

Area 6: Accreditation Standards Review

Chairperson: Krissy Thompson, Assistant Principal

Members: Roseann Peluso, 6-8 Literature
Stephanie Thomas, 6-8 English

AREA 6 ACCREDITATION STANDARDS REVIEW

Introduction

It was the responsibility of the Area 6, accreditation standards review committee members to determine if St. Paul's Catholic School is in compliance with the standards of the Florida Catholic Conference accreditation program.

The Area 6 committee chair met with the principal on March 31, 2011 to discuss and review the accreditation standards as set forth in the Florida Catholic Conference Principles and Standards Elementary Schools (PK-8). Committee members were provided access to all records and documents in order to facilitate accurate review. The committee reviewed the ARCA reports for the last two years submitted October 2009 and October 2010, respectively.

Based on thorough review of the documentation, it was determined that St. Paul's Catholic School has presented an exemplary record of ongoing compliance with the ARCA requirements. Additionally, each area of the FCC accreditation program standards checklist reflects compliance with all accreditation standards.

Review of the ARCA

Area A: Beliefs and Mission

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area.

The mission and beliefs statements were collaboratively developed by the faculty, staff, pastor, students, parents, school board members and greater parish community. The mission of St. Paul's Catholic School reflects the ideals present and incorporated throughout all facets of the school community. The mission statement is prominently displayed throughout the school and in all handbooks and websites produced by the school. It is a living document witnessed in daily lives of our students and faculty.

Area B: School and Community

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area.

St. Paul's Catholic School provides extensive opportunities for parish and community outreach relationships. The "sense of community" may be the greatest asset of the school. There are extensive opportunities for parent involvement. The school and parish unite in multiple community service and civic projects serving the needs of the greater Jacksonville Beach community. Collaboration between school and parish continues to grow stronger annually.

Area C: Program of Learning

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area.

St. Paul's Catholic School offers a comprehensive, challenging, and research-based program for learning. "Best Practices" in education are incorporated into all aspects of the curriculum and include cooperative learning, multiple assessments, and critical thinking skills. The curriculum addresses the spiritual, academic, social and emotional needs of all students. The comprehensive program includes support from a full-time guidance counselor and both resource and enrichment programs which serve a wide spectrum of multiple learning needs and styles. Extra curricular activities offer students an array of enriching experiences including athletics, drama, and technology.

Area D: Personnel

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area with exemptions in the following areas:

St. Paul's Catholic School employs an excellent staff of fully qualified, certified, and spirit-filled personnel to serve the needs of its students and support the overall mission of the school. Comprehensive professional development focuses on areas central to the mission and to goals of the school improvement plan.

A grandfather clause is on file for the media specialist.

D-12. The media specialist shall have a current and valid state or national certificate on file in educational media or related field. (The media specialist does not hold certification.)

Area E: Administration

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area.

The administration of St. Paul's Catholic School supports the quality education program by strict adherence to the FCC and ARCA requirements. Long range planning and future development are supported via faculty, School Board, Technology Committee, Parent Teacher Association, and parish advisory members. It should be noted that the administration receives excellent support from the Pastor and is very proactive with parish relationships.

Area F: Learning Media Services

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area.

The Library/Media center at St. Paul's Catholic School provides faculty and students with instructional support through its comprehensive collection of books, periodicals and technology opportunities. Media specialists work closely with classroom teachers to provide seamless instruction in a variety of curriculum experiences. With ever changing technology, St. Paul's strives to incorporate the latest tools and interactive opportunities to benefit all students and to provide the best possible learning opportunities.

Area G: Pupil Services

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area.

St. Paul's Catholic School offers a comprehensive guidance program to serve individual, small group, and school-wide needs of our students. Afterschool academic assistance is also offered to

students requiring extra help. Although St. Paul's provides an extensive array of extra-curricular opportunities, it hopes to expand its offering of extra curricular experiences by increasing afterschool enrichment opportunities within the next few years.

Area H: School Plant and Facilities

The committee determined that St. Paul's Catholic School meets all standards in this area.

St. Paul's provides a safe, inviting, and well-equipped faculty for its students. Measures are reevaluated annually and updated to insure the safest and most efficient environment for students and staff. The campus meets all standards set by the local and state authorities.

Executive Statement

As a result of this review, the Area 6 committee finds St. Paul Catholic School in compliance with standards of the Florida Catholic Conference. The 2010 ARCA is included in this section.