



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Indiana State Board of Education
From: Office of School Accountability
Date: June 4, 2025
Subject: Accreditation Petition for Northside Christian School

This memorandum summarizes Northside Christian School's ("NCS") petition for performance-based accreditation and the Indiana Department of Education's ("Department") recommendation.

Background & Demographic Information

Northside Christian School plans to operate in person and virtually, in South Bend, Indiana and serve students grades six through twelve.

Northside Christian School's vision is to "build up the next generation of Christians through quality education, in partnership with parents and local churches, for the glory of God." Their mission is to "create a school that fosters academic excellence, spiritual growth, and a commitment to service, preparing students for college and beyond with a mission to nurture and equip students with a biblical worldview and the necessary skills for higher education and lifelong learning". (2024-2025 Indiana School Accreditation Petition, page 4, 2025).

Northside Christian School's projected enrollment is:

35 in year 1 (2025-2026)
80 in year 2 (2026-2027)
120 in year 3 (2027-2028)
160 in year 4 (2028-2029)
210 in year 5 (2029-2030)

Operations

Facilities: Northside Christian School plans to use three classrooms inside Redeemer Missionary Church at 19671 Cleveland Rd. South Bend, Indiana. The building has had a building fire inspection within the last 12 months, with no findings of violations.

Tuition: For the 2025-26 school year, the annual tuition is \$7,260, with an additional \$100 registration fee and a \$50 enrollment fee.

The tuition and registration fee include textbook rental, specialty classes such as science labs, music, and art, technology services & fees, most class field trip fees, most retreat fees (such as transportation and lodging), and standardized testing other than required state assessments.



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The enrollment fee covers initial testing of students and set up of students in the student information system.

Staffing: Northside Christian School anticipates the staffing structure for the first year as an accredited school will include four full time teachers that will teach history, math, science, English and Bible. They also anticipate hiring part-time Spanish, music, and art teachers. Northside Christian School plans to hire only licensed teachers if possible or teachers who have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university and build plans for those teachers to become licensed. (2024-2025 Indiana School Accreditation Petition, page 9, 2025)

The governing board of Northside Christian School consists of eight directors, each overseeing a specific area of the school's operations. The board is responsible for strategic decision-making, policy development, financial oversight, and ensuring the school's mission is upheld.

The board roles include Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Director of Education.

Academic Programming

Northside Christian School's academic standards and curriculum are designed to provide a comprehensive, Christ-centered education that fosters both academic excellence and spiritual growth. Their goal is to prepare students for success in their future academic endeavors, as well as to nurture their character and faith. The curriculum will be carefully structured to ensure a strong foundation in the core subjects of English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, while also integrating biblical truths to guide students' overall development.

All grades will use the Indiana Academic Standards and the curriculum is biblically integrated based on ACSI's [Biblical Worldview Truths for Integration](#). Middle school sports, clubs and other activities include basketball, soccer, cross-country, theater, drama, and musical opportunities. (*Philosophy of Education and Curriculum Map*, page 4, 2025).

Northside Christian School is committed to “ensuring that all students, regardless of their individual abilities or challenges, receive an equitable and challenging education that meets their academic, social, and emotional needs.” Northside Christian School believes that “every student is uniquely created by God and has potential for success.” (2024-2025 Indiana School Accreditation Petition, page 11, 2025)

Northside Christian School will employ a variety of systematic methods to address the diverse learning needs of their student body, including those with special needs, high-ability learners, and students at various levels of academic proficiency.

The daily schedule at Northside Christian School is designed to provide a well-rounded, biblically integrated education that aligns with their mission to cultivate academic excellence,



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spiritual growth, and character development. Each day is structured to balance core academic subjects. Periodically, they will all be meeting together for learning opportunities that will meet their students' creative and physical needs to encourage community, ensuring that students develop in all areas of life. Their hybrid approach would involve a combination of 8% in-person instructional time, 50% virtual synchronous instructional time, and 42% virtual asynchronous instructional time. (*2024-2025 Indiana School Accreditation Petition*, page 7, 2025)

Northside Christian School believes that assessment is a vital tool for measuring student progress, identifying areas of improvement, and ensuring that each student is receiving the support and challenge they need to succeed. Their formative and benchmark assessment program will be designed to provide ongoing insights into student learning, guide instructional decisions, and inform both students and parents of academic progress. These assessments will be aligned with their curriculum, academic standards, and Christian educational values. (*2024-2025 Indiana School Accreditation Petition*, page 12, 2025)

Northside Christian School has given assurance that they understand which students and grades take each state assessment and that they will administer these required state assessments when applicable.

Department Recommendation

Northside Christian School has plans for steady reasonable growth for the future. Based on the submitted petition and accompanying materials, Northside Christian School understands the requirements of being an Indiana performance-based accredited school. Therefore, the Department recommends granting Northside Christian School provisional state performance-based accreditation as a nonpublic school in Indiana.