



TRINITY

BIBLE COLLEGE & GRADUATE SCHOOL

Trinity Bible College and Graduate School
Board of Trustees
50 6th Ave S.
Ellendale, ND 58436

ESPB Board of Directors:

Trinity Bible College and Graduate School would like to begin the process towards teacher education accreditation. It is our intent to be able to provide our students with the ability to apply for and receive teacher licensure from the state of North Dakota. While we currently have a articulation agreement with Valley City State University (VCSU), it is our desire to offer the entirety of this program. With that purpose in mind, we are requesting that you allow us to move forward with the accreditation process.

Trinity is grateful for the relationship between VCSU and ourselves. Our students have greatly benefitted from the VCSU faculty and courses; our faculty have gained insight and mentorship. However, as we grow as an institution of higher education, we desire to once again independently of VCSU offer this program to our students.

We understand the process to accreditation may be challenging, but we are determined to do what is necessary to see teacher education accreditation back at Trinity Bible College and Graduate School.

Thank you for considering our application for accreditation and we look forward to reestablishing a relationship with ESPB, the North Dakota Department of Education, and those within this board.

Steve Schaible, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

Paul R. Alexander, President Trinity Bible College and Graduate School

Rick Wadholm, Jr., Vice President of Academics

Amy Freier, Department Chair Teacher Education/Exercise Science

Education and Standards Practice Board:

As noted in the previous letter, Trinity Bible College and Graduate School (Trinity) has submitted a letter of intent to reestablish teacher education accreditation. Trinity has held accreditation for many years.

Trinity has held accreditation with The Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) since 1980 which is recognized by the United States Department of Education. During this same time, Trinity held teacher accreditation with the state of North Dakota. In 1991, Trinity pursued and received additional accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), and continued with this accreditation until it was voluntarily resigned due to financial concerns in September 2011. While accreditation with HLC was voluntarily resigned, the accreditation with ABHE continued and continues currently.

Due to the decision to resign accreditation with HLC, those within the leadership of the college were also under the understanding that teacher accreditation would also need to be resigned. In order to prevent the complete closure of Trinity's teacher education program (elementary education and physical education), the college entered into an articulation agreement with Valley City State University to ensure Trinity students could still receive teacher licensure.

Over the course of the last few years, the college has re-established financial security and is in a position to move forward with teacher program accreditation through ESPB along with moving towards HLC accreditation. Attached you will also find a current copy of the last audit.