed by the Foundation of the Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT); the School Manager, Director, Superintendent; as well as two who are elected from the CMIS community, which include one teacher representative and one PTG representative.

The current school board members are:

Chair Rev. Dr. Esther Wakeman

Secretary Rev. Dr. Sharon Bryant

Board Member Dr. David Filbeck

Board Member Kathryn Mcdaniel

CMIS Director Manoonvatana Sirisujin

CMIS Manager Patcharin Jingkaojai

CMIS Superintendent Ronelda Capadona

PTG Representative Pascal van Geest

Teacher Representative Brad Schmock

The Roles and Responsibilities of the Board are listed below: (listed on page 9 of the Student Planner). CMIS is owned by the Foundation of the Church of Christ in Thailand (CCT), and is operated through a Board of Directors comprised of a Board Chair (appointed by CCT); the CMIS School Executive Team; an elected representative from the PTG; an elected representative from the teaching staff; and additional members appointed by the CCT.

Strategic Planning and Thinking The Board of Directors develops and maintains the strategic plan for the school, guiding decisions on the organizational level in terms of program, facilities, etc., while keeping in mind the overall vision and mission of the school.

Setting Policy The Board of Directors oversees the development of policy for school operations. Hiring, evaluating and supporting of the School Leadership Team (Director, Manager and Superintendent) is a key responsibility of the Board. The Board of Directors is not involved in the day-to-day operations of the school, but supports the school leadership in developing the necessary skills and resources to run the school effectively.

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Financial Stability The Board of Directors is responsible for the financial stability of the school and thus sets tuition rates and approves annual budgets.

How Does the Board Govern? The Board of Directors generally meets once a month from July through June. Board members should be committed to attending every board meeting, but the board is also understanding of other constraints of members time.

2.23 Teacher Administration Communication Team

The purpose of the TACT is to foster and create the best learning environment possible for our students by improving the overall happiness and satisfaction of faculty. We believe that when we invest in the well being of people, we invest in the long term success and viability of CMIS.

To this end, the role of TACT is to provide a way for faculty to raise issues, concerns, and questions to the CMIS Executive Team (Director, Superintendent, Business Manager). CMIS prefers that individuals address issues, concerns, and questions directly to their building administration (the principals of the elementary, middle, and high schools). There are times, however, when individuals may not feel comfortable in speaking with building administration or leadership; thus TACT can forward these issues on their behalf.

- we believe in positive intentions, and that all stakeholders share the same vision of the best possible learning environment for CMIS students
- we believe in openness and transparency in decision making and communications
- we believe in equity - the fair and impartial treatment of others
- we believe that praise and recognition produces far better results than criticism or punishment
- we believe in social sustainability and social responsibility

The operation of TACT follows these policies, procedures, guidelines:

Privacy Policy

- the identity of the person(s) bringing forth issues/questions/concerns is kept confidential, unless the person(s) so inform TACT they would like their name(s) to be known

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- the minutes and all other communications published by TACT are only to be shared with CMIS stakeholders (CMIS leadership, faculty, Board of Directors)
 - faculty are not required to put their name(s) on communications with TACT - though this may make it difficult for TACT to ask for clarification and lead to an issue/concern/question not being raised (clarification is often required and is confidential)

Meetings

- TACT representatives endeavor to meet regularly, from September - May, with CMIS Executive Team (Director, Superintendent, Business Manager)
- TACT representatives will plan and coordinate the date of the monthly meeting, usually for the last week of each month in the Superintendent's office

Communications Procedures and Policies

- TACT will publish the minutes of the monthly meetings with leadership by informing faculty, leadership, and the Board of Directors of these minutes through email
- TACT will inform faculty, at least one week in advance, of any upcoming meetings with CMIS leadership and request input from faculty

Issues/Questions/Concerns (guidelines)

- the issues/questions/concerns must be related to CMIS faculty (those holding a teacher's contract with CMIS)
- faculty are encouraged to first raise issues/questions/concerns, where relevant, with their respective building administration, or with CMIS leadership directly, before requesting TACT assistance
- the issues/questions/concerns must have an importance/relevance to many faculty
- some issues/questions/concerns may not be forwarded by TACT if they have already been responded to by leadership
- TACT questions, discussions and minutes must be issue-based. Person-specific questions raised and publicly minuted in TACT notes are inappropriate and potentially hurtful. Issues/questions/concerns should be researched and understood and the goal would be to find solutions that benefit CMIS as an institution and learning environment.

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- issues/questions/concerns can be brought to TACT through these methods:
 1. speaking with TACT rep for your division
 2. dropping a note in the mailbox of your TACT rep
 3. email your TACT rep directly

Grievances

When a faculty member has a grievance, either with another faculty member, leadership, etc. TACT can help facilitate the mediation process. There is an existing CMIS procedure and explanation for grievances detailed in the CMIS Faculty Handbook.

