

Session 1 Summaries

ACAMIS Heads of School

Date: October 16, 2024

Hosts: Ildiko Murray, Greg Smith

Crisis Management: Contextual, Strengthened by Peer Support

Crisis Management is highly contextual; however, support from other schools and Heads is important in creating quality checklists.

Annual Insurance Audit: Ensure Coverage and Identify Gaps

An annual insurance audit (What are we covered for and how much? Are there any gaps in our coverage?) is highly recommended.

Networking and Self-Care for Heads: Support in Times of Crisis

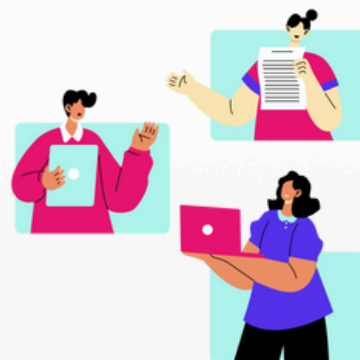
Networking and self-care for Heads is paramount during times of crisis. We are here to support each other.



Additional Resources

- * [Padlet](#)
- * [Session 1 Slide Deck](#)

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Session 2 Summaries

ACAMIS Heads of School

Date: November 13, 2024

Hosts: Ildiko Murray, Greg Smith

Clarity on Accreditation and Authorization Purpose

Teachers and staff need to be clear about the purpose and importance of accreditation and authorization.

Versatile Use Beyond Accreditation

The materials prepared for the self-studies can be used in many ways beyond accreditation (i.e. marketing, new staff onboarding, parent information sessions, building school culture, etc.).

Align Accreditation with School Needs

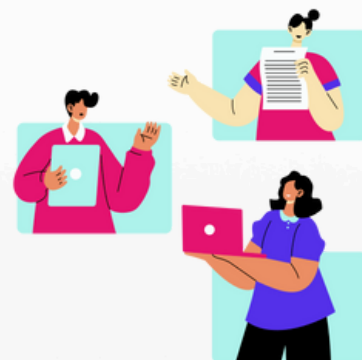
Synchronize, re-evaluate, and let go of accreditation if necessary to serve the current needs and context of your school.



Additional Resources

- * [Padlet](#)
- * [Session 2 Slide Deck](#)

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Session 3 Summaries

ACAMIS Heads of School

Date: March 12, 2025

Hosts: Ildiko Murray, Greg Smith

Prioritize Seamless Integration and User Experience

Fragmentation across multiple tools and poor user experience are major pain points. Schools should focus on adopting tools that integrate well with existing systems, offer intuitive interfaces, and minimize the learning curve for staff. Conducting thorough usability testing before implementation can help address these issues.

Ensure Compliance with Local Regulations and Data Privacy Laws

Given the emphasis on data privacy, security, and compliance (especially in regions like China), decision makers must ensure tools meet legal requirements and align with internal policies. Regular audits, third-party checks, and staff training on data protection are essential to maintaining trust and security.

Balanced Budget, Practicality, and Long-Term Goals

While budget constraints are a reality, schools should avoid short-sighted decisions. Tools should not only fit current needs but also support long-term strategic goals. Involving diverse stakeholders in the decision-making process can help strike the right balance between cost, functionality, and usability.

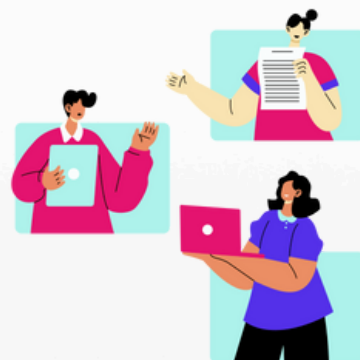


Additional Resources

- * [Padlet](#)
- * [Session 3 Slide Deck](#)

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Session 4 Summaries

ACAMIS Heads of School

Date: April 16, 2025
Hosts: Ildiko Murray

Why does the world need happy schools?

Top Three Things to Consider: 1. Do you recognize happiness as a core objective of education? Why or Why not?

How do you as a school define well-being?

For example: “We define well-being as our staff being satisfied with their school lives, having positive experiences at, and feelings about school, and believing that what they do at school gives them some purpose and meaning (IB Research Summary, p. 2).

Balancing Academic Rigor with Joy and Excitement in Schools

Do you believe that academic achievement and rigor can coexist with joy and excitement in schools? If so, how does this manifest at your school?



Additional Resources

- * [Padlet](#)
- * [Session 4 Slide Deck](#)