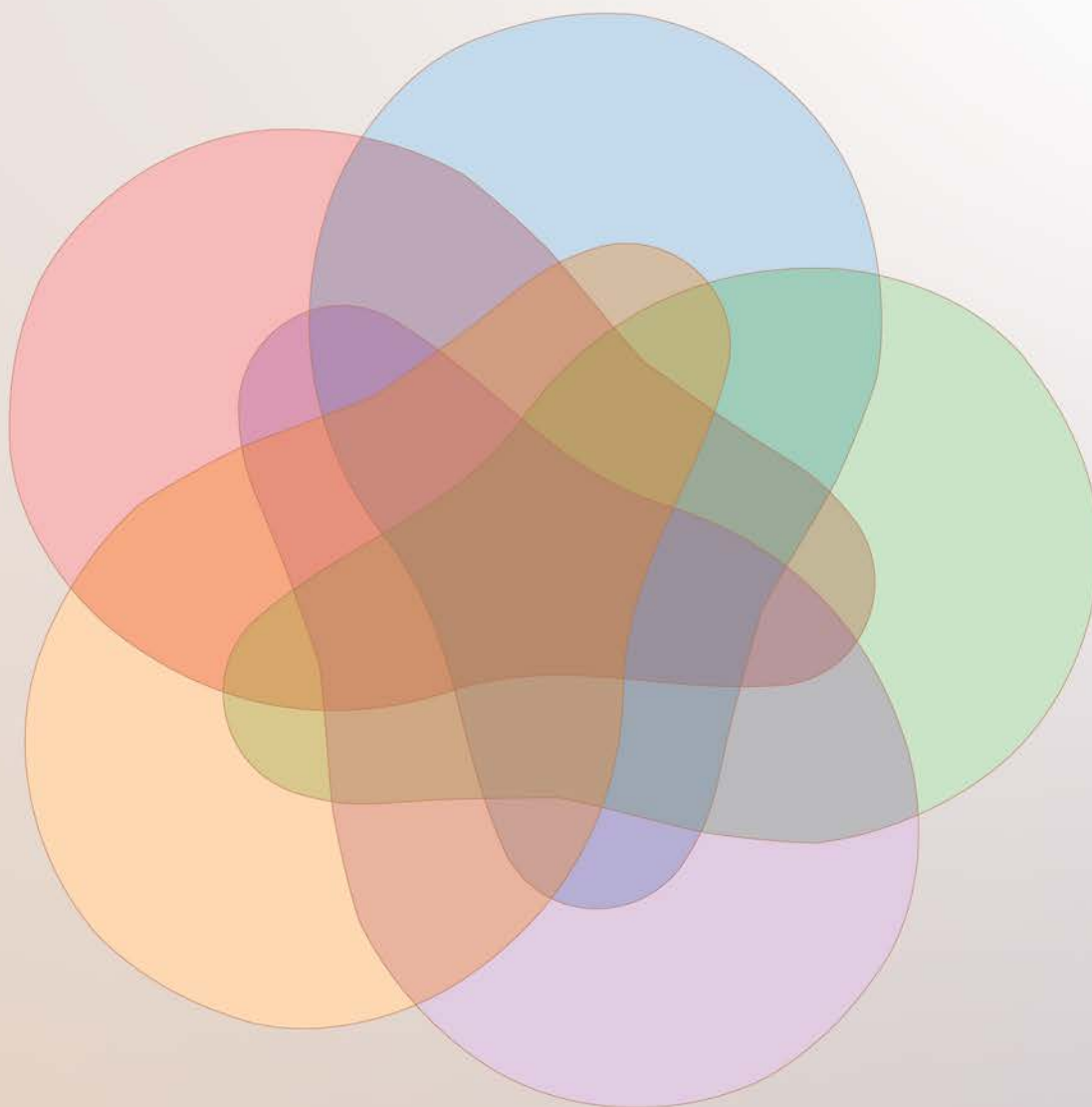


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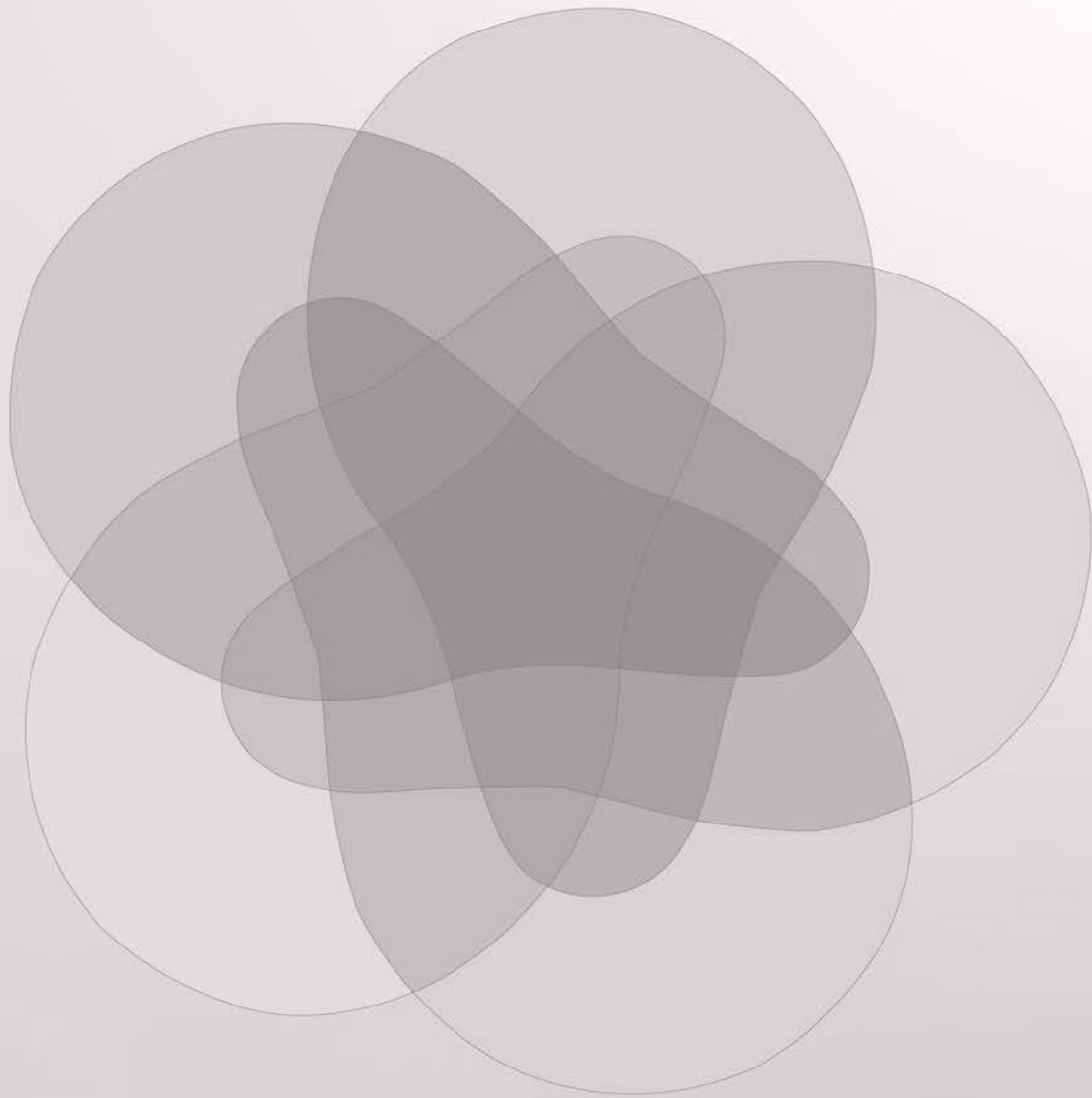
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FROM THE PRESIDENT OF GSACS

Dear GSACS Family,

Working with people can be challenging. Intentionally developing the next generation while functioning as a united team is no small task in any ministry. So how can we be effective in our calling to Christian education?

Philippians 1:9–11 gives us the answer and sets the foundation for this year's theme: "Valuing What Matters the Most." Paul calls the church to abound in love, knowledge, and discernment—three essential qualities for meaningful ministry.

- **Love** keeps us focused on others' needs and willing to sacrifice.
- **Knowledge** ensures we serve with understanding and insight.
- **Discernment** allows us to adjust to the needs of the individual.

When these qualities are present, we are able to "approve what is excellent"—to recognize what truly matters, identify next steps, and guide others effectively. The result, as Paul describes, is a life marked by sincerity, righteousness, and a clear conscience before God.

To stay effective, we must ask ourselves:

"Am I valuing what matters most, or have I been distracted by lesser things?"

Distractions like personal opinions, busyness, conformity, comfort, or outside pressures can pull us away from our true mission: to teach to the heart and love those God has placed in our lives. Let's commit to valuing what matters most.

