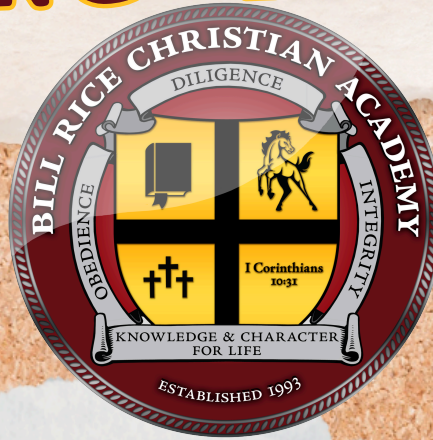


MUSTANG MESSAGE



September
2025



Accreditation is our Friend (not Fiend)

by Nathan Reeves

Vegetables are our friends too! We want ice cream to be our friend, and it is, for a few minutes. Then it's not. See vegetables are our friends because they help us be healthy. We adults understand this. We might not like it, but we understand it. Eating vegetables is like spending today on tomorrow, while eating ice cream is like selling tomorrow for today. The former is a good definition of wisdom and the latter of foolishness.

Accreditation is like eating vegetables. While we'd all rather just go to recess, working to improve the Academy is spending today on tomorrow. It's an investment. While ice cream (and recess) is good, eating vegetables (improving what God has given us) is important. There is a difference. School improvement has always been a driving force at BRCA. We've now taken the step to have Tennessee Association of Christian Schools help us improve.

In the early 1990s, Bill Rice III saw a need to educate Bill Rice Ranch staff children and to help local children as well. So, in 1993 Bill Rice Christian Academy was started to fulfill this purpose. In the coming years, BRCA's purpose was refined to "give each student an excellent education and a desire to do right." Knowledge and character became our focus. **Now we seek to take the Academy to the next level by seeking accreditation through TACS. We seek accreditation to improve the quality of our educational program, to promote our credibility among our constituents and in the community, and to help parents qualify for the Freedom Scholarship.**

How will accreditation **improve the quality of our educational program**? Accreditation will help our teachers grow in their teaching skills. A major requirement involves training teachers. This is accomplished through thinking through goals and objectives, in-service training, additional education college classes, and conferences and seminars. All of this will help teachers help their students.

How will accreditation **promote our credibility among our constituents and in the community**? While we are not looking for a stamp of approval, some prospective parents who don't know us yet need someone else to verify that we do what we say we do. Our standardized testing scores already do this, but this will be another layer that some parents need.

How will accreditation **help parents**? While improving the quality of our educational program helps parents' children, some parents need the financial help a Freedom Scholarship could potentially provide. While we might gain some new families because of this, our main purpose is to help our current families.

We are now in "Candidate Status"! This is just another step closer! Please pray for us as we seek to take the Academy to the next level. The accreditation process usually takes about a year. We started this past Spring and hope to be fully accredited this coming Spring. And you might want to remind us every once in a while that accreditation is our friend, not our fiend!

CURRENT EVENTS

Sept. 18 Grandparents Day

We would like to invite all grandparents to BRCA to have muffins and coffee with your grandchild.

Sept. 19 Western Day

Western Day is back! All parents are invited to join us for a cookout at Cowboy Town, pony rides, and a real, live Bill Rice Ranch **rodeo!** Parents can plan to arrive at lunchtime. More details coming later.

Sept. 24-26 Fall Break

No school these days off as our teachers get some extra training!



Class Fieldtrips

Sept. 5 Ruby Falls

Middle School Fieldtrip

Sept. 12 Nashville Zoo

3rd Grade Fieldtrip

Sept. 12 Hermitage

5th Grade Fieldtrip

Sept. 12 State Capitol & Museum

4th Grade Fieldtrip

Character Trait of the Month

OBEDIENCE

Definition: actions brought about by submission to authority

Description: submissive, humble

Examples:

1. Follow directions, procedures, and rules immediately, completely, and with a right attitude.
2. Simply obey.

Welcome New Students!

We want to welcome each of our new students to our school family! We are excited to watch each one learn and grow. We know everyone will make them and their families feel welcome.

Ella Chastain
Hannah Cherry
Colton Clement
Annabelle Coogler
Luke Crowder
Wren Devericks
Giovanni Girgis
Drake Gunn
Logan Gustin
Taline Joseph

Sophia Labib
Wesley Lange
Olivia Lilly
Brooklyn Mangus
Brynden Mangus
Brooklyn McAndrew
Sydney McAndrew
Colton Morgan
Parker Petrie
Monserrat Regla

Isaiah Rodriguez
Josillia Saad
Finn Serplus
Adelyn Sconiers
Josiah Shaub
Asher Sibilev
Caleb Sibilev
Eli Sibilev
Heaven Siha
John Siha

Everett Strickland
Hannalee Strickland
Jack Tate
Samuel Tate
Helena Tawadrous
Holly Tawadrous
Amelia Wallace
Griffin White
Norah Yaroma
Sofia Zimmerman

BRCA Facebook Group!

Did you know that Bill Rice Christian Academy has a Facebook Parent Group! The goal of this group is to help BRCA parents create relationships with other school parents by sharing information and ideas, asking questions, and supporting one another. We'd love to see you there!



Fall Retreats

The Ranch offers several retreats this fall that can be a help to you and your family. Retreats are affordable and very relaxing. We will highlight the upcoming retreats in the *Mustang Messages*, and I hope you and your family will make a point to get involved this year!

