



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Office of School Accountability
Date: April 24, 2024
Subject: Accreditation Petition for Shelbyville Christian Academy

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 Shelbyville Christian Academy (SCA).

Background & Demographic Information

Shelbyville Christian Academy currently operates in Shelbyville Indiana and serves students in kindergarten through grade 12. The school operates in person, with two students attending virtually. Shelbyville Christian Academy has been in operation since 2012.

Shelbyville Christian Academy's mission is to partner with families and churches in educating children by equipping minds for leadership, and hearts for service. SCA is dedicated to nurturing the holistic development of students, with a priority on their spiritual and academic development.

SCA currently has 46 students and projects that it will enroll 67 students in the next five years, with a projection of about 5% student enrollment growth per year.

Operations

Facilities: Shelbyville Christian Academy operates at Family Life Center at 2909 E Michigan Road, Shelbyville. The building is inspected by the Fire Marshall annually and has passed inspection.

Tuition: Annual tuition and fees for Shelbyville Christian Academy totals \$7,095 for each student. These costs include annual tuition, registration fee, testing fees and books/materials fees. Shelbyville Christian Academy indicated that it intends to participate in the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

Staffing: The school operates under the leadership of the Board, superintendent, principal and other administrators. The Board members include a Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and school administrators. The Board are responsible for being familiar with the mission, policies, and programs of SCA, and be committed to its success, maintain appropriate confidentiality, be alert and sensitive to any conflicts of interest (situations involving family members or financial interests), and should attend meetings and school functions as able.

Qualifications for all members include full agreement with the Statement of Faith, a personal commitment and relationship with Christ, an attitude of support, active attendance and involvement in a local church of the holiness persuasion, and enthusiasm for Christian education.



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Laura Smith is the superintendent at SCA. Ms. Smith has a Master of Education in curriculum and instruction. Andrew Smith is the principal of SCA since 2016. Mr. Smith has eight years of experience in education, including being a Spanish teacher. Don Delong is a school administrator at SCA. Mr. Delong has provided pastoral leadership, educational guidance, and community outreach within Hispanic communities. Kristin Bird serves as one of the school's compliance advisor and has a Master of Arts in Teaching (Elem Ed) and PhD in Curriculum and Instructional Leadership.

Currently, Shelbyville Christian Academy has eleven teachers, and one instructional aide. Two of the teachers have Indiana teaching licenses.

Academic Programming

Students will be instructed in the areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, Bible, Spanish, music, art and physical education. Shelbyville Christian Academy follows the state standards in mathematics, science, English/language arts, and social studies. Shelbyville Christian Academy uses the Abeka Curriculum for grades K-12.

SCA partners with an accredited institution to offer SCA seniors dual credit courses in English, math, and other miscellaneous courses as needed or desired by the senior. SCA requires all students to participate in the Indiana Graduation Pathways program. Students must successfully complete the required coursework as specified by their chosen graduation pathway.

At SCA, instructional methods are designed to be systematic and inclusive, catering to the diverse needs of the students. Teachers employ a variety of strategies to ensure content is modified or adapted to meet the needs of exceptional learners. Differentiation includes providing alternative assignments, varying pace of delivery, and flexible grouping. Multimedia resources are used to enhance comprehension.

Students are required to complete regularly scheduled homework, quizzes, and tests. Shelbyville Christian Academy provided understanding of the required Indiana state assessments and which grades are required to take each test.

Department Recommendation

Shelbyville Christian Academy has been in operation for 11 years, with their enrollment growing at a reasonable pace. In addition, Shelbyville Christian Academy has plans for steady reasonable growth for the future. Based on the submitted petition and accompanying materials, Shelbyville Christian Academy has a fair understanding of the requirements of being an Indiana performance-based accredited school. Therefore, the Department recommends granting Shelbyville Christian Academy provisional state performance-based accreditation as a nonpublic school in Indiana.