I pray the days ahead are filled with rich fellowship, deep learning, and renewed purpose in our shared calling.

Serving Together,



David Brock, D. Min.
GSACS President

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If you need anything during your stay, please don't hesitate to contact us at any time.

Steve Steuerwald - 760.964.6039

ABOUT GSACS

A community of Christian schools dedicated to gospel-centered education and training.

A group of leaders committed to serving and encouraging teachers and mentors.

A fellowship of teachers called to eternally mold the lives of their students.

A kinship of brothers and sisters in Christ burdened to reach the families of California and abroad.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GSACS

Dear Educators,

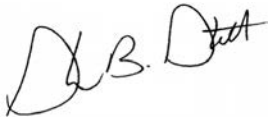
Welcome to our annual educators' convention! This is one of my favorite events of the year because 1) I love hanging out with fellow nerds in Christian education, and 2) I love having the opportunity to give back to teachers who invest time and energy into the next generation. I trust you are encouraged through others investing in your life during the next 40 hours.

One of the reasons GSACS exists is to support schools, helping teachers fulfill and stay encouraged in their calling to impact eternity by God's grace. I believe this event fulfills that mission—through fellowship, speakers, activities, food, rest, a peaceful location, singing, sharing of God's truths, and our shared values.

GSACS is now giving back to schools more than the schools give to GSACS in dues! I love this! This week, we will be handing out thousands of dollars in scholarship funds, and I'm thankful for Christian businessmen who are burdened to see more students in our Christian schools. I hope you are encouraged to know we are not in this endeavor alone!

Friend, I know you may be weary and need rest. May you find physical and spiritual renewal as we approach God's throne and discover His sufficiency.

All for Him,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S.B. Steuerwald". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Shannon" and last name "Steuerwald" clearly legible.

Shannon B. Steuerwald
Executive Director

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

- 4:00 PM Early Arrival Registration
- 6:00 PM Early Arrival Dinner (*pre-registered only*)
- 7:00 PM General Arrival & Registration (no dinner provided)
Stores Open/Game Room/Fire Pit
- 8:15 PM Coffee Shop/Kettle Corn/Laser Shooting/Game Room
- 8:30 PM Members' Meeting in Rusty Wheel (*one representative from each school*)
- 10:00 PM Stores Close (*game room available for extended play*)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

- 7:45 AM Breakfast—*buffet closes at 8:45am*
- 8:45 AM **Opening Session**—MEETING HALL
- 10:15 AM **Workshops 1** (*rides available 15 minutes prior to start*)
- 11:30 AM **Workshops 2** (*rides available 15 minutes prior to start*)
- 12:15 PM Lunch—*buffet closes at 1:15pm*
- 1:30 PM Stores Open/Afternoon Activities
Canoes/Kayaks/Paddle boards, Arena Antics, Jeep Tours, Crafts, Rifle Range, Gelly Ball, Old West Photos, Archery & Hatchets, Pickleball, Basketball, or meet with any of our sponsors
- 1:45 PM **Bonus Workshops in Rivertown**
- 4:15 PM **Workshop 3** (*rides available 15 minutes prior to start*)
- 5:45 PM **Banquet**—*meet on the Homestead porch*
- 7:30 PM **Evening Session**—MEETING HALL
- 8:45 PM **Evening Activities Open**
Stores Open, Hayrides, Fire Pits, Game Room
- 10:00 PM Stores Close (*game room available for extended play*)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

- 7:45 AM Breakfast—*buffet closes at 8:45am*
- 9:00 AM **Closing Session**—MEETING HALL
- 10:30 AM Stores Open
- 11:00 AM Departure



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STUDENTS

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- Youth Legislative Training Conference
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- Legislative Internship Program

American Association of Christian Schools

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aaccs.org

CONVENTION EXHIBITORS

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www.abeka.com

American Association of Christian Schools

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www.aacs.org

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www.faith.edu

Fortify Foundation

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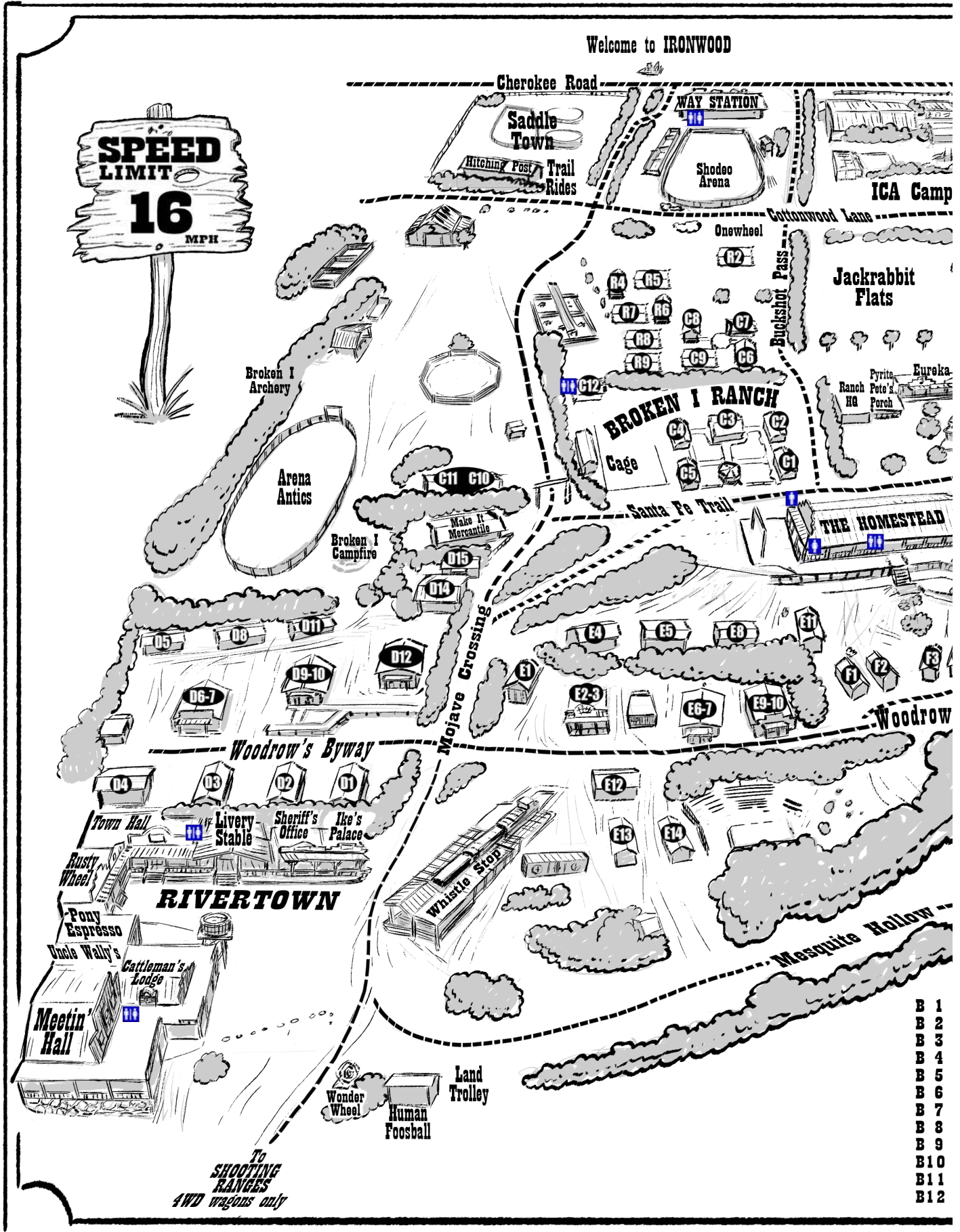
SchoolRight Group

