

The Chalkboard

Information Ideas Resources



Upcoming Events

- April 14-16 – National Competition, South Carolina
- May 15 – Deadline for returning IOWA tests
- July 6-10 – Youth Legislative Development Conf.
- August 1 – Registration open for Convention and School Membership for 2026-2027
- September 25 – Northern Music Festival, San Jose
- October 7 – Board and School Rep Meetings
- October 7-9 – Educators' Convention @ Ironwood



NEXGEN Scholarship

Open for 2026-2027 School Year!

GSACS provides to full member schools a scholarship opportunity to help families who otherwise would not be able to afford Christian education. Many schools this past year received more in scholarship funding than they paid out in membership dues. For the 2026-27 school year, each school needs to register with BeneFAQ as a GSACS school and submit the Agreement Form to GSACS.

- To register with BeneFAQ, click [Referred School Registration | BeneFAQ](#).
- To participate in the NEXGEN scholarship with GSACS, click [NEXGEN School Agreement](#) and submit.



Education Freedom Tax Credit

Directing your tax dollars to better serve Christian education

This new program rolls out January 2027, and we are praying and actively encouraging our CA state leaders to opt in so that our California Christian schools can benefit from people directing their tax dollars to support the schools of their choice. What can you do in the meantime?

1. Write a letter or make a phone call to Governor Newsom asking him to opt in the EFTC. This program is for public and private schools, so to opt out would be saying no to much money flowing into CA schools.
2. Begin sharing with families in your school and churches about the EFTC. GSACS is promoting and will be using the Accord Kids scholarship granting organization to handle all donations in and out that is required for the EFTC. This SGO was started by our national organization, the American Association of Christian Schools, but is a completely separate entity to follow EFTC guidelines. Accord Kids is the place we encourage ministries to promote.
3. Learn more by visiting our website. We now have [a designated page](#) to provide schools with valuable information related to EFTC, Accord Kids, and how to promote the program.
4. If you are interested in a team from GSACS and Accord Kids to host an event that better educates the ministries in your area about this opportunity, contact Shannon at GSACS.



TREK Ai

A CLOSED SOURCE AI
ALTERNATIVE FOR
YOUR SCHOOL

GSACS PARTNER

Schools are using Trek to:

- Support teachers with lesson planning, grading, and curriculum development
- Provide students with safe, guided academic support and tutoring
- Be in control of how AI is used by students and for students

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As a GSACS school, you qualify for the lowest pricing per student rate the next school year! Training and demos available.

GSACS

2026-2027 Calendar of Events

September 14-16	National Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.
October 1	Deadline for GSACS membership for 2026-27
September 25	Northern Music Festival, Liberty Baptist in San Jose, CA
October 7	GSACS Board Meeting @ 2 p.m., Ironwood
October 7-9	Educators' Convention, Ironwood, 7 p.m.-11 a.m.
October 23	Southern Music Festival, Bethel Baptist in Santa Ana, CA
November 2	IOWA Achievement Test Material Order Deadline
December 15	Deadline for AACS Writing Contest Entries to State Office
January 8	Registration deadline for Southern Elementary Competition
January 10-20	Academic Online and Writing Tests Ordering Window
January 21-February 1	Academic Writing Testing Window
January 21-February 15	Academic Online Testing Window
January 29	Southern Elementary Competition, Long Beach, CA
February 2-3	National LEAD Conference, Peachtree City, GA
February 12	Registration deadline for State Fine Arts Competition
February 24	Drop/Add Deadline for Competition
February 23	Registration deadline for Northern Elementary Competition
March 3	Youth Rally & College Fair (Culinary Entries Due)
March 4-5	Fine Arts Competition, Santa Maria, CA (8 a.m. registration)
March 19	Northern Elementary Competition, Stockton, CA
March 15—April 23	Window for IOWA Testing
March 17	Deadline for Nat'l Competition Registration to State Office
March 22	Youth Legislative Applications Due to State Office
April 13-15	National Fine Arts Competition, Greenville, SC
May 15	Deadline for submitting IOWA answer forms to AACS
July TBA	Youth Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.