

TO: ALSS Schools
FROM: Dave Sommermeyer
DATE: August 2, 2009
REGARDING: NLSA Commission meeting

2009 ACCREDITED SCHOOLS: The following is an alphabetical list of Lutheran High Schools that received National Lutheran Schools Accreditation at the 2009 National Accreditation Commission Meeting in St. Louis on July 31, 2009.

- 1) Concordia Lutheran High School – Ft. Wayne, IN
- 2) Dallas Lutheran School – Dallas, TX
- 3) Faith Lutheran High School – McHenry County, IL
- 4) Los Angeles Lutheran High School – Slymar, CA
- 5) Lutheran High School – San Diego, CA
- 6) Lutheran High School North – Macomb, MI
- 7) Orland Lutheran Academy – Orlando, FL
- 8) Saxony Lutheran High School – Jackson, MO
- 9) Trinity Lutheran High School – Seymour, IN
- 10) Valley Lutheran High School – Phoenix, AZ
- 11) West Michigan Lutheran High School – Kentwood, MI

NEW TERM OF ACCREDITATION: In order to better align with regional accreditation partners the term on NLSA accreditation has changed to five (5) years instead of the previous seven (7) year cycle. This means that beginning with the schools accredited in 2009 and following; schools will have to go through the re-accreditation process every five (5) years. However, there will be no mid-cycle visit requirement for schools on the 5 year cycle. Schools accredited in 2008 or earlier will complete their 7 year cycle awarded at the time of their accreditation. “Change” has its quirks.

ADVANCED ED = SACS + NCA: SACS and NCA have merged to form a new regional accreditation agency. Prior to the merger NLSA had reciprocal accreditation agreements with both SACS and NCA as well as other regional partners. NLSA has just received information indicating that Advanced ED will not honor future reciprocal agreements. At this time this is simply a “heads up” and NLSA Executive Director, Terry Schmidt plans to meet with Advanced ED to clarify their partnership with NLSA. Schools currently in the self study process and anticipating visits in the 09/10 or 10/11 and expecting to get reciprocal SACS or NCA (Advanced ED) accreditation should contact the NLSA office for details and updates.

MOVING TO ON-LINE PROCESS: About a dozen schools are piloting an on-line version of the Standards Based self-study process. The goal is to move the whole process including exhibits, annual reports, etc.; to an electronic process. Objectives of the initiative include:

- Accurate entry, retrieval and use of data
- Coordination of efforts and information sharing among all the players – school, consultant, visitation team, district and NAC
- Demonstration of leadership expected of successful 21st Century schools
- Development of processes and products that are replicable
- Connecting schools for encouragement, assistance, accuracy and accountability