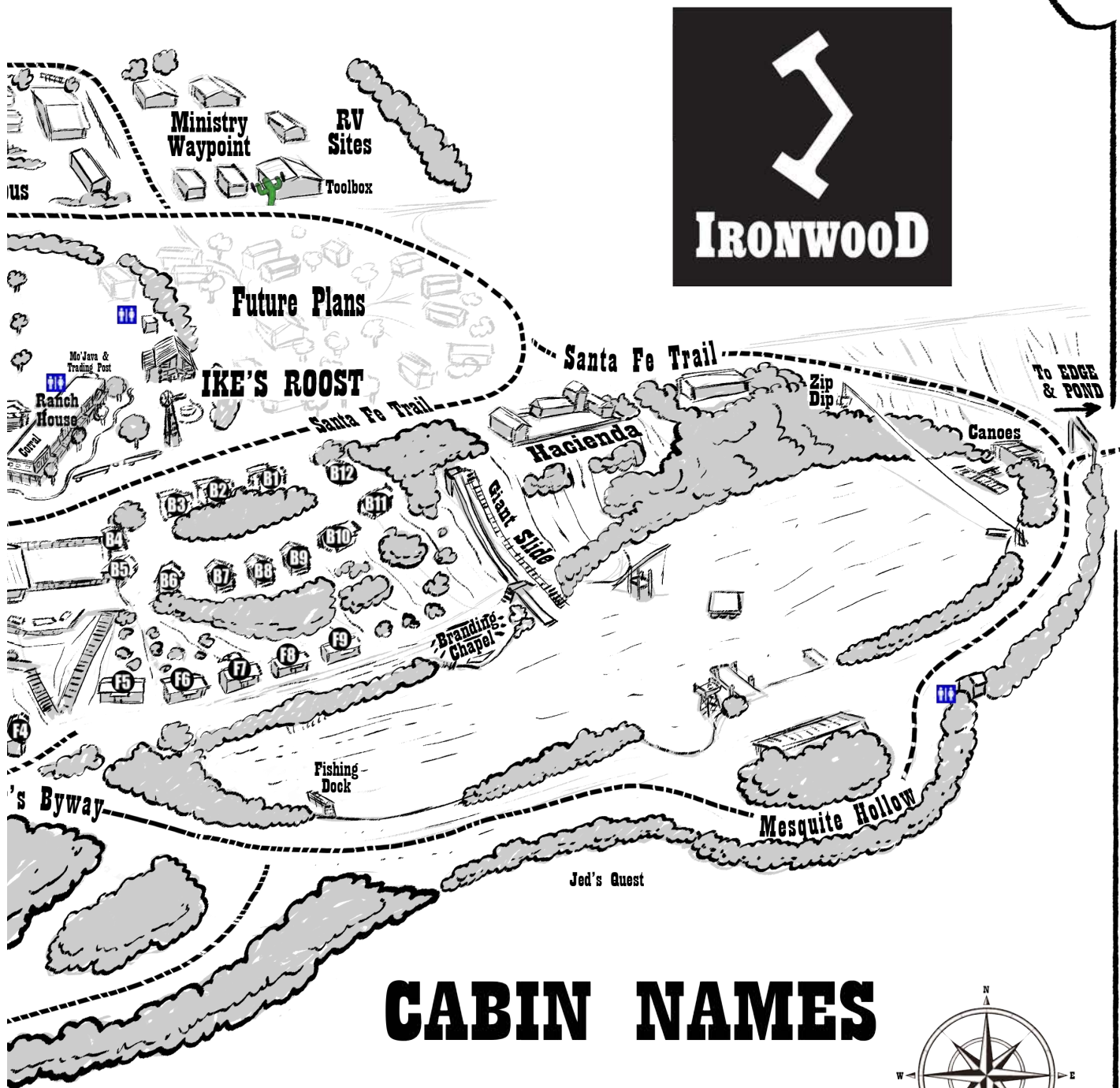
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www.schoolright.net

Veritas Baptist College

Lawrenceburg, IN
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www.vbc.edu

FACILITY MAP





CABIN NAMES

Anchor
Quarter Circle M
C Squared
JD Connected
Flying J
Box C
Rocking R
Rafter S
Diamond W
Circle M
LVB Connected
Double Half Circle V

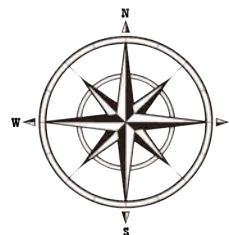
C 1 Arrowhead
C 2 Hondo
C 3 Moonlight
C 4 Poco Bell
C 5 Sidewalker
C 6 Nebo Star
C 7 Skippen Baca
C 8 Runnin Iron
C 9 Smokin Iron
C10 Thunder
C11 Lightning
C12 Del Roble

D 1 Wichita
D 2 White Horse
D 3 Cimarron
D 4 Chinook
D 5 Ketchikan
D 6 Abilene
D 7 Alamosa
D 8 Kodiak
D 9 Carson
D10 Comstock
D11 Yukon
D12 Dakota
D14 Dallas
D15 Fort Worth

E 1 Big Jake's Hotel
E 2 Laramie
E 3 Laredo
E 4 Grizzly Flats
E 5 Gunnison
E 6 Santa Fe
E 7 Silverado
E 8 Little Creek
E 9 Tombstone
E10 Tucson
E11 Lone Pine
E12 Rawhide
E13 Black Hawk
E14 Boot Hill

F 1 Cholla
F 2 Cottonwood
F 3 Creosote
F 4 Guyata
F 5 Palo Verde
F 6 Philaree
F 7 Sage
F 8 Tamarisk
F 9 Willow

R 1
R 2 Diamond
R 3
R 4 Iron Pyrite
R 5 Jasper
R 6 Marble
R 7 Nickel
R 8 Onyx
R 9 Quartz





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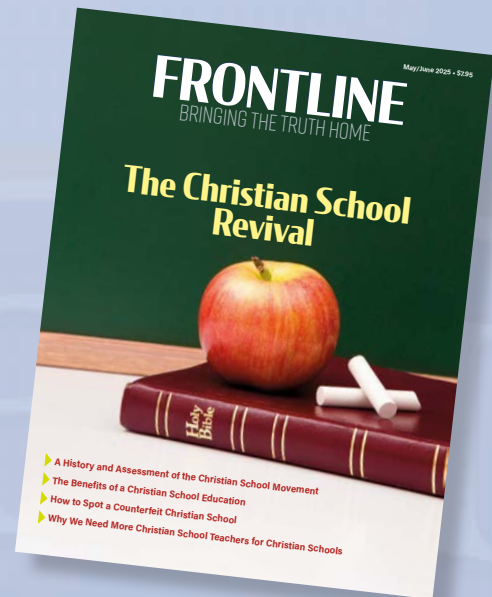
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



DR. JIM TILLOTSON holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Ministry degrees from Northland Baptist Bible College, and received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Bob Jones University in 2016. Prior to coming to Iowa, Dr. Tillotson helped plant Meadowlands Baptist Church in Edmonton, Alberta where he served as the senior pastor for 18 years. During that time, he led the church in planting three new churches and revitalizing a church as well as starting a Christian School and helping start a Bible Institute.

In 2015, God called Dr. Tillotson to serve as the President of Faith Baptist Bible College and Theological Seminary in Ankeny, Iowa. During his time as President God has blessed Faith in providing growth both numerically and financially. He also has led the school through two building projects and the celebration of Faith's 100 year anniversary.

He and his wife Joan have three children and three sweet grandchildren.

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

GRETA HOWELL

Greta Howell is an enthusiastic educator with twenty years of experience in Christian education. As an elementary classroom teacher for sixteen of those years, her favorite pastime was creating engaging activities for her students. Now as an elementary principal, she loves cheering on her faculty, speaking in chapel, problem-solving for struggling students, and partnering with parents. Greta has her Master's in Teaching and Learning from Bob Jones University. As a lifelong learner, she is always in the middle of an inspiring book on education. Greta spends time daily "talking shop" with her sister, Holly Talley, who will be joining her for several sessions to share her experiences from the high school perspective of literacy and the performing arts. Holly, also a graduate of BJU, has spent several summers teaching musical theater for the university at EduCamp Junior.

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

DR. LISA JOYNER

Dr. Lisa Joyner is the Education Chair and Ed.D. Program Director at Veritas Baptist College, a fully online Bible college dedicated to equipping Christians for ministry in churches, schools, and the mission field. In 2017, she played a key role in developing both graduate and undergraduate degree programs in special education, aimed at helping Christian schools expand their ministries to include children with special needs. Additionally, Dr. Joyner contributed to the creation of the college's Ed.D. program. She teaches several general education and special education courses from her home in North Carolina.

Before joining Veritas, Dr. Joyner taught middle and high school English and history in a Christian school, where she felt a calling to support children with special needs. In 2007, she founded the Specialized Learning Center as part of a Christian school in Raleigh to address the needs of students with learning disabilities.

Dr. Joyner remains passionate about helping Christian schools across the country deepen their understanding of special education, enabling them to provide high-quality Christian education for students who learn differently. She and her husband Oscar have two grown children: Brennen (and his wife, Claire) and Kayla (and her husband, Lewis).

JAMISON COPPOLA

Jamison Coppola is the Government Relations Director for the American Association of Christian Schools, leading its Washington, D.C. office and advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill. He holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice (1995) and an M.S. in Educational Administration (1997) from Pensacola Christian College, where he also served on staff for eight years. In 2005, he and his family moved to Front Range Baptist Church in Colorado, where he served as academy administrator and a board member of the Colorado Association of Christian Schools until 2013. Jamison regularly engages with lawmakers, regulators, and policy experts, and has testified in public hearings. He serves on several nonprofit boards, including a Christian college. In his role with AACCS, he collaborates with partner organizations and legislators to protect educational freedom, the traditional family, and pro-life values.

