



# Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges

533 Airport Boulevard, Suite 200 • Burlingame, California 94010  
(650) 696-1060 • Fax (650) 696-1867  
mail@acs-wasc.org • www.acs-wasc.org

FRED VAN LEUVEN, ED.D.  
*President*  
MARILYN S. GEORGE, ED.D.  
*Vice President*

## COMMISSION MEMBERS

STEPHEN CATHERS  
*Chairperson*  
East Asia Regional Council of Schools

GREGORY FRANKLIN  
*Vice Chairperson*  
Association of California School  
Administrators

THOMAS ADAMS  
California Department of Education

MICHAEL ALVAREZ  
Western Catholic Educational Association

SAMANTHA BENISH  
California Federation of Teachers

GRANT BENNETT  
Association of California School  
Administrators

RON CARRUTH  
Association of California School  
Administrators

NANCY COONIS  
Western Catholic Educational Association

ERIKA CRUZ  
Pacific Islands

MITCHELL D'OLIER  
Public Member, Hawaii

ODIE DOUGLAS  
Association of California School  
Administrators

LEE DUNCAN  
Association of Christian Schools  
International

JUAN A. FLECHA  
Association of California School  
Administrators

ANDREA FUKUMOTO  
Hawaii State Department of Education

DAVID GAUDI  
Hawaii Association of Independent Schools

MELISSA HANDY  
Hawaii Association of Independent Schools

LAURA HERMAN  
Charter Schools

DEREK MINAKAMI  
Hawaii Government Employees'  
Association

JOE MITCHNER  
Public Member, California

SUZANNE MULCAHY  
Hawaii State Department of Education

BARBARA NUNES  
California School Boards Association

DOREEN OLESON  
California Association of Independent  
Schools

MATTHEW RUSSO  
Postsecondary Education

LAUREL SALERNO-WHITE  
California Teachers Association

MARSHA SERAFIN  
California Association of Private School  
Organizations

KIMBERLY SHIELDS  
Western Catholic Educational Association

SALLY TODD  
Western Catholic Educational Association

BERIT VON POHLE  
Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day  
Adventists

JOEL WAHLERS  
National Lutheran School Accreditation

DIANA WALSH-REUSS  
Association of California School  
Administrators

SOPHIA WAUGH  
California Congress of Parents and  
Teachers, Inc. (PTA)

DAVID YOSHIHARA  
Association of California School  
Administrators

May 2, 2018

Dr. Mike McDonnell  
Principal  
Albert Einstein Academy for Letters, Arts and Sciences  
11311 Frascati St.  
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

Dear Dr. McDonnell:

The Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC) announces the action taken at the Spring 2018 Commission Meeting. The ACS WASC Commissioners have determined Albert Einstein Academy for Letters, Arts and Sciences (K - 12) meets the ACS WASC criteria for accreditation. This accreditation status is based on all of the information provided by the school, including the initial visit report, and the satisfactory completion of the on-site initial accreditation visit.

It is the decision of the Commission to grant Albert Einstein Academy for Letters, Arts and Sciences (grades Kindergarten through 12th) Initial Accreditation Status through June 30, 2021.

Prior to the end of this initial accreditation period, schools must complete a self-study assessment and submit a self-study report, including the progress made in meeting the recommendations of the Initial Visit Committee. Self-study training will be provided and schools will be expected to have key staff participate in these training sessions. An ACS WASC Visiting Committee will conduct a site visit to review the school's self-study findings and supporting evidence, conduct classroom observations, and dialogue with all stakeholders. The committee will evaluate the school's programs and operations and the impact on student learning.

Accreditation status is conditioned upon Albert Einstein Academy for Letters, Arts and Sciences's continued adherence with the ACS WASC policies, procedures, and criteria for accreditation. One accreditation requirement is the obligation of schools to notify ACS WASC of any changes which might be substantive in nature with an explanation of the change and the anticipated effect on the educational program (see attached).

Another accreditation requirement is that schools and districts annually contribute members to participate on visiting committees. This is particularly helpful to newly accredited schools in order to gain a better understanding of the accreditation process. New members can sign up to serve on a visiting committee on the ACS WASC portal at <https://webportal.acswasc.org>. Failure to maintain compliance with said policies, procedures, and standards is grounds for modification and/or withdrawal of accreditation.

The approval of initial accreditation entitles you to use the following phrase on transcripts or in school advertising: "Fully Accredited by (or) Accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges," until such time as your accreditation has either lapsed or been denied. If all grade levels operated by the school were included in the initial visit review, the above statement is sufficient. In other cases, the statement must specify the grade levels accredited, i.e., "Fully Accredited for Grades (9–12 for example) by the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges."

Transcripts of students who are graduating or transferring from grades covered by the accreditation may be stamped or embossed with the ACS WASC accredited seal which can be obtained from the ACS WASC office, or the "Accredited by ..." phrase can be typed on the transcript.

If you choose to disclose your status in any communications with the public, you must specify the programs or grade levels which are covered by the initial status. You must also include the name, address and website of the Accrediting Commission for Schools in the same communication. The information to include is:

Accrediting Commission for Schools  
Western Association of Schools and Colleges  
533 Airport Blvd., Suite 200, Burlingame, CA 94010  
[www.acswasc.org](http://www.acswasc.org)

The Commission looks forward to Albert Einstein Academy for Letters, Arts and Sciences's anticipated success and continuing improvement in keeping with ACS WASC's pursuit of excellence in elementary, secondary, and adult education.

Sincerely,



Stephen Cathers  
Commission Chairperson

Enclosures: Initial Visit Visiting Committee Report  
ACS WASC Substantive Change Policy and Procedures  
ACS WASC Accreditation Stamp and Embosser Order Form

cc: Chairperson, Initial Visit Committee  
Superintendent