



The School District of Osceola Accreditation  
January 21 – 24, 2018 Information

# Who is AdvancED

- AdvancED is the largest community of education professionals in the world. They are a non-profit, non-partisan organization that conducts rigorous, on-site reviews of a variety of educational institutions and systems to ensure that all learners realize their full potential. While their expertise is grounded in more than a hundred years of work in school accreditation, AdvancED is far from a typical accrediting agency. Their goal isn't to certify that educational institutions are good enough. Rather, their commitment is to help these institutions continuously improve.
- Combining the knowledge and expertise of a research institute, the skills of a management consulting firm and the passion of a grassroots movement for educational change, they serve as a trusted partner to 34,000 educational institutions—employing more than four million educators and enrolling more than 20 million students—across the United States and 70 other nations. AdvancED was created through a 2006 merger of the Pre-K-12 divisions of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI)—and expanded through the addition of the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC) in 2012.

## VISION

- ▶ Create a world of opportunities for every learner.

## MISSION

- ▶ Lead and empower the education community to ensure that all learners realize their full potential.

# AdvancED Goal

Is to meet every educational organization where they are and empower them to successfully navigate a continuous improvement journey that is guided by a community inspired vision to create a world of opportunities for every learner.

# Why Accreditation?

- It provides districts to be able to exchange credits, courses, and grade-level placements between schools and universities around the world, and validation of diplomas and certificates to other accredited schools and universities.
- It ensures the district has a consistent level of quality in a network of participating schools that is valued by the public and by colleges and universities.
- Students within an accredited school district become part of a worldwide network of quality institutions focused on student performance.

## What is an Accredited School District ?

- A district that enhances the capacity of staff.
- A district that is motivated to impact students at all levels of achievement.
- A district that communicates regularly to all stakeholders.
- A district that has the ability to effectively drive student performance and continuous improvement in education.
- A district that is dynamic and continuously evolving, with an unrelenting focus on students.
- A district that operates as learning communities - demonstrating a positive culture throughout the district.

# AdvancED Approach to Accreditation

## Personalized

Districts often have unique and varied priorities when it comes to engaging in a true, verifiable, third-party assessment of their quality. AdvancED has developed quality standards and processes that meet the unique requirements for:

- ▶ public and private schools and systems,
- ▶ education corporations,
- ▶ post secondary, and
- ▶ digital learning institutions.

## Empowering

With a balanced, systemic approach combining Standards, stakeholder feedback and student performance to measure quality programs, relationships and results, their systems-oriented Accreditation Process helps institutions make the most of their talents and resources. Their process aligns accreditation with accountability, emphasizing learner outcomes when evaluating districts' quality. However, they believe that it is not the outcome but the course taken over time that yields the greatest return on investment.

## Clear Expectations

AdvancED Performance Accreditation requires that districts must:

- ▶ Meet the AdvancED Standards and accreditation policies.
- ▶ Demonstrate quality assurance through internal and external review.
- ▶ Engage in continuous improvement.

# AdvancED Accreditation Process

- AdvancED beliefs are continuous improvement, resulting in success for all learners, is the goal of every district. While the *Improvement Journey* for each district may look different, measures of quality for learning and instruction are ever present. The *AdvancED Performance Standards* support this cornerstone by providing a set of evaluative criteria that lays the foundation for improvement planning and implementation.
- Based on rigorous research and best practices, AdvancED created a set of Standards that are a powerful tool for transcending compliance, driving district transformation and accelerating improvement. AdvancED Engagement Review Teams will use these standards to evaluate the district. They believe that the use of these Standards will help districts convert from a previous event-driven accreditation process where districts were held accountable to the same evaluation expectations into a continuous improvement system where each district can personalize and customize the experience based on their unique vision and long-term strategic goals and objectives.

# AdvancED Accreditation state-of-the-art productivity platform for District continuous improvement

AdvancED see's school districts as complex ecosystems, where each piece of data, from assessments and transcripts to demographics and growth models, represent a distinct part of the whole. They believe that when it comes to improvement, educators must rely on the data to light a clear path from where they are to where they want to go.

The eProve platform allows districts to align improvement efforts through seven comprehensive elements that empower them to make sense – and use of – their data, offering a valuable companion on the journey of continuous improvement.

- ▶ Clear Direction.
- ▶ Healthy Culture.
- ▶ High Expectations.
- ▶ Impact of Instruction.
- ▶ Resource Management.
- ▶ Efficacy of Engagement.
- ▶ Implementation of Capacity.

# eProve™ surveys

AdvancED surveys employ time-tested, research-based questions that produce useful, relevant results, empowering districts to turn knowledge into practice.

Monitoring stakeholder perceptions helps districts:

- ▶ Engage stakeholders in continual communication.
- ▶ Use perception data for continuous improvement.
- ▶ Generate data and evidence for improvement and accreditation.
- ▶ Gain support for improvement initiatives.

