

Kyoto International University & KIU Academy

"To be the leader in bilingual education based on Christian Principles"

March 31, 2011

Dear Parents,

On March 25, 2011, due to the hard work of teachers, staff, students, parents, and administration, KIU Academy was accredited by Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). What does this mean? There are many benefits as a result of this accreditation. Some of the benefits are mentioned on the ACSI website (www.acsi.org/Schools/Accreditation). Others include:

- The KIU community (parents, students, teachers, staff, and others interested in the school) will be assured that the school is being held accountable by an outside accrediting agency from now on.
- KIU Academy will be constantly working on school improvement to positively impact student achievement and development.
- Students graduating from our high school will not have to take the high school equivalency test (高認) in order to apply for Japanese universities or colleges. Even so, specific universities may require it despite our accreditation which is recognized by MEXT).
- There will be an annual government tuition assistance for high school students from grades 10 to 12 (which is already recognized by the Kyoto Prefecture Board of Education – as a *Kakushu gakkou*(各種学校) or 'miscellaneous school') of families that qualify for the government funding. We are working on getting more detailed information. As soon as we receive the information from the government we will notify everyone.

There are some things that accreditation does not mean.

- All of our students do not automatically receive "student discounts" for train fares. The reason the ACSI accreditation would help our 10th to 12th grade students receive government financial assistance is the fact that grades 10-12 (high school according to Japanese authorities) is already recognized by the Kyoto Prefecture Board of Education – as a *Kakushu gakkou*(各種学校) or 'miscellaneous school'. This is the reason why our grade 10-12 students have been receiving train fare discounts since 2003.
- Students other than grade 10-12 students will not receive tuition subsidies.

We will try to provide more information over the next few months. Parents are always encouraged to come in if they have questions. We are thankful that the Lord Jesus, through His grace, mercy, and love, helped us to achieve this goal. We want to continue to honor and glorify Him in all we do.

Sincerely,
Richard W. Myers
KIU Academy Principal

