



External Review Exit Report

Heartland Community Schools

March 15-16, 2016



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 Practices
- Opportunities for Improvement
- Improvement Priority
- Index of Education Quality
- Accreditation Recommendation

Stakeholders

Stakeholder Interviewed	Number
Superintendent	1
Administrators	2
Instructional Staff	10
Support Staff	7
Students	30
Parents/Community/Business Leaders	7
Board Members	4
Total	61

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

Findings

- **Improvement Priorities:** Develop and implement professional learning communities involving all staff, at all levels that are designed to focus on instruction and student learning.

Findings

- Opportunities for Improvement: Design and utilize a comprehensive mentoring program to positively impact teacher efficacy and student success.

Findings

- **Powerful Practices:** The community is actively involved with and supportive of the school.

Findings

- **Powerful Practices:** The school offers students robust and varied courses with differentiated learning opportunities, including early childhood programming with support for students with special education needs, and various extra-curricular activities.

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	Domains	External Review	AEN
1	Equitable Learning Environment	2.84	2.69
2	High Expectations Environment	3.03	2.81
3	Supportive Learning Environment	3.38	3.06
4	Active Learning Environment	3.23	2.94
5	Progress Monitoring and Feedback Environment	3.10	2.79
6	Well-Managed Learning Environment	3.36	3.13
7	Digital Learning Environment	1.80	1.82

Domain

Leadership Capacity

The External Review Team examined:

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

Findings

- Opportunities for Improvement: Develop and implement a comprehensive continuous improvement plan with involvement of all stakeholders that is systematic and systemic.

Findings

- **Powerful Practices:** The staff of the school are invested in the lives and success of the student body.

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

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	282.56	278.34
Teaching and Learning Impact	269.52	268.94
Leadership Capacity	294.55	292.64
Resource Utilization	302.86	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 **Heartland Community 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*

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.*

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