

District Accreditation School District 145 - Waverly

**Quality Assurance Review Team
Oral Exit Report**



**December 12-14,
2011**

The AdvancED Community

World's Largest Educational Network

- 27,000 public and private schools throughout the United States and 69 countries worldwide
- All Department of Defense schools
- 15 million students
- 18 thousand volunteers
- More than 3 million teachers

District Accreditation

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

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

Cornerstones of Accreditation

- Meet Standards for Organizational Effectiveness**
 - School Systems
 - Schools
- Engage in Continuous Improvement**
 - Systems Perspective and Approach
- Demonstrate Quality Assurance**
 - Internal Assessment
 - External Review

AdvancED

Accreditation Standards for Quality Systems

1. **Vision and Purpose**
2. **Governance and Leadership**
3. **Teaching and Learning**
4. **Documenting and Using Results**
5. **Resources and Support Systems**
6. **Stakeholder Communications and Relationships**
7. **Commitment to Continuous Improvement**

Expectations for Accreditation

For a School District

- Meet the AdvancED Standards for Quality Systems
- Identify and guide the implementation of a systemic continuous improvement process
- Monitor its schools and departments through the quality assurance process
- Prepare and host a QAR every five years
- Respond to findings from the QAR Team

Activities of the QAR Team

- Reviewed Standard Assessment Report and District Website
- Listened to District Presentations
- Interviewed District Stakeholders
- Examined Artifacts
- Visited a Representative Sample of Schools
- Observed Practices and Learning Environment
- Collected and Organized Data

Activities of the QAR Team

- **Engaged in Analysis and Deliberations**
 - Sought and maintained a *systems perspective*
 - Examined the district's *actions and results* in relation to its vision, mission, and beliefs
 - *Pursued evidence* that could be corroborated through multiple sources
 - *Used evidence* to guide discussions, and reach decisions
 - Applied the *accreditation criteria* and requirements

Data Collection

During the on-site Quality Assurance Review, team members visited 5 schools and interviewed:

3 Board members

10 Administrators

65 Teachers

38 Support staff

10 Parents, community, and business partners

55 Students

TOTAL Stakeholders 181

The QAR Team

The **QAR Team** delivers high quality feedback by:

- Assessing each ***standard***, writing ***narratives*** describing evidence, highlighting strengths and opportunities for improvement
- Providing ***commendations*** that identify and celebrate significant accomplishments in meeting or exceeding standards
- Defining ***required actions*** to help improve district effectiveness and student learning
- ***Communicating findings*** orally and in writing
- ***Making an accreditation recommendation*** for national review

Commendations

The Quality Assurance Review Team commends
District 145 - Waverly for:

1. Significant support for the school system through strong community involvement and participation.
2. The school board, district leadership, and teachers have created a climate that encourages collaboration, is committed to student learning and achievement, and fosters deep concern and caring for student and families

3. Commitment to a comprehensive K-12 systems approach to curriculum alignment through the use of the Curriculum ToolBox.
4. A positive and safe school climate facilitated through building leadership, staff, and students that promotes effective student learning.

Required Actions

The Quality Assurance Review Team has determined that District 145 - Waverly must act on the following:

1. Establish and implement a process to develop a District Improvement Plan that provides a strategic direction for schools, departments and services and involves all stakeholders.
2. Develop and implement a comprehensive assessment system using both state and local assessments, based on student achievement data analysis and aligned with the district's expectations for student learning.

3. Engage effective communication and collaborative relationships with and among its external stakeholders at the district level.

Ratings by Standard

Standard	Rating
Vision and Purpose	Operational
Governance and Leadership	Operational
Teaching and Learning	Operational
Documenting and Using Results	Operational
Resources and Support Systems	Operational
Stakeholder Communications and Relationships	Operational
Commitment to Continuous Improvement	Operational

Evidence-Based Accreditation

Accredited

Accredited

On Advisement

Warned

Probation

Deny or Drop Accreditation

Next Steps

- ❑ A written report of the findings will be submitted within 30 business days
- ❑ After receipt of the report, the district is expected to:
 - **Review and communicate the findings**
 - **Address the required actions**
 - Districts are accountable for acting on these
 - **Monitor school and system accreditation standards and improvement efforts on ongoing basis**
 - **Submit the Accreditation Progress Report**

Final Thoughts

On behalf of the Quality Assurance Team, we extend:

- Our appreciation *for your hospitality, support, and professionalism;*
- Our respect and acknowledgement *of your efforts to improve the quality of your school district;* and
- Our congratulations for your progress toward *achieving District Accreditation as a quality system.*