DR. DAVID BROCK

Dr. David Brock pastors Faith Baptist Church of Cherokee Road in Newberry Springs, California, and serves at Ironwood, where he leads Ministry Connect—a program supporting pastoral apprenticeships through *Path2Pastor*, mentoring future pastors, and managing GSACS as President. He holds a B.A. from Bob Jones University, an M.Div. from Calvary Baptist Theological Seminary, and a D.Min. from International Baptist College and Seminary.

Dr. Brock is passionate about helping others have a thriving relationship with the Lord. He and his wife, Yvonne, have two children and enjoy outdoor adventures, board games, and quad riding.

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

DR. LAURA SNIDER

Dr. Snider began teaching in 1993 and has taught in church schools, new school start-ups, and even on the mission field since that time. Due to the different needs of the ministries in which she served, she frequently taught combined classrooms on the elementary level, high-school electives, and coached volleyball and cheerleading. After over twenty years teaching in various ministries, Dr. Snider returned to Pensacola Christian College to teach in the education department where she now uses her decades of experience and knowledge to train future teachers and provide them the foundational and practical instruction, they will need to be successful in their own classrooms. She just recently added on to her BS and MS degrees in Elementary Education by completing an Ed.D. in Secondary Education from Pensacola Christian College.

DR. MATTHEW DAVIS

Dr. Davis is the Chief Executive Officer of Maranatha Baptist University in Watertown, Wisconsin, serving in leadership over all operational and academic units. Dr. Davis is an attorney who began his career with the Christian Law Association, litigating religious liberty cases and advising thousands of Christians and ministry leaders on legal issues in Christian education, ministry employment, risk management, and religious liberty. He joined the Maranatha administration full-time in 2009 and has served as the Chief Executive Officer since 2020. Since 2013, Dr. Davis has served as an officer of the American Association of Christian Colleges & Seminaries. He was appointed as the president of AACCS in 2021.

SAM BROCK

Sam Brock was among the original “desert pygmies”—staff children at Ironwood—moving to the desert with his parents, Walt and Betty Brock, in the early 1970s as they helped establish the camp. He met his wife, Cindy, at Ironwood, and they joined the resident staff in 1991.

Sam holds a B.S. in Marketing Management and an M.A. in English Bible. Before becoming Executive Director in 2013, he served as Camper Services Director, overseeing facility crews and scheduling. Sam and Cindy have four married children and seven grandchildren.



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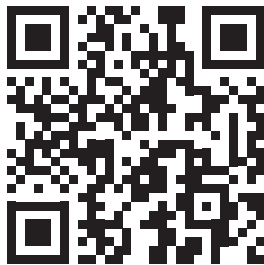
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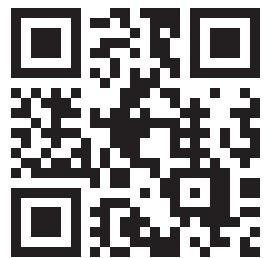
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	Workshop #1 @10:15 — Thursday, October 9	Workshop #2 @11:30 — Thursday, October 9
Meeting Hall	God's Prescription for Ministry Ailments (General) Dr. Jim Tillotson A look at the life of Elijah in 1 Kings 19. Review of the reasons he was discouraged, what that led to in his life, and God's prescription for it. Strong application to our own lives when we are discouraged.	You Can Forgive (General) Dr. Jim Tillotson Forgiveness is one of the most important choices in the Christian life—but also one of the most difficult. In this workshop, we will explore the story of Joseph in Genesis 45, where after years of betrayal, hardship, and separation, Joseph chooses forgiveness over revenge. In this session, participants will explore the true meaning of biblical forgiveness, identify what holds us back, and learn practical steps to move from hurt to healing.
Rusty Wheel	Christian Professionalism Dr. Matt Davis What does it mean to serve the Lord with excellence? In this practical session, Dr. Davis will cover the attributes and commitments that will turn any job into a ministry that glorifies God. The Lord gives us principles for "success" in his eyes, and he expects the very best from his children in the way they approach their work. This workshop will give you valuable insights and transform the way you look at "going to work" every day.	We (Still) Need To Talk about TikTok Dr. Matt Davis TikTok is now the #1 website/app in the world, with more than 1 billion videos viewed daily. 100 million American users spend an average of over an hour every day watching videos. Most users are 13-16 years old! Is it dangerous for teens? Do you understand the risks? We need to have an honest talk about what the research shows and how Christian schools can protect their students and families.
Sheriff Tom's	The Right Worldview Makes a World of Difference (General) Jamison Coppola Workshop includes practical observations for administrators and teachers on properly defining a Christian worldview, thinking in a distinctly Christian perspective, and includes practical ways to incorporate a Christian worldview into school operations and classroom instruction.	Classroom Discipline (Elementary/Secondary) Jamison Coppola Would you like to know how an administrator views classroom discipline? Come to hear observations and recommendations from a former school administrator about how classroom management and discipline impacts overall school culture. This session will provide practical tips and stories to illustrate how teachers can work effectively with their administrators to impact students' lives through discipline measures.
Eureka	I Am Done. Now What? (Elementary) Greta Howell The three words every teacher dreads hearing: "I am done. One of the biggest challenges of classroom management is keeping everyone engaged and intentionally involved in learning activities while waiting for classmates to finish tasks. This workshop presents favorite "center" and "I am done" activities that will keep kids coming back for more.	Learning That Lasts! (General) Greta Howell You planned an amazing unit, created captivating power points, and designed engaging activities that you felt sure would bring understanding and delight to every student in your classroom. But the test told a different story. Why didn't learning take place? Is that your fault or the students'? In this workshop we will look at research and strategies that make learning last.
The Ranch House	Autism—Separating Fact from Fiction (General) Dr. Lisa Joyner In this workshop, educators will explore the latest research on autism spectrum disorder (ASD), covering potential causes, diagnostic criteria, characteristics, and interventions. Discussions will focus on understanding the complex nature of autism, identifying students on the spectrum, and implementing evidence-based strategies to support their academic and social success. This workshop aims to empower teachers with the knowledge and tools necessary to promote the success of students with autism.	From Chaos to Control: How to Help Your Students Develop Stronger Executive Functioning Skills Dr. Lisa Joyner Executive functioning skills encompass a range of cognitive abilities crucial for academic achievement and lifelong learning. This workshop delves into practical strategies that empower teachers to cultivate these skills within their classrooms. From organization and time management to self-regulation, attention control, working memory, and problem-solving, participants will explore proven methods for nurturing executive functioning in students of all ages. Importantly, we'll address the possibility that some students diagnosed with ADHD may instead have weak executive functioning skills, which can be strengthened without medication.
The Twig	Communication Core Values (Administrators/Pastors) Sam Brock Practical helps to evaluate your school's communication in order to survive the next year. Take some time to evaluate your communication and the processes that your team uses to communicate.	Developing Policy (Administrators/Pastors) David Brock Developing policy can be a daunting task as you seek to manage an efficient and effective ministry. This workshop will identify mistakes to avoid, tips for developing, and principles to follow. Policy can be a tool or a roadblock: develop policy that will help you accomplish your mission!
The Barn	Bridging the Gap: Supporting Struggling Readers in Content-Heavy Classes (Secondary) Dr. Laura Snider Reading is a core skill for learning in every subject, yet many secondary students still struggle to make sense of what they read—even as texts become more complex. While teachers in literature, science, and history focus on delivering content, they may feel unprepared to support students' reading struggles at the same time. This session provides practical strategies teachers can use before, during, and after reading to help students process, engage with, and retain the written word—equipping them to think critically and deepen understanding as they read.	Assessing Oral Reading with Confidence and Clarity (Elementary) Dr. Laura Snider Managing reading time well includes knowing how to assess students' progress with clarity and consistency. In this session, we'll discuss key principles for evaluating oral reading, ensuring students are growing in fluency, accuracy, and expression while keeping assessments both effective and encouraging.

