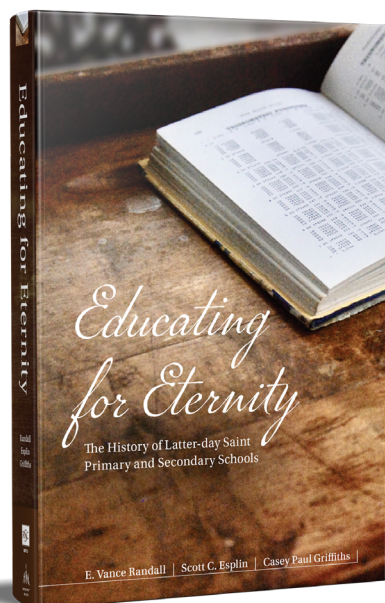


NEW FROM THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER

Educating for Eternity

The History of Latter-day Saint Primary and Secondary Schools



Educating for Eternity offers the most comprehensive history to date of the Church's K-12 educational system.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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PROVO, UTAH—From log cabins in Kirtland to academies across the American West and schools spanning Mexico, the Pacific, and South America, *Educating for Eternity* tells the sweeping story of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and its nearly two-century commitment to K-12 education.

Educating for Eternity: The History of Latter-day Saint Primary and Secondary Schools explores how a distinctive system of education was shaped by faith, persecution, migration, financial constraint, and global expansion—as well as the guiding belief that “the glory of God is intelligence.” Drawing on extensive archival research, the authors illuminate the vision, sacrifice, debate, and adaptation that defined Latter-day Saint schools from 1830 to 2020—revealing how a people's eternal vision of the soul shaped the daily work of educating the rising generation.

Since its founding in 1830, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has regarded education as both a spiritual mandate and a cultural necessity. Long before peaceful settlements were secured, Latter-day Saints were holding school in log cabins, tents, homes, and churches, or around campfires. *Educating for Eternity* traces this remarkable devotion from

the Church's earliest days in Ohio, Missouri, and Illinois, through the building of academies in the Mountain West, and into the creation of a global network of schools across multiple continents.

At every stage, education stood at the intersection of theology, identity, and survival. Set against the broader backdrop of American educational history—from the rise of the common school movement to Progressive-era reforms and the growth of state control—this book situates Latter-day Saint schools within the larger debates over religion, citizenship, parental rights, and the purpose of schooling. The story includes moments of bold expansion and sobering retrenchment as Church leaders wrestled with financial realities, political pressures, and the challenges of serving a rapidly internationalizing membership.

Educating for Eternity: The History of Latter-day Saint Primary and Secondary Schools is copublished by the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University and Deseret Book. Visit rsc.byu.edu/book/educating-for-eternity for more information.

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