



**independent schools association  
of the central states**

**Accredited Member  
School**

**Septennial Evaluation**  
for school improvement & accreditation

# What is ISACS?

## **Mission**

- ISACS leads schools to pursue exemplary independent education.

## **Vision**

- ISACS schools empower students to contribute and thrive in a diverse and changing world.

## **Membership**

- Diverse membership with 230 member schools in 13 mid-western states  
Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota,  
Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, West Virginia

## **Services**

- A Highly-Respected Accreditation Program
- Professional Development
- Consulting Services
- Resources and Information
- A Strong Collegial Community







# Why Independent?

Independence affords our schools four fundamental freedoms:

- to define one's mission;
- to admit and serve students according to the school's stated mission;
- to hire faculty based on the school's own criteria for excellence;
- and to articulate a curriculum, pedagogy, and program unique to each school's definition of excellence (without dictates from outside agencies).

These concepts are sources of independent schools' strengths and serve as a model for education. In addition, these concepts set the course for how we hold ourselves accountable.

# PARK TUDOR

## Every 7 years...

*we evaluate what we do*

*and how well we are doing it!*

*It's a 7 year-cycle.*







## ISACS 7-year Accreditation Cycle

### **YEAR 1 – Self-Study Preparation 2016-2017**

1. Review, revise, and reaffirm by formal board approval the school's mission statement
2. Review, revise, and publish school's curriculum
3. Complete survey of constituents and review results
4. Develop a statistical and subjective review of program graduates
5. Review and update board of trustees' strategic plan
6. Arrange for accreditation workshop (kick-off day), visiting team leader and dates with ISACS Office
7. Appoint steering committee chair & steering committee.

### **YEAR 2 – School Self-Study Report 2017-2018**

Complete self-study report including verification of compliance with all ISACS Standards for Membership.

### **YEAR 3 – Evaluation Visit Fall of 2018**

ISACS accreditation team visits school for 3-days.  
Visiting team leader submits Visiting Team Report

### **YEAR 4 – Reaction Report Due Fall 2019**

**YEAR 5 – Certified Financial Audit** for school improvement or updated strategic plan

### **YEAR 6 – Progress Report: 2020**

DUE May 1 with Certified Financial Audit of Year 5

**YEAR 7 – Refresh** before beginning again!

## So...

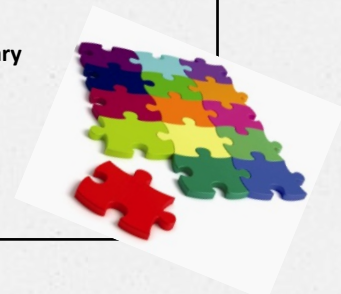
- o This septennial review process covers all major aspects and programs of the school, citing strengths, challenges, and plans for improvement.
- o The school completes a comprehensive self-study and other tasks which are then reviewed by a visiting team.
- o The visiting team is comprised of volunteers put together by ISACS, consisting of professionals, including classroom teachers, who understand and appreciate independent school qualities and contributions to American education.
- o Accreditation is approved (or not) by the ISACS Board of Trustees based on the recommendation and findings of the visiting team and the ISACS Accreditation Review Committee.



# PARK TUDOR 2017 Self-Study Committees

includes Steering  
Committee plus  
the following  
committees...

Committees/Report	Committees/Report
<b>Purpose, Goals &amp; Philosophy</b>	<b>School Life</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advisory Programs</li> <li>Learning Services</li> <li>Student Activities</li> <li>Extra-Curricular Activities &amp; Orgs.</li> <li>Extended Day</li> <li>Student Government</li> </ul>
<b>School Community</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Admissions</li> <li>Student Body</li> <li>Parent Body</li> <li>Local Community –CEL</li> <li>School Advancement &amp; Alumni</li> <li>Overall School Climate</li> <li>Equity &amp; Justice</li> </ul>	<b>Specialty Areas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summer Programs</li> <li>Innovators Academy, et.al.</li> <li>Trips &amp; Exchanges</li> <li>Technology Infrastructure/Curriculum</li> </ul>
<b>Student Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College Counseling</li> <li>Counseling &amp; Guidance</li> <li>Wellness: Health Care &amp; Food Service</li> <li>Library/Media Center</li> <li>Records Keeping</li> <li>Learning Services Program</li> </ul>	<b>Governance &amp; Admin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governance</li> <li>Administration</li> <li>Personnel</li> <li>Business Management &amp; Financial Affairs</li> <li>School Plant and Facilities includes Safety &amp; Security</li> </ul>
<b>Program Overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HEEC</li> <li>LS</li> <li>MS</li> <li>US</li> <li>FA</li> <li>Athletics</li> <li>Math K-12</li> <li>PE &amp; Health K-12</li> <li>World Languages K-12</li> <li>Fine Arts K-12</li> <li>Language Arts K-5</li> <li>Social Studies K-6</li> <li>English 6-12</li> <li>History 7-12</li> <li>Science 7-12</li> </ul>	<b>Survey Summary</b>  <b>Conclusion</b>





# PARK TUDOR



## How can we help?

- o All Constituents received an email inviting them to complete the important ISACS Community Survey by Feb. 15, 2017.
- o Parents, alumni and students will be asked to serve on committees.
- o All faculty will serve on at least one committee.
- o Your ideas as well as your time are valued.
- o Welcome the Visiting Team in 2018!  
Parents, alumni and students will be asked to help in this 3-day endeavor.

# PARK TUDOR

**Without continual growth and progress,  
such words as improvement, achievement,  
and success have no meaning.**

**Benjamin Franklin**