Workshop #3 @ 4:15 — Thursday, October 9		SPECIAL TIME BONUS Workshop — Thursday, October 9 — 1:45 p.m. (after lunch)	
Meeting Hall	Practical Strategies for a Smooth and Successful School Year (Elementary) Dr. Laura Snider A well-ordered classroom is a place where learning thrives. This session will help you establish routines and procedures that create a peaceful, structured environment, ensuring students know what is expected of them from the very first day. Come discover practical ideas for setting the tone and maintaining a classroom that runs with ease and efficiency.	Teaching Smarter: AI Tools for Effective Material Creation and Assessment (General) Dr. Lisa Joyner This workshop will introduce educators to cutting-edge AI tools that can streamline the creation of teaching materials and improve the assessment of student learning. Participants will explore a variety of AI-powered platforms that can assist in designing personalized lesson plans, quizzes, assignments, and feedback—saving time while enhancing student engagement and learning outcomes. This hands-on session will demonstrate how AI can become a valuable assistant in both the classroom and the assessment process. Whether you're looking to create dynamic resources or analyze student performance more efficiently, you'll leave equipped with practical tools to implement in your teaching practice right away.	
Rusty Wheel	Hyperfocus for Christian Educators — Teaching with Purpose in a Distracted World (General) Dr. Matt Davis This workshop equips Christian educators with practical tools to sharpen their focus and teach with greater purpose amid modern distractions. Grounded in biblical principles, participants will learn to balance <i>hyperfocus</i> (deep, intentional attention) and <i>scatterfocus</i> (creative reflection) to enhance their teaching, planning, and spiritual impact.	Better Than Worksheets (Elementary) Greta Howell Have worksheets taken over your school days? Do your students groan when they see another worksheet coming their way? While paper/pencil assessments are still beneficial, there are other ways to gather data about your students' understanding. This workshop is filled with an assortment of strategies for formative and summative assessments.	
Sheriff Tom's	Federal Issues and the Nature of Politics (Admin/Pastors) Jamison Coppola This session gives an "inside look" into current issues that affect Christians with an emphasis on federal actions that impact private Christian schools, churches, and families. Plus, an introduction to political involvement including how a Christian should view politics and with special emphasis on the necessity of political engagement in the American system of governance.	Organizing and Leading Reading Circles with Confidence (K-2) Dr. Laura Snider Every child can succeed in reading with the right support and structure. This session will guide you through the key elements of effective reading circles, from grouping students to establishing strong reading habits. We'll also discuss how to address common struggles and ensure each student receives the encouragement they need to grow as a reader.	
Eureka	It's Not My Problem...Or Is It? (General) Greta Howell How do you determine your effectiveness as a teacher? What does a "good day" look like in your classroom? This workshop reviews the importance of an accurate understanding of teacher and student success and the vital role communication plays in the process.	Drop In Question and Answer Opportunity Cattleman's Lodge 1:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Dr. David Brock, Dr. Jim Tillotson, Mr. Jamison Coppola Grab your free drink, come with questions, and visit with these ministry leaders as they discuss ministry challenges and opportunities related to leadership, legal issues, politics, people, work, and so much more. Come by for a free book for pastors and administrators while supplies last.	
The Ranch House	Teach the Way Their Brains Learn (General) Dr. Lisa Joyner In this 50-minute workshop, discover fresh ideas to elevate your lesson planning using the Interactive Model of Lesson Planning. Participants will explore strategies like differentiated instruction, formative assessment, and active learning to engage students effectively. We'll also focus on writing SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) goals that align with lesson objectives for clear outcomes. By the end, you'll have practical tools to refine your lessons, foster collaboration, and set meaningful goals for students. Come ready to collaborate and leave with a ready-to-use lesson plan template!		





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GENERAL SESSION ONE

MINISTERING FOR A LIFETIME

DR. JIM TILLOTSON

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GENERAL SESSION TWO

HINDRANCES TO ANSWERED PRAYER

DR. JIM TILLOTSON

What Hinders Prayer from Being Answered?

What has been the greatest answer to prayer you have seen so far? _____

How long ago was this? _____

Does God answer prayer? _____

Does God answer your prayers? _____

Why does God answer prayer? _____

Eight Hindrances to Answered Prayer

1. We _____ pray. James 4:2
2. _____, _____ sin. 1 Peter 3:12, Isaiah 59:1-2, Psalm 66:18
Many a good prayer cannot be answered by a holy God because of sin in the life and heart of the one who prays.
3. Not in the _____. Proverbs 28:9, John 15:7
4. Wrong _____. James 4:3
5. Failure to _____ others. Mark 11:25-26
6. Bitterness is harbored _____.
7. A poor _____ relationship. 1 Peter 3:7
8. Success in marriage is more than finding the right person, it is _____ the right person. Male callousness = spiritual powerlessness.
9. Vain or _____ repetitions. Matthew 6:7
10. We must have _____. James 1:5-8, Hebrews 11:6

GENERAL SESSION THREE

DO YOU LOVE GOD?

DR. JIM TILLOTSON

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NEXGEN SCHOLARSHIP

WHAT IS IT?

- Promotes Christian education
- “Last-money-in” scholarship for students who can’t afford Christian school without it
- Opportunity to gain new students

WHO IS IT FOR?

- Students who can’t attend Christian school without it
- Primarily new enrollees
- Students whose parents are already sacrificing for their Christian education
- Full-time students of GSACS-affiliated schools with full member status

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Parents and schools establish Benefaq accounts (a financial aid management site)
- Parents apply (\$35 per family) and schools receive Benefaq recommendation
- Schools submit their final recommendation for scholarship
- GSACS approves and awards final scholarship
- Applications reviewed monthly
- Scholarships paid out bi-annually

*Benefaq charges a one-time set-up and training fee of \$25 to every school and an annual \$40 school registration fee.



Scan for more
information:



WORKSHOP NOTES

GOD'S PRESCRIPTION FOR MINISTRY AILMENTS

DR. JIM TILLOTSON

1 Kings 19

1. BACKGROUND

A. Elijah is a God-called prophet with a powerful prayer life.

B. Elijah is being used by God to make a difference.

1) Proclaims a drought. 1 Kings 17:1; James 5:17-18

2) Fed by birds. 1 Kings 17:6

3) Stays with widows, and flour and oil do not run out. 1 Kings 17:16

4) Brings widow's son back from death. 1 Kings 17:23

5) Prays for rain. 1 Kings 17:45

6) Victory on Mount Carmel. 1 Kings 18:39

2. DISCOURAGED FOR SEVERAL REASONS

A. Those he was _____ wanted _____ from him before they would follow him. 1 Kings 17:24, 18:21

B. He had some people that didn't _____ him. 1 Kings 19:2

C. He was _____. 1 Kings 19:10

D. He was _____. 1 Kings 19:3

3. WHICH LED TO SEVERAL PROBLEMS.

A. He wanted out of _____. 1 Kings 19:4

B. He had a wrong _____ on his _____ ministry. 1 Kings 19:4

C. He had a _____ perspective on the _____ situation. 1 Kings 19:10,18

D. He was _____ of the _____ people. 1 Kings 19:10, 14

4. GOD'S PRESCRIPTIONS

A. _____.

B. Return to an _____ of God.

C. Right _____. 1 Kings 19:18

D. Work with God to _____ problems. Don't _____ from them. 1 Kings 19:15

E. Get a _____ in ministry. 1 Kings 19:16

F. _____ serving God until He _____ you home.

WORKSHOP NOTES

TITLE _____

SPEAKER_____

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WORKSHOP NOTES

TITLE _____

SPEAKER _____

[illegible]

WORKSHOP NOTES

TITLE _____

SPEAKER_____

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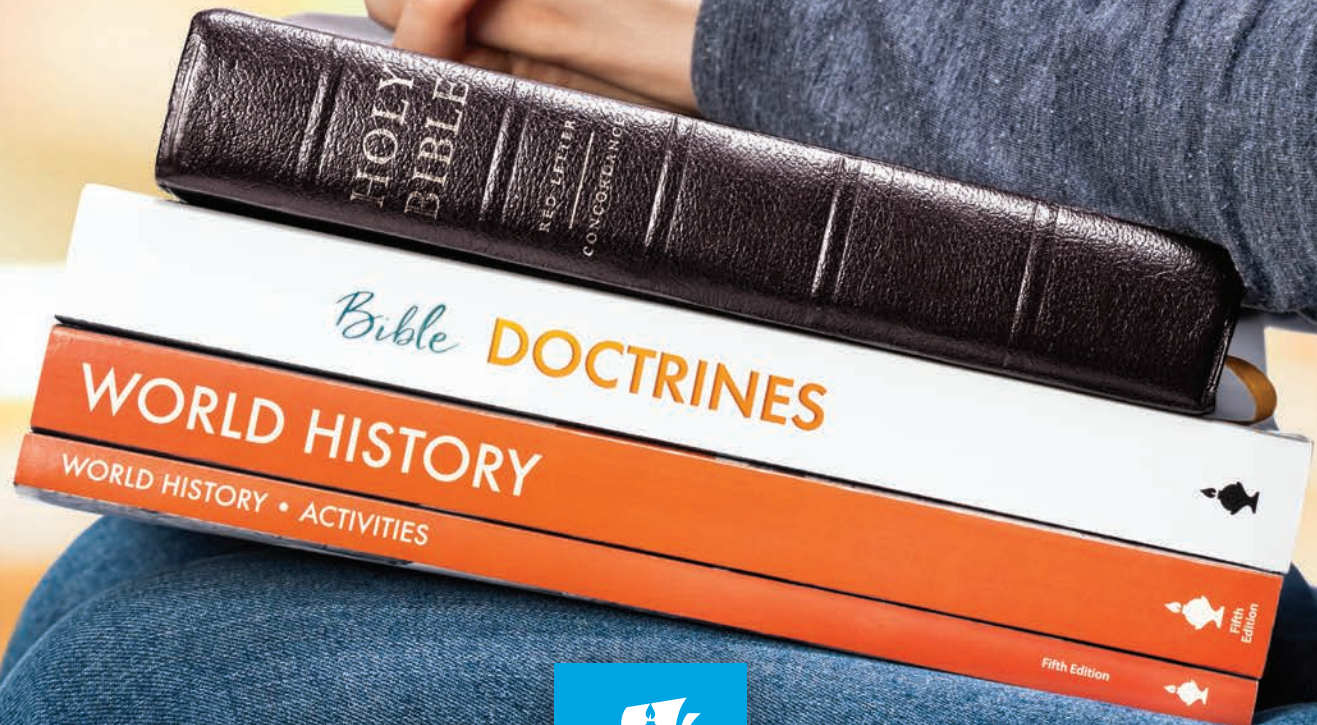
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2025-2026 GSACS CALENDAR

