



VERITAS ACADEMY  
CLASSICAL ▼ CHRISTIAN ▼ COVENANTAL

August 22, 2023

Mr. Tom Spencer  
The Association of Classical Christian Schools  
PO Box 9741  
Moscow, ID 83843

Dear Mr. Spencer,  
Please find below the responses of Veritas Academy to the discrepancies and recommendations from the Final ACCS Accreditation Report, February 27-28, 2019.

Sincerely in Christ,

Scott B. Taylor  
Headmaster

**The Responses of Veritas Academy to the discrepancies and recommendations from the Final ACCS Accreditation Report, February 27-28, 2019.**

**A. School Goals and Objectives**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Veritas Academy should consider and chart a course to increase the percentage of operating expenses that are covered by "hard" income of tuition and fees (currently at 80%). This recommendation is in support of ACCS standard VI. A. 3.

*Veritas Academy continues to cover approximately 80% of its operating expenses by "hard" income of tuition and fees. Because of our condensed-day model (less hours of school) there is downward pressure on our tuition rates. The additional (and very stable) income from Apogee (Georgia's tax credit private school scholarship program), Arete (a similar GA tax-credit program), and Jenkins Grant (a private endowment) funding through the Independent Presbyterian Church, has allowed Veritas to consistently maintain an annual budget surplus while increasing teacher salaries approximately 5-6% per year for the past eight years.*

*Veritas desires to increase the percentage of expenses covered by tuition to 85% or 90% or more, but our condensed-day model and our facility size limitations have been restrictive. Significant future tuition increases, enrollment increases, and expansion of facility space should bring our percentages up.*

2. Veritas Academy should investigate and consider a plan of tuition increase over a period of time that would position the school to meet its short- and long-term financial strategic goals. This recommendation is in support of ACCS standard VI. A. 3.

*Veritas Academy made plans to increase tuition by at least 5% annually beginning in the 2020-2021 school year. The uncertainty from Covid-19 delayed the 5% increase in tuition until the 2021-2022 school year. Since 2021-2022 tuition has increase at a rate of 5-6% per annum. A minimum increase of 5% per year is anticipated for next 3-5 years.*

Grades	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	\$6,770	\$6,990	\$7,340	\$7,710	\$8,175
7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	\$7,720	\$7,960	\$8,360	\$8,780	\$9,310
% increase over previous year	3%	3%	5%	5%	6%

## **B. Academics**

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Veritas Academy should consider the further development of its Bible and Theology curriculum in the logic and rhetoric stages to further deepen students' exposure to and engagement with a biblical worldview. This recommendation is in support of ACCS standard VI. B. 2. f.

*Veritas Academy is a decidedly covenantal school that operates on a condensed day schedule and engages families in the education of their children. Our condensed or shortened day has Logic and Rhetoric School students in class from 8:00 am to 1:35 pm, Monday through Friday, generally 1-2 hours less per day (5-10 hours less per week) than full-day schools. This gives us less time for teaching additional courses. But it also puts the students at home with their families more than would happen at full day schools.*

*Veritas is also committed to the principle of "multum non multa" (much not many) in its course offerings. We have chosen to provide instruction in six core courses per year in our Logic and Rhetoric Schools (literature, history, math, science, Latin/language, and logic or rhetoric or theology/Bible. (Students take Bible/theology at 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, logic at 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and rhetoric at 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.) Students also have course requirements in music and art. We have been intentional about not adding additional courses to the students' workload. With our schedule and with our commitment to six core course per year there is not room for additional courses.*

*Additionally, Veritas is committed to a thorough integration of the Scriptures into all of our instruction and we encourage our families to regularly read the Scriptures and have family devotions in their home. This is fundamental to shaping a child's biblical worldview.*

### **C. Governance and Administration**

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Veritas Academy should investigate and seek to enhance and solidify Wi-Fi service throughout the school's buildings to assure that teachers are adequately supported for their teaching and administrative duties. This recommendation is in support of ACCS standard VI. D. 7.

*In the summer of 2020 Veritas invested \$6,000 in major upgrades to its Wi-Fi network. New modems, firewalls, routers, and boosters were installed. The Wi-Fi signal is now strong in every classroom.*

2. Veritas Academy should continue on or accelerate its present course to hire an academic officer by the 2020-21 school year to assure proper administrative span of control toward curriculum and professional development. This recommendation is in support of ACCS standard VI. C. 8.

*Veritas hired an assistant headmaster in the summer of 2022. His primary responsibilities are oversight of the Logic and Rhetoric school. The decision to fill this position was delayed by Covid related factors in 2020 and 2021.*

3. The committee recommends that the Veritas Academy board of directors develop a set of functioning committees to align with and support the headmaster in pursuit of achievement the school's strategic goals and plan. These committees should make reports at the board meetings and also serve as proving grounds for potential new board members. This recommendation is in support of ACCS standard VI. C. 8.

*The board established three committees in 2022. The three committees worked to provide input into the school's development and strategic planning. The three committees are 1) Governance and administrative development committee, 2) Facilities committee, and 3) Financial committee.*

### **D. Faculty and Instructional Resources**

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Veritas Academy should investigate and seek to enhance its PA system to assure that communication through the system can be adequately heard in every classroom. This recommendation is in support of ACCS standard VI. D. 7.

*In 2019 the school purchased and implemented a more effective and reliable communications system that utilizes Motorola Digital Two-Way radios. The total cost of the system was \$5,000. This system has greatly improved communications between the school office and classrooms.*