Surveys address:

- ▶ Parent, student and staff perceptions.
- ▶ School climate and culture.
- ▶ Teaching and learning pedagogy.
- ▶ Student engagement.
- ▶ Teacher and leadership peer perceptions.
- ▶ Professional learning.
- ▶ School improvement monitoring.

Valuable Results

Surveys provide a unique and growing collection of data from students, parents and teachers about their experiences with their districts and schools, their beliefs about teaching and learning, their educational aspirations and a host of related topics.

# eProve Effective Learning Environments Observation Tool

AdvancED looks for districts to look beyond the obvious. They believe that getting to the root of strengths and weaknesses in the classroom requires asking strategic, in-depth questions and hearing honest answers. For example: Are students immersed in positive learning experiences? Are they connecting content to real-life situations? How do they react to classroom rules and expectations? Are they willing to take risks with learning?

The AdvancED Effective Learning Environments Observation Tool (eleot), a learner-centric, formative tool, answers these questions and more by providing quantifiable data that focuses on students and informs improvement efforts to create the most optimal environments for student learning.

## Effective Learning Environments

They see the learning environment more than the building, desks and smartboards, an effective learning environment encompasses many of those previously intangible elements students need. They assert that students learn better when surrounded by an environment that:

- ▶ Is equitable, supportive and well-managed.
- ▶ Maintains high expectations.
- ▶ Facilitates active learning and engagement.
- ▶ Monitors student progress and provides feedback.
- ▶ Promotes students' use of digital tools.

eProve surveys empower the schools to,

- ▶ Capture key stakeholder feedback.
- ▶ Target professional development.
- ▶ Identify areas of strength and weakness.
- ▶ Monitor progress of improvement efforts.
- ▶ Focus improvement initiatives and elevate overall district quality and student achievement.

# Index of Education Quality<sup>®</sup> (IEQ<sup>®</sup>)

AdvancED Accreditation is not about earning a label for a one-time evaluation. Rather, it recognizes and supports the journey of continuous improvement. The Index of Education Quality<sup>®</sup> (IEQ<sup>®</sup>) is a formative measure for placement on a continuum of performance, pinpointing areas of success as well as areas in need of support and/or focus.

The Index of Education Quality provides a holistic measure of overall performance. By basing the score on data aggregated from each AdvancED Standard and diagnostic results from student, parent and staff/teacher surveys, the IEQ framework recognizes and supports the whole continuous improvement journey. Each institution's IEQ provides a benchmark to assess and guide future decisions.

By analyzing the components of an IEQ score, a district can focus their attention and actions on activities and systems that optimize learning for all students.

# AdvancED Accreditation District Preparation

## Step One

### LEARN and SHARE

District and schools will gather shared perspectives and experiences from stakeholders and learn about how the work of the school impacts every stakeholder and especially students

District and schools will gain a clear understanding of the perceptions and beliefs of the district and schools education community

District and schools will gain an understanding by examining teaching and learning experiences and outcomes

District and schools will then synthesize and analyze data from multiple data sources to gain a comprehensive understanding of your institution's current reality

Such as:

- ▶ Students, Teacher, Staff, and Parent – Climate & Culture Survey.
- ▶ Student and Teacher – Inventory Surveys.
- ▶ State, District, and School - Performance, Discipline, attendance and Early Warning System Data.

# AdvancED Accreditation District Preparation

## Step Two

### EXAMINE and PLAN

- District and schools will conduct a critical self-analysis whereby they will examine the work of the district and school against research-based factors. Defining the vision for the school as well as setting the strategic direction to achieve the vision.

(District Strategic Plan and School Improvement Plan problem solving model).

# AdvancED Accreditation District Preparation

## Step Three

### ACT and EVALUATE

- District and schools will plot the journey, initiate actions to begin the journey. Gather evidence of actions initiated and determine the results, evaluate results, and continuously monitor and adjust.
- Evidence – Detailed District Strategic Plan and School Improvement Plan including timeline/milestones, measures of success, ownership and funding.

#### District Strategic Plan

[http://www.osceolaschools.net/about\\_us/strategic\\_plan](http://www.osceolaschools.net/about_us/strategic_plan)

#### School Improvement Plans

<https://www.floridacims.org/districts/osceola>

# AdvancED Engagement External Review

On Sunday January 21, 2017 until Wednesday January 24, 2017 the AdvancEd Engagement External Team will be reviewing the district for reaccreditation. It will be elevating and focusing our journey through:

- ▶ Stakeholder Interviews (Leaders, Teachers, Students, Parent, School Board and Community Members).
- ▶ School visits.
- ▶ Classroom Observations (ELEOT).
- ▶ Standards Diagnostic.
- ▶ Evidence Examination.
- ▶ Expert Evaluation.
- ▶ Benchmarking Against the AdvancEd Network.