



e-Gazette

2nd Quarter Issue – August 2021

10 Countries, 7 Speakers, 1 Event

The 2021 International Educators Conference

Pursuing its commitment to the mission of strengthening Christian schools and equipping Christian educators worldwide, ACSI Philippines conceptualized, initiated, and hosted the 2021 International Educators Conference (IEC). The first of its kind to be organized in the Asia Pacific region, this 3-day international virtual event was successfully conducted last May 6, 7, and 8 in collaboration with ACSI Indonesia, ACSI Australia, ACSI Korea, and ACSI India.

The educator participants of this first virtual international gathering came from ten countries namely: the Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, South Korea, Cambodia, Nepal, Europe, USA, India, and Pakistan.

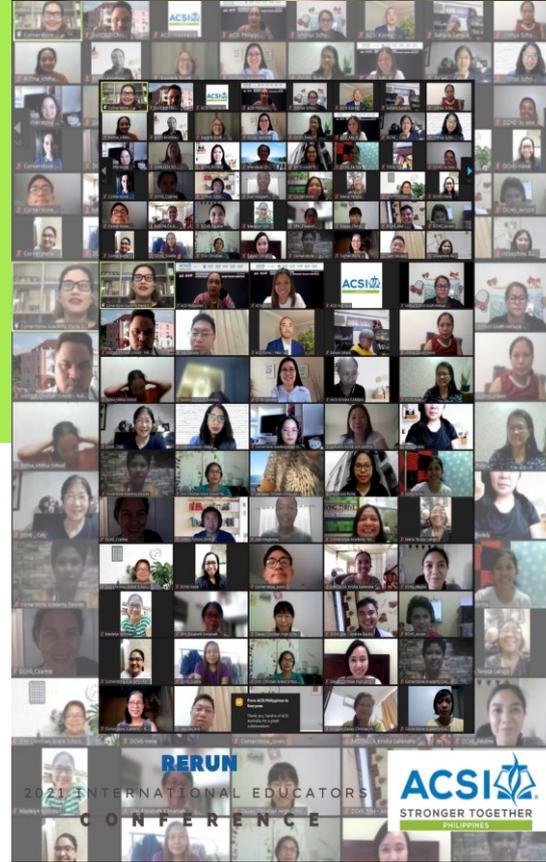
Along with veteran speakers coming from Europe, North America, and Asia, the IEC intensive training was intentionally designed to prepare educators for the coming school year. Topics of the sessions were carefully considered and aimed at revisiting the essentials of future-proofing schools. They were focused on themes that directly address the training needs of educators and aimed at helping gird Christian schools and the frontliners—the teachers, to be more effective in facing the demands of teaching during this pandemic and beyond.

The immense negative impact to schools during the early stage of the pandemic spurred the desire of the ACSI Philippine office to provide more high quality and robust set of trainings to Christian school teachers and leaders. In close partnership with ACSI-Indonesia, the 2021 IEC was able to bring together close to 600 participants who were strongly equipped and encouraged in their commitment towards their mission and boldly pursue their calling as Christian educators.

Among the highlights of the conference was the lively confab where speakers were able to accommodate questions from the participants. Added to that were the featured Christian schools and their leaders, sharing some essential steps that their schools are doing to prepare for the coming school year. The 2021 IEC ended with a closing keynote titled “Reinforcing Teacher Capacity Towards a Future-Proof School”.

Truly, the 2021 IEC was a testimony of God’s faithfulness, graced by seven distinguished speakers, and benefiting hundreds of educators in one big event. It showcased an impressive collaboration among several ACSI Global offices in the Asia Pacific region, advancing with strong resolve ACSI’s tagline “*stronger together*”.

For video highlights and photos of this conference visit ACSI Philippines website: www.acsiphilippines.org ❖



2021 IEC RERUN

The overwhelming positive feedback from the participants and the requests from several schools who were not able to join compelled ACSI Philippines to do a conference rerun.

