

DISTRICT ACCREDITATION QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW

Presented by:

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What is Accreditation?

- Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools.
- The goal of accreditation is to evaluate, verify, and improve an institution's quality.

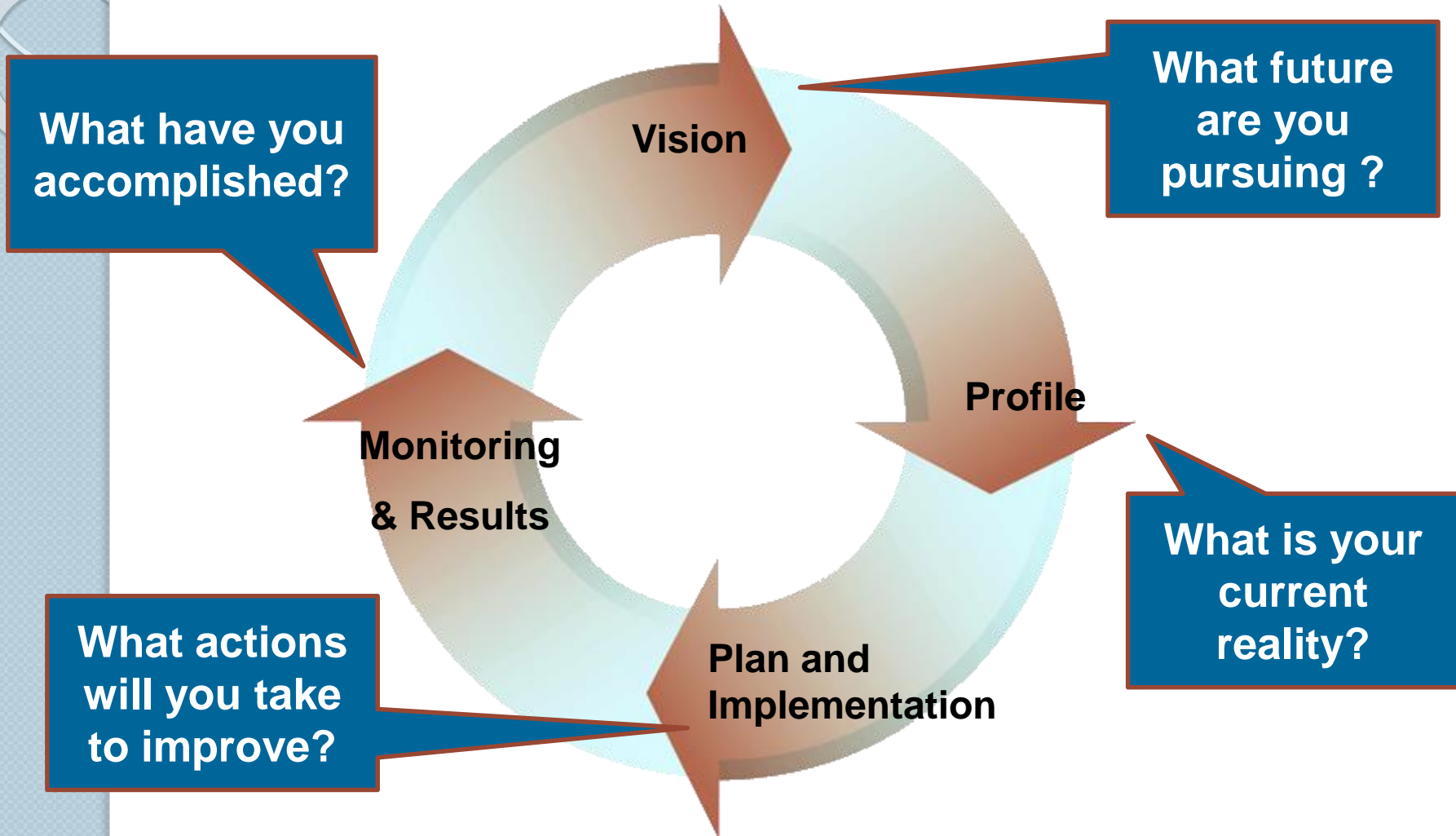
To be accredited, schools must:

1. Meet the AdvancED standards for quality schools
2. Engage in continuous improvement
3. Demonstrate quality assurance through internal and external review

AdvancEd Standards

- Standard 1: Purpose and Direction
- Standard 2: Governance and Leadership
- Standard 3: Teaching and Assessing for Learning
- Standard 4: Resources and Support Systems
- Standard 5: Using Results for Continuous Improvement

2. Improvement Process Elements



Internal/External Reviews

Internal Review

- Annual internal reviews are conducted through the School Improvement process.
 - Student data, stakeholder surveys, and other information is analyzed through the 8 step problem solving process.
 - A School Improvement Plan is designed with action steps implemented and monitored throughout the year.
- Tiered system of support is provided to each school.
- District Instructional Reviews are conducted as determined by need throughout a five-year rotation cycle.
 - Instructional Review summaries are completed and a plan of action is designed for continued support.
 - Follow up reviews are conducted by the district liaison assigned to the school.

Internal/External Reviews

External Review: once every five years

- The Quality Assurance Review Team:
 - Is comprised of members with diverse experience and rich contextual perspective
 - Assesses and evaluates district effectiveness in meeting the requirements of accreditation
- The QAR process provides the district and community with:
 - Important validation and recognition
 - Valuable insight and direction for improvement

Where are we in the process?

- We successfully completed our second external review during SY 2014-2015.
- Currently within internal review cycle and have just completed our Accreditation Progress Report (a follow-up to the 2014-2015 external review).
- We are planning for our third external review during SY 2019-2020.

RESULTS OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEW SY 2014-2015

POWERFUL PRACTICES:

- The External Review Team visited 12 schools using the guidelines established by AdvancED to ensure a representative mix of school levels, achievement levels, social economic levels, student demographics, and geographic regions with the district. The results of those observations indicate that the learning environment (classrooms) throughout the district are above the average of all AdvancED schools.
- The collection, analysis, and use of data effectively drive instruction across the district (Indicators 3.2, 5.2, 5.3)
- The district has developed a systemic collaborative culture that supports improved instruction and student learning at all levels (Indicator 3.5)
- The collection, analysis, and use of data effectively drive instruction across the district (Indicator 3.2, 5.2, 5.3)

Improvement Priorities

- Develop and implement a comprehensive process to ensure an appropriate and effective working relationship among the members of the School Board and administrators (Indicators 2.2, 2.3).
- Formalize a comprehensive process engaging all stakeholders to review, revise, and communicate the district's purpose and direction (Indicators 1.1, 1.2).

Progress in Priority Areas

- A mission and vision were developed by the Strategic Planning Committee (Summer 2015)
- Strategic Planning Committee established strategies and performance targets aligned to key focus areas (Summer 2015)
- Strategic Plan draft approved by School Board (December 2015)
- Superintendent presented the Board-approved Strategic Plan to principals (January 2016)
- Superintendent to present to the Board highlights, accomplishments, next steps made thus far toward the Strategic Plan in the 2016-2017 school year (March 2017)

Performance Target Increases in Priority Areas

- District Grade increased from C in 2014 to B in 2015, maintained B in 2016.
- Graduation rates increased 4.4 percent from 71.6 percent in 2015 to 76.0 in 2016.
- SAT mean scores increased from 296 in 2015 to 509 in 2016.

Questions & Answers

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Link to VCS [District Accreditation](#)

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