October 1	Deadline for GSACS membership for 2025-2026
September 26	Northern Music Festival, Liberty Baptist in San Jose, CA
October 8	GSACS Board Meeting @ 2 p.m., Ironwood
October 8-10	Educators' Convention, Ironwood, 7 p.m.-11 a.m.
October 24	Southern Music Festival, Bethel Baptist in Santa Ana, CA
November 1	IOWA Achievement Test Material Order Deadline
December 15	Deadline for AACS Writing Contest Entries to State Office
January 10-20	Academic Online and Writing Tests Ordering Window
January 21-January 31	Academic Writing Testing Window
January 21-February 14	Academic Online Testing Window
January 30	Southern Elementary Competition, Long Beach, CA
February 9	Registration deadline for State Fine Arts Competition
February 3-4	National LEAD Conference, Peachtree City, GA
February 24	Drop/Add Deadline for Competition
February 23	Registration deadline for Northern Elementary Registration
March 4	Youth Rally & College Fair (Culinary Entries Due)
March 5-6	Fine Arts Competition, Santa Maria, CA (8 a.m. registration)
March 20	Northern Elementary Competition, Stockton, CA
March 16—April 24	Window for IOWA Testing
March 23	Deadline for Nat'l Competition Registration to State Office
March 23	Youth Legislative Applications Due to State Office
April 14-16	National Fine Arts Competition, Greenville, SC
May 15	Deadline for submitting IOWA answer forms to AACS
July TBA	Youth Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.



COMPETITION INFORMATION FOR 2026

Old Testament Testing—Nehemiah, Daniel, Jonah

New Testament Testing—1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude, Revelation

Bible Quizzing—Romans, James (SH—all; JH—Romans 1–10, James; elementary—Romans 3–10) If SH teams plan to attend the Nationals, they need to pay close attention to details found on AACCS website for start of competition at Nationals. It is an earlier start time than other Nationals events.

Bible Memory—God’s Promises (see the GSACS manual for the complete verse list)

Debate—Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly increase its exploration and/or development of the Arctic.

Extemporaneous Speaking—Topics are drawn from January, February, and March issues of World and Time. Students may research and refer to other sources in their speech.

Expository Writing: Essay—The essay must be the student’s original work. This is an essay, not a research paper. Students may review the topic, but no statistics or other quotations requiring source citations are allowed. This competitive event is done in January/February coinciding with the GSACS academic competition. See the manual for more instruction and guidelines.

Spelling—The Spell-It lists are no longer available. AACCS published four lists that will be used (www.aacs.org/competition/spelling/). For further need of advanced rounds, we will use the Merriam-Webster contest dictionary. (SH are responsible for all the lists and any words in the contest dictionary should the event move to advanced rounds; JH would study the A lists first, and their advanced rounds would use the B lists; the elementary list for 4-6th grade can be found online at AACCS and their advanced rounds would use the A lists if needed).

EVENT LOCATIONS AND DATES

Grades 1–6

Southern Elementary Competition
First Baptist Church School, Long Beach, CA
(562) 432-8447
January 30, 2026

Northern Elementary Competition
Stockton Baptist School, Stockton, CA
(209) 931-6101
March 20, 2026

Grades 7–12, State Competition

Valley Christian Academy, Santa Maria, CA
(805) 937-6317
March 5–6, 2026

Grades 9–12, National Competition

Bob Jones University
Greenville, SC
See www.aacs.org.
April 14–16, 2026

MASS CHOIR SONG FOR 2026

DR. FLORENCE FONG—*Director*



“Our Great Savior” by J. Wilson Chapman & Rowland H. Prichard
(SATB) arrangement by Jay Rouse

Publisher: Medallion Music

To Purchase: <https://www.jwpepper.com/our-great-savior-10810206-493181/p>

We will do one selection but include the opportunity for orchestration to join in this mass choir event. Please contact Dr. Florence Fong for the simplified orchestration.

We have approximately 70 copies available for students to use. It is a first come first share for these copies. If you'd like access to these copies, email Dr. Fong. All digital copies should be destroyed after the mass choir event.

Expectations:

1. We encourage all schools to participate in this opportunity during our Fine Arts Event in Santa Maria, CA.
2. This opportunity allows smaller schools to experience mass choir practice and performance.
3. This opportunity gives students something to do during the last hour of competition that promotes fine arts and reduces “student roaming or horseplay” from occurring..
4. Schools who wish their students to participate should purchase the necessary copies of music or abide by the procedures to borrow copies from Dr. Fong. Number of copies available is limited
5. Music directors should familiarize their students with the songs and parts, but there is no expectation for students to be performance-ready before the mass choir practice. Joining the choir “last-minute” with no practice is also acceptable.
6. To expedite the practice, students should already know which part they are best suited to sing. Attending a music festival would assist students in navigating vocal parts.
7. Students perform during the closing session at competition.

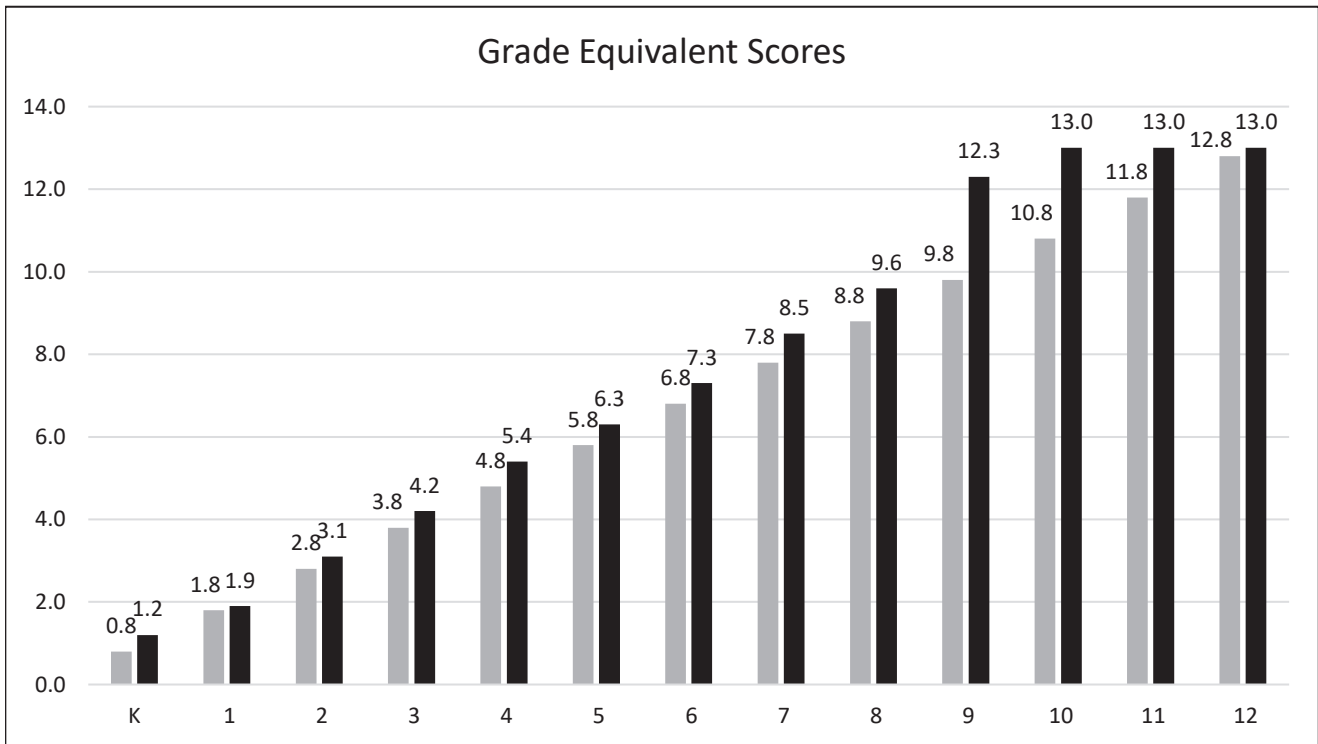
The College Fair is returning! Christian colleges and universities will join us during the youth rally and remain throughout the duration of the state fine arts competition. Encourage your parents and students to visit their booths!