The said International Conference rerun happened last June 29, 2021. Twenty schools, and more than a hundred participants from the Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, and the US graced this event.

The highlights of the rerun included the live session of Dr. Debbie MacCullough who spoke on the “Essentials of a Strong and Thriving School”, followed by a bonus CONFAB in the evening graced by the same speaker, as well as by Dr. Deborah Miller.

The live confab allowed the participants to converse, discuss, raise concerns, and express their thoughts with the speakers.

Further, it focused around issues on online teaching strategies, practical ways to address Covid-related concerns among teachers, as well as school accreditation.

“Prayer triplets, accountability partners, regular, systematic and intentional communication” are just few of the many key points shared. ❖

Nature of the Curriculum

- 1 Learning Plans (WHAT we teach)
- 2 Learning Activities (HOW we will teach it)
- 3 Learning Community (The environment of the classroom)

Debbie MacCullough

Music & Me: Enhancing Mind, Body and Relationships

March 29, 2021 was a special date saved and marked by many of the music teachers as ACSI Philippines, in cooperation with Magnus Creative Music (MGM) Inc., sponsored a music education webinar aimed at enhancing the educators' mind, body, and relationships amidst this pandemic.

Sharing insights through the virtual stage was Coach Neil Go, a musician by profession, a jingle composer, music arranger, and a jazz pianist of Cher Neil Music Corner (CNMC) in Cagayan de Oro City.

In this webinar, he emphasized the relevance and elements of music needed by our learners to easily understand the process of learning music. He was also able to allow the teachers to revisit music theories to prepare them for designing learning plans.

To supplement Coach Neil's learning session is the presentation of Creative Holistic Integrated Music Education System (CHIMES) by Dr. Chambi Soriano, the managing director of Magnus Creative Music, Inc. (MGM).

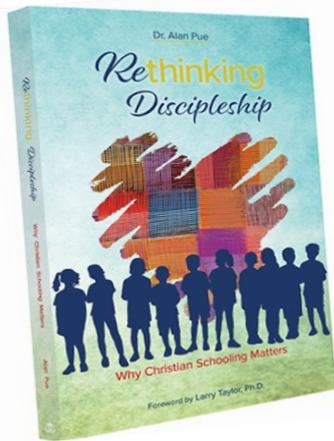
CHIMES is a research-based, carefully designed curriculum for grade schoolers that is grounded on listening as the core musical skill. It is a powerful tool that will make music teachers work seamlessly as it comes with everything the teacher needs—lesson slides, audio track lessons and printed or digital modules.

Participated by many schools all over the Philippines, this music colloquium, hosted by ACSI Phils. staff Ms. Lasque, was another free ACSI Philippines event provided to both member and non-member Christian schools throughout the country. ❖



 **CHIMES**
Music Subject Curriculum for Elementary Levels





The Value of Christian Education: *Why Christian Schooling Matters?*

With its aim to further advance and help the school leaders in school opening preparations, ACSI Philippines organized its second free colloquium for the year 2021. This event entitled “Why Christian Schooling Matters” was graced by a veteran

Christian school administrator and author Dr. Alan Pue, the author of the newly-released book “Rethinking Discipleship”. In his Q & A session with Christi Lynn, Purposeful Design Publications (PDP) Marketing Manager, he emphasized how the effective journey of discipleship is framed by biblical principles and is supported through the collaborative efforts of home and school. He further emphasized the necessity of Christian schools to establish a firm foundation so that students are set to have an infinite relationship with Christ.

To let members schools know more about textbook trainings, updated teacher’s resources and comprehensive series of textbooks, Karrie Edwards, PDP Textbook Coordinator, spearheaded the sharing. As one of the participants commented: This brief yet very concise and insightful colloquium was just what they needed to jump start their school preparations.” ❖





Professional Development :

Cultivating Growth Mindset

We started growing a small garden at home during the pandemic with several plants and some flowers. Every late afternoon, I always volunteer in watering these plants. It draws me near to the nature and serves as a great way to relieve stress from the day's virtual work. I would imagine the plants being happy, and their thirst quenched when sprayed with water. In addition, we placed some fertilizers on them that serve as nutrients.