TACT representatives are familiar with the CMIS grievance procedure, and can help you by making sure these steps are followed. TACT reps role is not to participate in the procedure, rather just help to ensure the process is followed. This applies to both the informal and the formal procedures as outlined in the CMIS Faculty Handbook.

TACT Representatives - policies and procedures

1. there are three TACT representatives, one at each division (elementary, middle, high)
2. before the end of May of each year, nominations are requested from the faculty in each division for the representative for that division for the following school year
3. for consistency and to carry forward knowledge, at least one member of TACT must continue from one year to the next, thus nominations may not occur in all three divisions
4. the representatives from the previous year will oversee the nomination process for their respective divisions
5. the nomination process uses the following text, and can be run through email, at a faculty meeting, by paper ballot, a google docs form, or any other reliable and equitable method: "I nominate_the Teacher/Admin Communication Team representative for the (division name) for the_school year"

2.24 Student Council

CONTENT PLACEHOLDER

Student Council data

CMIS Student Council (StuCo) is a representative structure for all the students in MS and HS. It provides students with the opportunity to become involved in the affairs of the school, working in partnership with school management, staff, community, and parents. It should always work for the benefit of the school and its students.

- Communicating and consulting with students in the school
- Involving as many students as possible in the activities of the council and school
- Planning and managing the council's programme of activities for the year with reviews and evaluations to improve upon and change when necessary
- Communication and co-operation with school staff, board and management
- Working with parent's council (booster club) in school
- Involvement in school planning
- Having a say in school awareness and policies e.g. anti-bullying, homework, substance use, mobiles, healthy eating, code of discipline, uniform, etc

2.25 Conclusion

Chapter 3

Progress Report

Chapter 4

Student/Community Profile - Overall Summary from Analysis of Profile Data and Progress

Chapter 5

Self-Study Findings

5.1 Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

5.1.1 Current Educational Research and Thinking

Indicator: The comprehensive and sequential documented curriculum is modified as needed to address current educational research and thinking, other relevant international/national/community issues and the needs of all students.

Prompt: *Comment on the effective use of current educational research related to the curricular areas in order to maintain a viable, meaningful instructional program for students. Examine the effectiveness of how the school staff stay current and relevant and revise the curriculum appropriately within the curricular review cycle.*

Findings

CMIS Leadership and Teaching Staff continue to address and develop a comprehensive and sequential curriculum.

Standards

CMIS Leadership Team strongly believes that at the core of a rigorous, engaging, coherent curriculum are research-based standards. The CMIS Teaching Staff use multiple, comprehensive, and appropriately sequenced standards that inform and provide the foundation of our curricular decisions (see section entitled, Academic Standards in Each Area).

The 2013-2014 academic year saw a great deal of change to the standards

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which directly impacted and continue to influence curricular decisions. The CMIS Teaching Staff, with the support of the Leadership Team, adopted new standards in ELA, mathematics, and science, as well as finalizing the adoption of all other content standards (i.e. physical education, social studies, health, fine arts, world languages).

The adoption of these standards, especially in ELA, mathematics, science, and 9-12 history reflect [significant shifts](#) in conceptual understanding of the content, have major implications on instruction and assessment, and illuminate real increases in depth of knowledge and rigor. All curricular decisions would have to be made based upon these new realities. Furthermore, CMIS has begun to view our adopted standards as the bedrock of all unit creation and planning. Standards also continue to help guide appropriate instruction and ensure rigor.

Because of these conceptual shifts, the 2014-2015 saw a strong focus on professional development topics relating to the difference between curriculum and standards, and the shared responsibility of the CMIS Literacy Standards. Teachers, community members, and administrators were involved in multiple discussions and the CMIS Leadership Team believed this was an appropriate starting point for teachers and community members to begin understanding the standards and curriculum. See PTG Curriculum, Professional Development [Folder](#) for community presentations.

[Curriculum Review Cycle](#)

Since curricular decisions should be made using clear standards and student outcomes as a guide, a new [Curriculum Review Cycle/Resource Adoption strategic plan](#) had to be developed and implemented. The most important elements of the Curriculum Review process are the specific evaluations tools, rubrics, and vetting instruments that have been developed and used to narrow down vendors and products for curricular and resource materials. CMIS Leadership also provides the necessary [time](#) and [space](#) required for teacher collaboration in vetting and evaluation of curricular items.