The Youth Rally is FREE for students and school personnel.

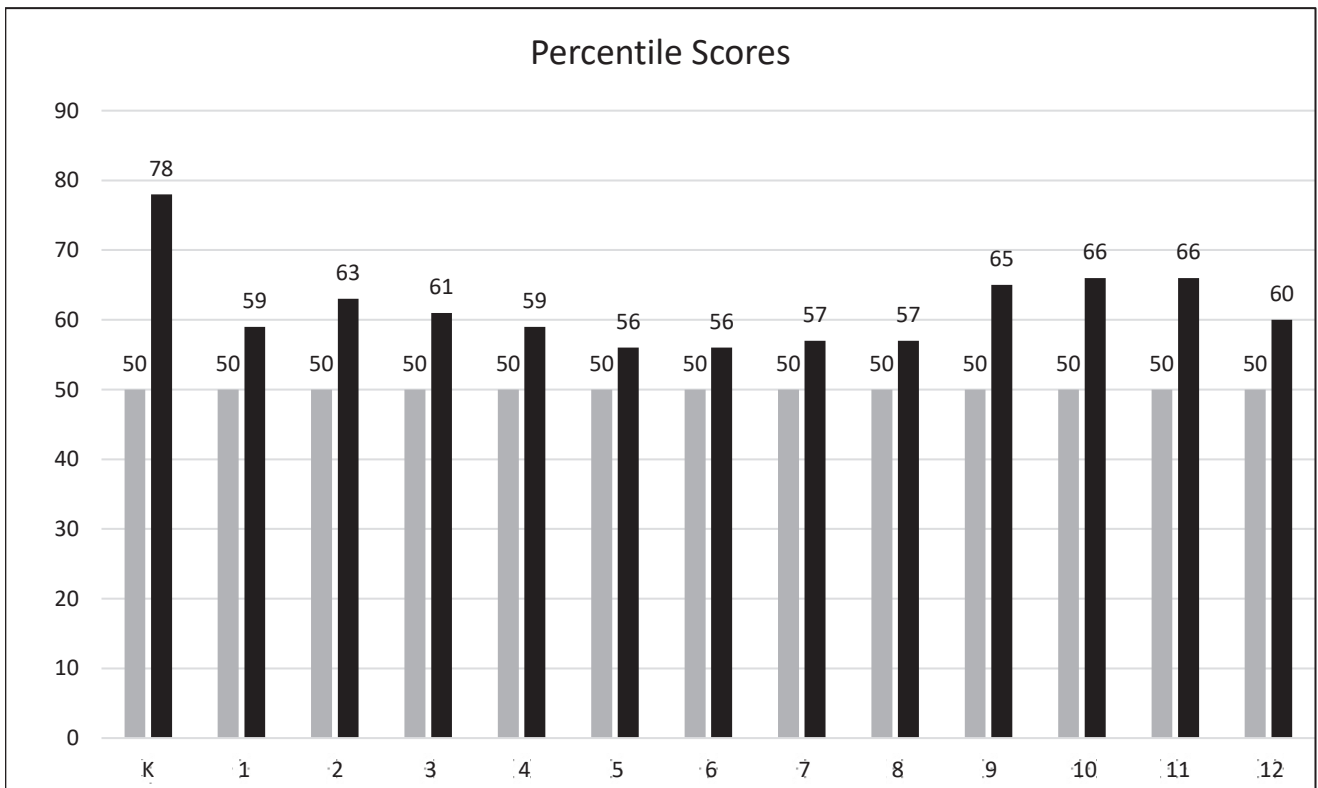
Wednesday, March 4 from 6–8pm | Dinner included

Note: Culinary arts entries must be turned in prior to the start of the Youth Rally.

American Association of Christian Schools
Iowa Assessment Results
2024–2025 School Year



13.0 means these scores are above the measurable capacity of the test

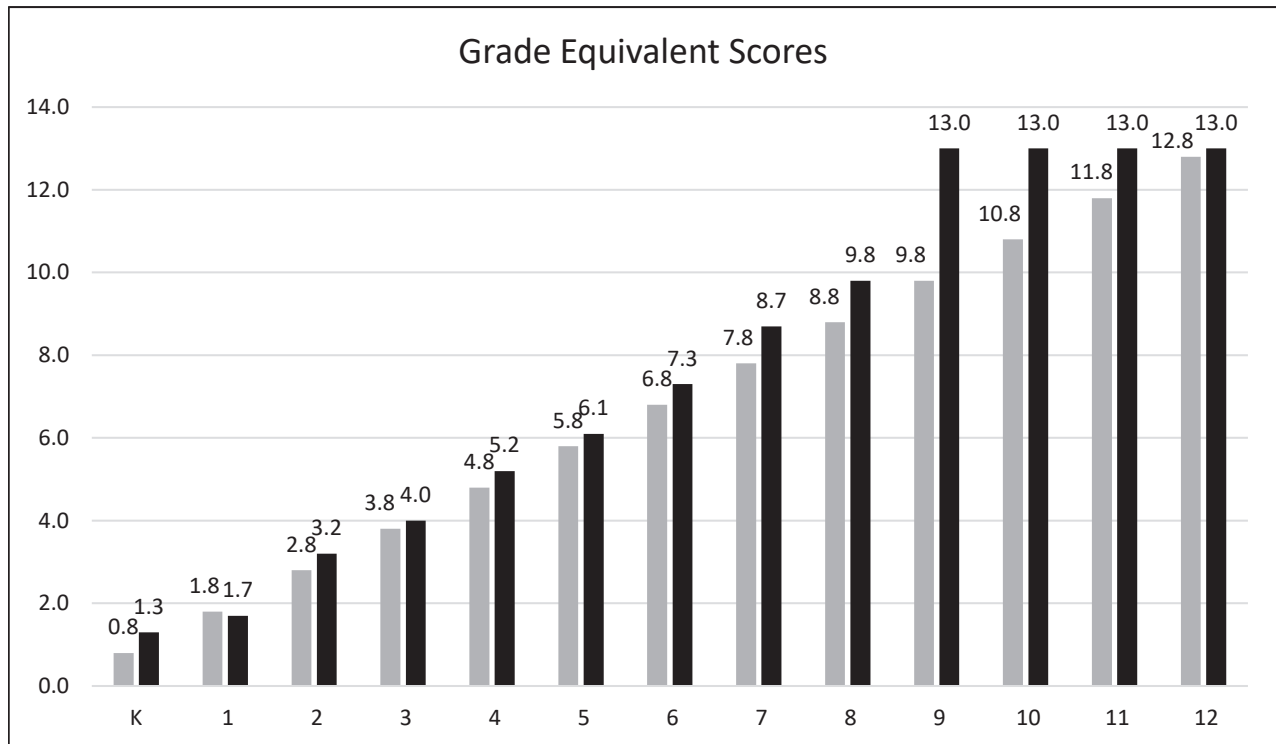


= National Average Grade Equivalent Scores and Percentile Scores (2017 norms)
 = AACS Average Grade Equivalent Scores and Percentile Scores