Soon enough, I noticed a huge difference. There were new buds shooting out and not long after, the small garden started to be adorned with beautiful flowers. In like manner, our lemon tree grew in inches and also started bearing fruits! What a delight!

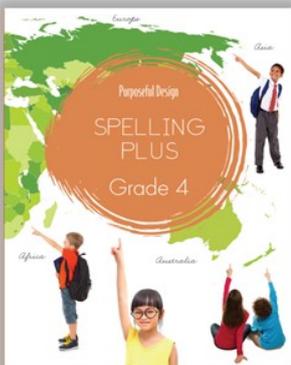
While relishing the sight, the LORD brought my thoughts to how we similarly nourish ourselves as educators. Like a plant nourishment, the indispensable role of professional development for teachers and school leaders cannot be over-emphasized. It is through professional learning communities and activities that growth mindset is being encouraged and cultivated. In the absence of professional development opportunities, teachers become less effective, like plants that become stunted due to lack of nutrients, water, and sunlight. Time and again, professional development is proven as "essential to changing classroom practice, improving schools, and ameliorating pupils' learning outcomes (Borko, 2004). It serves as one of the bedrocks towards quality education.

Just as these 21st century skills for students which are communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity are the buzzwords of almost every school around the world, it is just but fitting to also look into how we can further bring these in parallel to equipping ourselves as Christian educators "in terms of the 4C characters" (Andari Puji Astuti et al 2019). More so, just as our LORD "Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people" (Luke 2:52 NLT), we must continually seek to be nourished and nurtured in order to grow and be at our finest, demonstrating these 4Cs in our workplace that brings honor to God. Thus, a robust and "structured professional learning that results in changes to teacher knowledge and practices, and improvements in student learning outcomes" (Darling-Hammond et al., 2017), should be a non-negotiable and regular exercise in every Christian school.



PREPARE FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

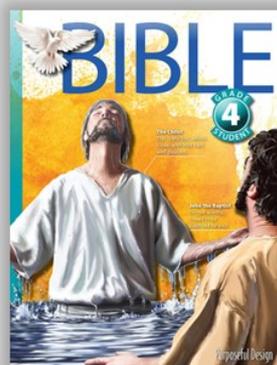
"Where do I begin? I love Purposeful Design Publications' textbooks! My first-grade science textbook and the teacher edition are full of ideas and extra activities that can be used with my students." - *Teacher, Oceana Christian School, MI*



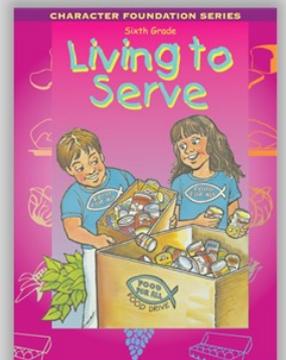
Spelling Plus



Science



Bible



Character Foundation

UPCOMING

Mark Your Calendars
EVENTS



PAM HORNECK

Education Director of School Programs
NorthStar Academy, Mississippi, USA



SPEAKER AT:
TECHNOLOGY FORUM

**“ONLINE TEACHING & LEARNING
SKILLS BEYOND COVID-19”**

2 0 2 1

AUGUST 14

Register now: <https://forms.gle/CP1uSeQC8dmHwfPR8>

ACSI PHILIPPINES
VIRTUAL BEGINNING OF
THE YEAR ASSEMBLY

SAVE THE DATE



September 4, 2021



Acsi Contact Information

Email: acsi_philippines@acsiphils.org



Facebook: AcsiPhils Asia Pacific

Mobile Number: 09205478714



Instagram: [acsiphilippines](https://www.instagram.com/acsiphilippines)