Science curriculum was the first content to be vetted and evaluated based upon the Curriculum Review Cycle; science curriculum was purchased during the 2015-2016 school year. As with ELA curriculum decisions, science saw significant conceptual changes with the adoption of the the [Next Generation Science Standards](#). Because of this, CMIS Leadership, developed [vetting and evaluation instruments](#) to ensure curriculum and resource alignment with the standards, as well as rigor and student engagement. This year, Mathematics undertook the same curriculum vetting process and ELA/social studies will be reviewed next year.

In order to ensure that the resources we purchase outside of the normal adoption cycle are of the highest quality and they meet our three general criteria

of: is it aligned to the standards? Is it rigorous? and is it engaging? [Resource Request](#) and [Resource Renewal](#) forms were developed and implemented.

Understanding by Design Units

The past two years have also focused on the research-based planning tool Understanding by Design (UbD) as the primary framework for unit/curriculum development. A group of teachers attended a UbD workshop March 2014 and were encouraged by the process. In October, 2014, CMIS was fortunate to have UbD consultant Elizabeth Rossini provide a [two-day, 15 hour professional development workshop](#) on UbD essentials. Subsequent mini workshops have also been provided in targeted areas of UbD development; both expert teachers and the CMIS Leadership team have been involved in the development and delivery. Teachers are required to develop and submit at least two UbD units per year, with some departments requiring more. The UbD units for 2015-2016 have reflected the prior years professional development focus. In that, they have been central to ensuring that the literacy shifts and standard alignment have been met. CMIS Leadership team believe strongly in applying our professional development focus in everyday instruction and assessment; CMIS UbD units are one way to achieve this. Please see UbD Units folder for [2014-2015](#), [2015-2016](#), [2016-2017](#) and UbD [Resources](#), UbD [Resource In House](#), UbD [Master List](#), and UbD [Checklist](#).

The CMIS Google Drive is the primary method of organizing and archiving of the curricular units. The Drive along with the the [CMIS Teacher Dashboard](#), found on the school website, is a place where teachers can access these resources. The Dashboard also contains the [CMIS Standards Blueprints](#). Teacher feedback and anecdotal evidence suggested that greater alignment of the UbD units to the standards would be possible if the teachers had a general blueprint or pacing guide to help them visualize and map the whole year of standards. Department and grade level teams began the blueprint work at the beginning of the 2015-2016 year. All core subjects, with the exception of K-5 ELA and mathematics, have been completed.

Scope and Sequencing-Standard [Blueprints](#)

ELA blueprints posed a challenge as standards are addressed all year long. In order to address this challenge, small groups were scheduled for focused professional development using the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers ELA Model Frameworks (PARCC, 2016) . Collaboration time was given to ELA teachers in grades 6-12 to complete this work.

So what...

The combined teamwork of all stakeholders: the CMIS Leadership Team, the community, outside research, vetted educational organizations, and, most importantly, the teachers themselves, ensure that CMIS staff at all levels stay

current in educational research. Though CMIS ensures we stay current, there are questions about whether the current research in standards, understanding by design, and researched based resources transfers to actual classroom instruction.

5.1.2 Academic Standards for Each Area

Indicator: The school provides a comprehensive and sequential documented curriculum that is articulated within and across grade levels for the improvement of programs, learning, and teaching.

Prompt: *Evaluate to what extent there are defined academic standards for each subject area, course, and/or program (e.g., online instruction) that meet state or national/international standards.*

Findings

CMIS is in the process of developing a comprehensive and sequentially documented curriculum that is articulated within and across grade levels by combining vetted resources, research-based standards, sound pedagogical practices, and addressing fidelity to the adopted standards.

Though it is a work in progress, many elements that make up a coherent curriculum are beginning to take place, this includes quality resources, structured, teacher-developed units, and research-based standards.

CMIS Academic Standards

CMIS Leadership and Teaching Staff strongly believe in the importance of the schools academic standards. CMIS Staff use a common understanding of academic standards:

Academic standards define the concepts, skills, and knowledge that students should know and be able to do in each curricular area, the level at which students are expected to demonstrate this knowledge, and grade-level expectations for performance. In a standards-based educational system, schools determine the benchmarks for student work that meet these standards, provide appropriate instruction, and use multiple assessment measures to identify the level of achievement for all students. This approach assists the schools in defining the quality accomplishment of the complementary schoolwide learner outcomes and the degree to which all students are achieving them. Standards do not describe any particular teaching practice, curriculum, or assessment method (Abbot, 2013)