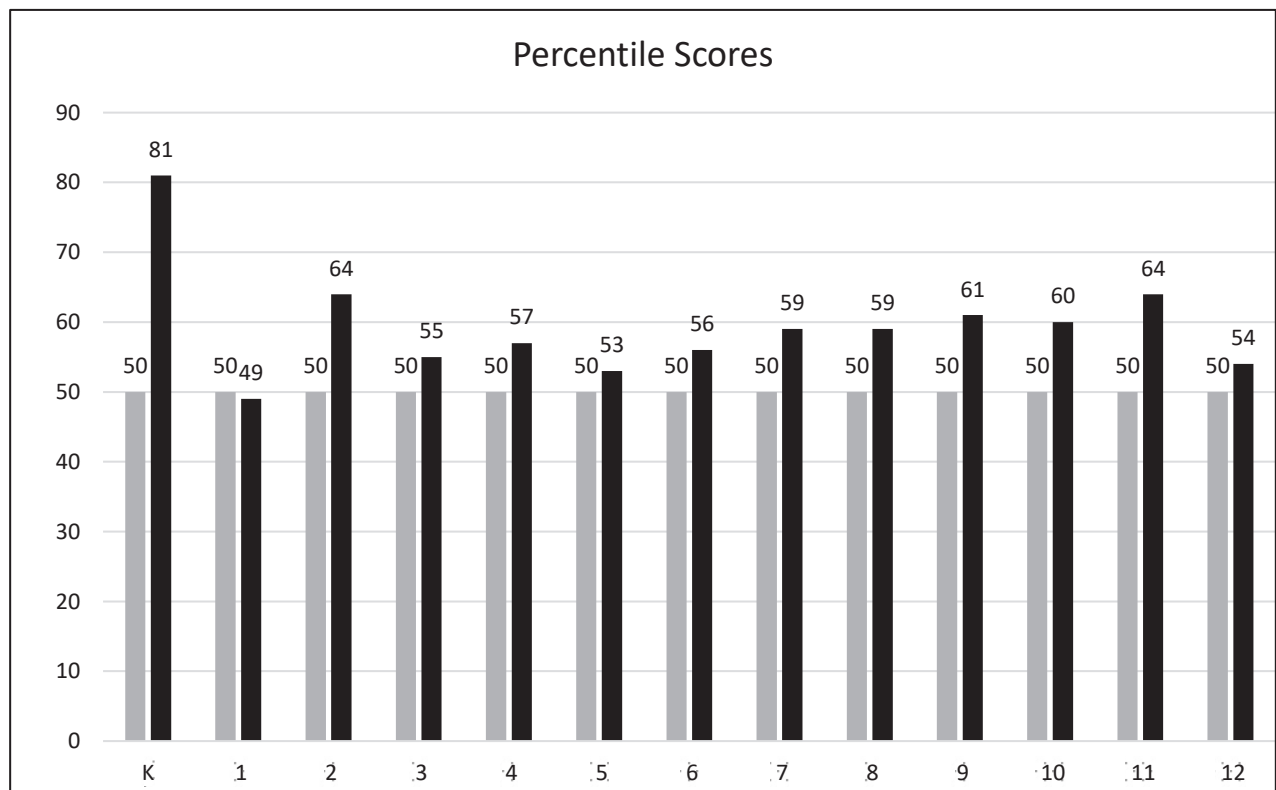
Comparison of GSACS and National Scores

Iowa Assessment Results

2024–2025 School Year



13.0 means these scores are above the measurable capacity of the test

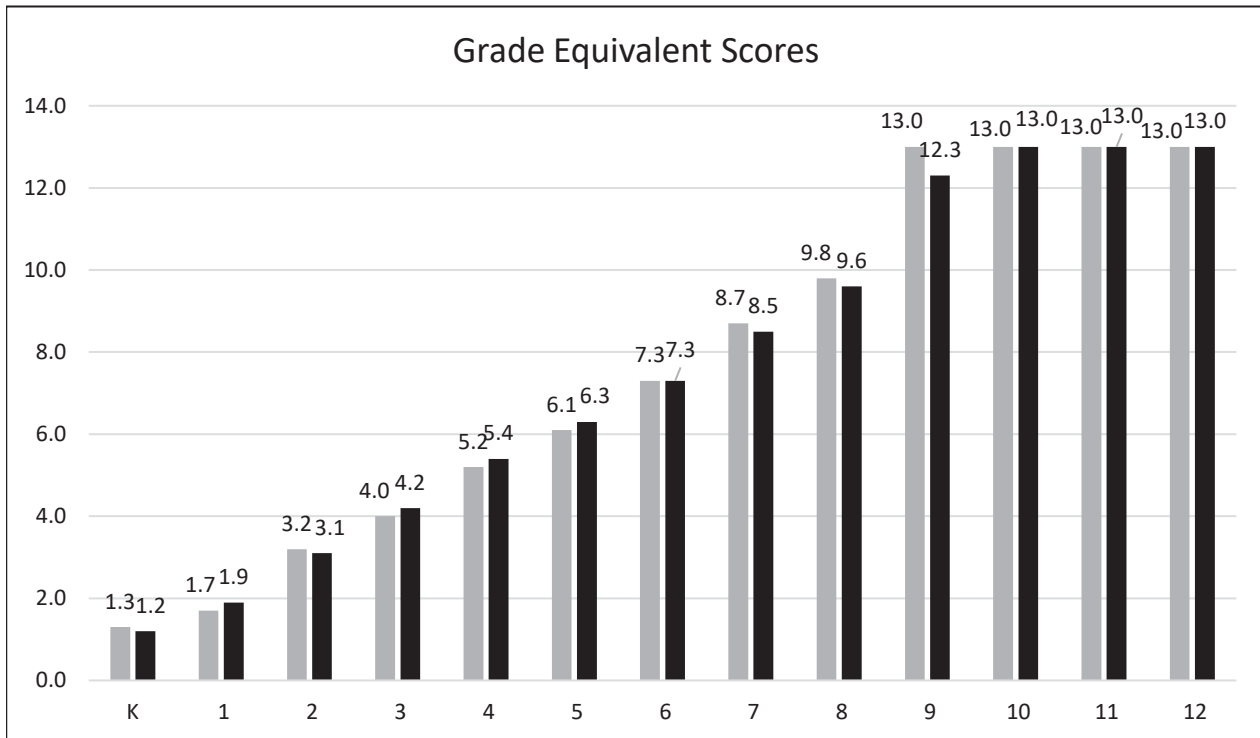


= National Average Grade Equivalent Scores and Percentile Scores
 = GSACS Average Grade Equivalent Scores and Percentile Scores

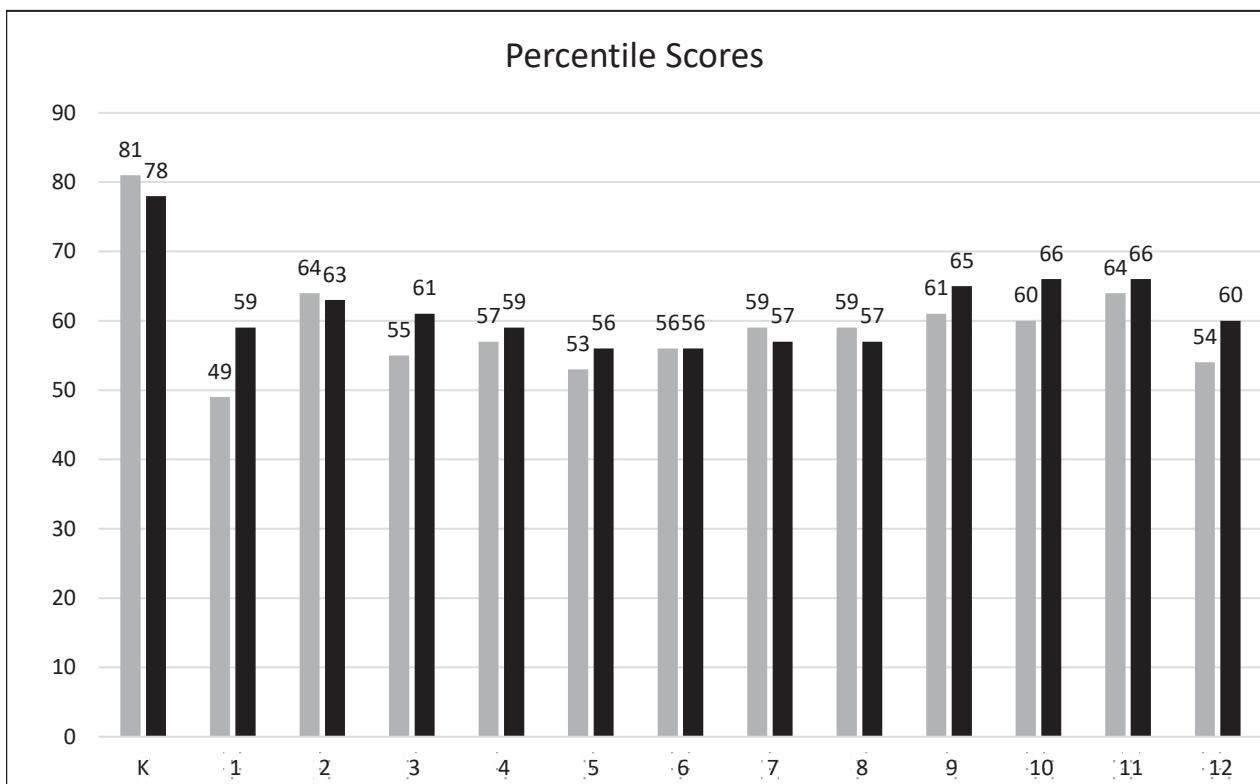
Comparison of GSACS and AACS Scores

Iowa Assessment Results

2024–2025 School Year



13.0 means these scores are above the measurable capacity of the test



= GSACS Average Grade Equivalent Scores and Percentile Scores
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WAYS I CAN KEEP LEARNING

Did you make some decisions? Consider some goals? Hear a great idea? We encourage you to summarize the last 24 hours by writing down goals for the coming months.

Some questions to consider are:

- What can I do to keep learning?
- How can I better motivate my students to be learners?
- What tools can I use better?
- What steps should I take now to know God better?
- Is my heart really wishing to be learning? If not, why?

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PHILIPPIANS 1:9-11

And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ. Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

