



Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges

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February 3, 2017

Mr. David (D.J) Condon
Headmaster
Le Jardin Academy
917 Kalaniana'ole Highway
Kailua, HI 96734

Dear Mr. Condon:

The Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC) announces the action taken at the Winter 2017 Commission Meeting. The ACS WASC Commissioners have determined Le Jardin Academy meets the ACS WASC criteria for accreditation. This accreditation status is based on all of the information provided by the school, including the self-study report, and the satisfactory completion of the on-site accreditation visit.

It is the decision of the Commission to grant Seven-Year Accreditation Status with a Mid-cycle One-day Visit through June 30, 2024.

Le Jardin Academy is required to prepare a Mid-cycle Progress Report for the Mid-cycle Visit. The report and visit should demonstrate that the school has:

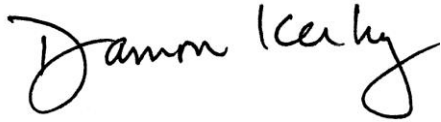
- Addressed the critical areas for follow-up through the schoolwide action plan;
- Made appropriate progress on the implementation of the schoolwide action plan; and
- Improved student achievement relative to the schoolwide learner outcomes and the academic standards.

Accreditation status is conditioned upon Le Jardin Academy's continued adherence with the ACS WASC policies, procedures, and criteria for accreditation. This includes a requirement that an accredited school annually contribute members to participate on visiting committees. Failure to maintain compliance with said policies, procedures, and standards is grounds for modification and/or withdrawal of the accreditation.

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The Commission looks forward to Le Jardin Academy's anticipated success and continuing improvement in keeping with ACS WASC's pursuit of excellence in elementary, secondary, and adult education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Damon Kerby". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail on the "y".

Damon Kerby
Commission Chairperson

cc: Visiting Committee Chairperson
HAIS Executive Director

Executive Summary of WASC-HAIS 2016 Accreditation Report

by D.J. Condon, Head of School, Le Jardin Academy

Le Jardin Academy is the first school in the Americas to have a synchronized accreditation visit combining all three of its accreditation agencies—the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), and the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). The following is a summary of the findings of the WASC and HAIS visiting committees.

- The Self Study process was conducted appropriately, involving a breadth of the full school community.
- The Self Study process came at a time when the school has grown rapidly, resulting in number of changes. It can thus serve as a useful guide to the renewal of the school's strategic plan and school improvement efforts.
- The visiting committees recognized that the school has already made some major progress in a number of areas that are highlighted for improvement.
- Of the 15 of 16 accreditation standards that apply to the Le Jardin context (Standard 6 Residential Life is not applicable), the school received two Highly Effective ratings, seven Effective ratings, six Somewhat Effective ratings, and zero Ineffective ratings, as follows:

Highly Effective: Preschool; Finance

Effective: Mission; Climate & Community; Admissions & Enrollment; Facilities: Buildings & Grounds; Health, Safety, Wellness; Governance; Administration

Somewhat Effective: Educational Program; Student Learning Experience; Faculty & Pedagogy; Advancement; Human Resources; Institutional Improvement and Sustainability

Ineffective: none

Overarching Strengths

- The school provides a positive environment characterized by strong relationships between students and adults. Parental involvement strengthens the school climate.
- The administration is leading the school forward with changes to improve the school.
- There is greater transparency and inclusiveness in communications and decision-making.
- The restructuring of the debt has resulted in increased financial stability and lender confidence.

Overarching Recommendations

- Update the Mission; keep it at the forefront of decision-making; assess it continually
- Ensure the future financial stability of the school

- Improve the development of the curriculum
- Increase academic rigor and focus on student learning
- Systematically use data to improve student learning
- Increase opportunities for teacher collaboration
- Within the new Strategic Plan, prioritize:
 - Financial planning
 - a Master Facilities Plan
 - Advancement Office functions related to fundraising and communications
 - Teaching Excellence
 - A Culture of Learning
- Continue to focus on change management

DJC Summary Statement:

To reach the Next Level of Excellence, Le Jardin Academy needs to improve student learning results and ensure the future financial stability of the school while retaining our strong sense of ohana.

When considering changes/making decisions, therefore, we need to ask ourselves at least three questions:

1. Will it lead to improved student learning?
2. Will it lead to improved financial stability?
3. Will it support our sense of ohana?