CMIS Standards

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- Common Core State Standards [ELA](#) (Reading, Writing, Foundational Skills, Language, Speaking and Listening)*
 - Common Core State Standards [Mathematics](#)
 - [Next Generation Science Standards](#) (NGSS)*
 - [AERO Standards](#) (aligned to [NCSS framework](#)) grades K-8*
 - National Standards for History (from UCLA) grades 9-12 ([World](#) and [US](#))
 - [C3 Framework](#) (piloted 2016-2017)*
 - [National Coalition for Core Arts Standards](#) (music, art, theater) (NCCAS)
 - [Computer Science Teachers Association Framework](#) (CSTA)
 - [ISTE for Students and Teachers](#) (ISTE)
 - [ISTE for Administrators](#)
 - [World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages](#)
 - [Physical Education Model Content Standards](#) for California Public Schools
 - [National Health Education Standards](#) (Center for Disease Control)
 - [Standards for the 21st Century Learner](#) (American Association of School Librarians)
 - [Wisconsin Model Academic Standards for Business](#)
 - AP Course Topics and Indicators (Overviews)

* standards are internationally benchmarked

Research indicates CCSS (both ELA and Mathematics), NGSS, C3, and NCCAS are standards that are considered rigorous, world class, and allow for deeper engagement around fewer concepts/topics.

Sound Pedagogical Practices

In order to address the prior visiting teams 2011 observation that some teachers did not feel that they understood the standards or little understanding of the next steps needed to unpack the standards, CMIS has provided professional development for the CCSS ELA, NGSS, and CCSS Mathematics.. Starting from the critical conceptual shift found in the CCSS that literacy is a shared responsibility of ALL staff, K-12, all contents, the CMIS Leadership Team devoted a majority of 2014-2015 to unpacking and analyzing the newly adopted ELA standards with the whole staff. Since ALL teachers have literacy standards, the professional development ensured that teachers not only focused on their own

grade-level standards (i.e. ...within the grade level), but also worked with the anchor standards that addressed vertical progression of outcomes (i.e. ...across grade levels). See Action Plan Curriculum and Instruction 2014-2017 for more information on professional development at CMIS.

Fidelity to Standards

Depending on the grade level, division, and/or department, [UbD plans](#), mid/end of year assessment, peer reflection, and administrative observational walkthroughs are all methods to ensure instructional fidelity to the standards.

[Course and grade level blueprints](#) have also been developed to use as a guide for vertical and horizontal integration discussion and collaboration to determine if modification is necessary. Areas that have been discussed are standards overlap, skill/content gaps.

Vetted Instructional Resources

As mentioned earlier, CMIS Leadership Team believe that all curricular decisions should be based on three basic questions: is it aligned to the standards, is it rigorous, and is it engaging? During the 2015-2016 school year, the CMIS Middle and High School Science department, representative teachers from K-5, and CMIS Leadership team vetted and evaluated science materials using [CMIS developed rubrics](#) and instruments based upon [EQuIP](#) (Educators Evaluating the Quality of Instructional Products) Rubric. The outcome was the purchase of [FOSS Kit science materials](#) that met and exceeded our criteria for grades K-5. FOSS Kits for science have been purchased and CMIS will continue to provide time and assistance to help teachers utilize and implement this curriculum resource.

During the 2016-2017 school year, mathematics curriculum was reviewed and resources were vetted. Through the use of [Instructional Materials Evaluation Tool](#) (IMET) developed by Achieve the Core, the K-5 group adopted two resources that aligned strongly with the standards and the instructional shifts in mathematics (Focus, Coherence, and Rigor). The first resource from Great Minds Inc. is entitled Eureka Math. [Eureka Math](#) not only aligns with the standards, it provides appropriate coherence, focus, and rigor. The second resource vetted and purchased was [My Math](#) published by McGraw Hill. Again, the adoption committee found good alignment to the standards and the instructional shifts. Both programs provide a balance of rigor- application and conceptual knowledge in Eureka and procedural skills in My Math.

Curricular decisions are also made as a result of our professional development. After CMIS workshops on the CCSS conceptual shifts and with discussions with teachers, it was determined that the school lacked appropriately complex informational text in grades 9-12. Because of this discovery, plans and funds were set aside to purchase informational text, for example the sci-

ence department ordered class sets of the informational text, *Stuff Matters* and the English/Language Arts department ordered informational titles such as *Hiroshima*, *I Am Malala*, and *Night* for example.

AP courses have appropriately rigorous and cognitively challenging key concepts that are addressed throughout the sequence of an AP course.

So what

CMIS has made great strides in unpacking and analyzing some standards, especially CCSS ELA and Mathematics. More time and resources need to be committed to ensure CMIS teachers become experts in all their standards. Also, though having fidelity to the standards and ensuring that the standards are being addressed in instruction is an important first step, more work needs to be committed to creating clear curricular sequencing through multiple grade level blueprinting.

Chapter 6

Schoolwide Action Plan

Chapter 7

Appendix

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