



External Review Exit Report

Hart County Schools

October 4-October 7, 2015

AdvancED is the global leader in providing continuous improvement and accreditation services to over 32,000 institutions serving 20 million students worldwide.

Accreditation

An international protocol for institutions committed to systemic, systematic and sustainable improvement

- Builds capacity of the system and its schools to increase and sustain student learning
- Stimulates and improves effectiveness and efficiency throughout the system

External Review

A diagnostic process to stimulate and guide continuous improvement with a focus on:

- Impact of teaching and learning
- Capacity of leadership
- Use of resources



External Review

Professional judgment by the External Review Team results in:

- Powerful Practice
- Opportunities for Improvement
- Improvement Priority
- Index of Education Quality
- Accreditation Recommendation

Stakeholders

Stakeholder Interviewed	Number
Superintendents	3
Certified Staff	75
Students	53
Board members	4
Community Members	15
Total	150

Domain

Teaching and Learning Impact

The External Review Team examined:

- Student performance results
- instructional quality
- Learner and family engagement
- Support services for student learning
- Curriculum quality and efficacy
- College and Career readiness data



Improvement Priority

Develop and implement a comprehensive systems approach to continuous improvement, including the development of systematic and systemic processes to increase two-way communication with all stakeholder groups and promote meaningful input into continuous improvement process. Incorporating the use of student data in a formalized manner, to increase student success, will be an integral part of this endeavor. Continue to review and revise the current instructional framework to ensure it is effective increasing student performance.

Opportunity for Improvement

Design, implement and evaluate a district wide structure to provide opportunities and processes for the support of new staff and the facilitation of effective instructional strategies for all staff.

Opportunity for Improvement

Identify and deploy a process which will provide for a significant increase in stakeholder involvement in the continuous improvement process at both the school and district level.

Opportunity for Improvement

Articulate a balanced assessment process that assists teachers in understanding how to use diagnostic, formative, and summative data to differentiate instruction. Structure the assessment system to yield timely and accurate formative information that is meaningful and useful for developing differentiated instructions and implementing a variety of interventions.

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	Domains	External Review	AEN
1	Equitable Learning Environment	2.89	2.69
2	High Expectations Environment	2.74	2.81
3	Supportive Learning Environment	3.10	3.06
4	Active Learning Environment	3.07	2.94
5	Progress Monitoring and Feedback Environment	2.75	3.07
6	Well-Managed Learning Environment	3.21	3.13
7	Digital Learning Environment	2.55	1.82

Domain



Leadership Capacity

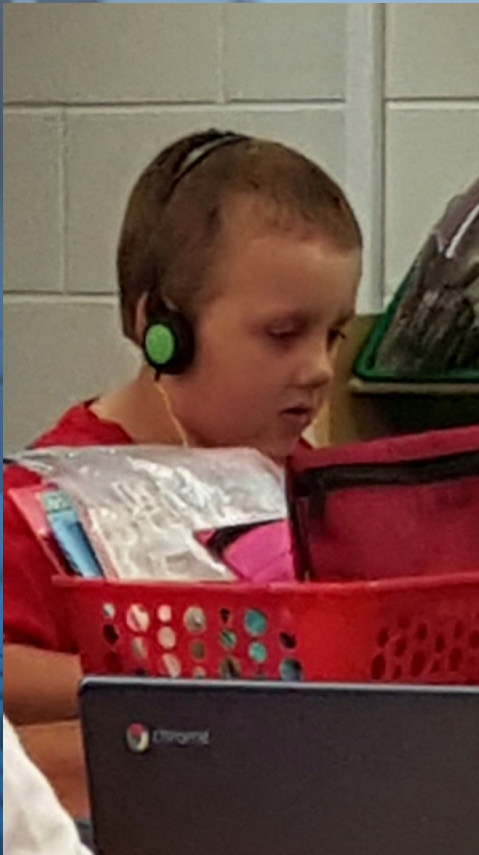
The External Review Team examined:

- Institutional purpose and direction
- Governance and leadership effectiveness
- Stakeholder engagement
- Improvement capacity
- Results

Powerful Practice

The system has cultivated a strong bond and level of involvement with the community. The overall system environment is characterized by respectful and well-behaved students, flexible and caring staff and supportive and parents and community. The culture created by the system is one in which the students are the priority.

Domain



Resource Utilization

The External Review Team examined:

- Allocation and use of resources
- Equity of resource distribution to need
- Level and sustainability of resources
- Long range capital and resource planning effectiveness

Opportunity for Improvement

Ensure that students have broadened access to effective technology infrastructure and support as well as modern digital tools/technology to enhance student research, problem solving, and creation of original works, including teacher training in the integration of instructional technology into classroom instruction

Conclusions

Index of Education Quality™ (IEQ™)

- Impact of teaching and learning on student performance
- Capacity of leadership to guide and ensure effectiveness in carrying out strategic direction of institution
- Utilization of resources to meet diverse needs of students and institution
- Use as a tool for formative analysis and continuous improvement
- Connection for the conditions, processes, and practices to evidence including student performance

IEQ Results

	External Review IEQ Score	AE Network Average
Overall Score	278.05	278.34
Teaching and Learning Impact	272.38	268.94
Leadership Capacity	288.33	292.64
Resource Utilization	277.50	283.86

IEQ Results

The IEQ results indicate that the school system is performing within acceptable ranges as compared to expected criteria as well as other institutions in the AdvancED network.

Recommendation

The External Review Team recommends to the AdvancED Accreditation Commission that the

Hart County Schools

earn the distinction of accreditation by AdvancED.

Continuous Improvement

- Improvement Priorities must be addressed within two years
- Beginning of a journey of improvement
- Deliberate and strategic actions to ensure that every child, *every day is being prepared and achieving success for their future*
- *“Finish What You Start”*

Final Thoughts



The External Review Team:

- Appreciates *your hospitality, support and professionalism.*
- Respects and acknowledges the *efforts to improve the quality of your institution.*
- Congratulates your system and community on *completing the requirements for AdvancED School System Accreditation.*

Create a world of opportunities for every learner

