

# NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



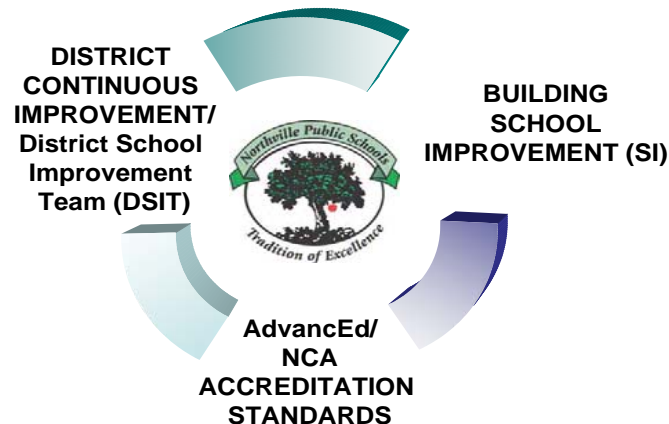
**NCA/AdvancEd  
District  
Accreditation**

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# Alignment of Processes

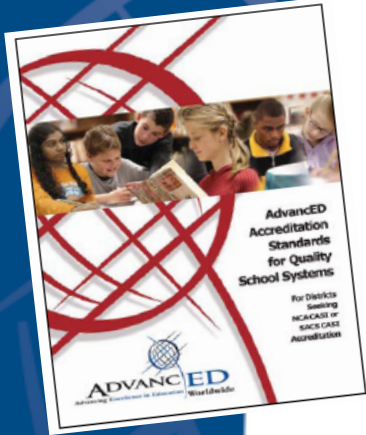


- Northville's commitment to the NCA/AdvancEd District Accreditation now provides the added dimension of an **external review process** and a more systemic approach to evaluating the extent to which we adhere to standards of quality as a district.
- The coordination of the Quality Assurance Review with the District School Improvement Team presentations was planned **intentionally to reinforce the natural alignment of all of our continuous improvement processes**: building level school improvement; the District Continuous Improvement process; and NCA District Accreditation Standards of Quality for School Systems.



# 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**

# District Accreditation

**A national 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

**Applies a systems approach to improvement**

- Examines how all elements (*people, processes, departments and operations*) of the district work in a unified, coordinated and integrated way in pursuit of a shared vision

**Strengthens efforts to meet accountability requirements and encourages growth beyond compliance to achieve excellence**

# Quality Assurance External Review Process

**Every five years the district hosts a visit by a national team of professional peers**

- The team represents NCA CASI, SACS CASI, and AdvancED
- The team meets with district stakeholders and visits a representative sample of schools
- The team presents high quality feedback and makes an accreditation recommendation
- The Review provides district and community with validation and recognition

# QAR Team Activities

## The Team Collects Data

- Listens to district presentations
- Interviews samples of all district stakeholder groups
- Examines relevant documents and artifacts
- Visits a representative sample of schools
- Observes practices and the learning environment

## The Team Engages in Professional Deliberations

- Uses evidence to guide analysis, discussion, and decision-making

# Criteria Used to Arrive at the Team's Findings

- When reviewing evidence to arrive at its findings, the team:
  - Sought a district perspective;
  - Pursued evidence that could be corroborated through multiple sources;
  - Examined the context and capacity of the district in relation to its vision, mission, and beliefs; and
  - Applied the criteria for accreditation.

# Quality Assurance Review

- **Self-study process; completion of individual building Standards Assessments**
- **Collaborative completion of a comprehensive District Standards Assessment report at least 6 weeks prior to QAR visit.**
- **Document evidence, gather artifacts for QAR team review.**
- **Prepare Overview of Standards, Continuous Improvement Process and internal Quality Assurance process documentation.**
- **Conduct a pre-visit review with the QAR Team Chairperson**
- **Develop detailed schedules for comprehensive 3 day site visit by National Team, comprised of educators from within Michigan (50%) and across the nation (50%).**



# Quality Assurance Review

Monday, December 7	Tuesday, December 8	Wednesday, December 9
<p><b>8:00 a.m.</b> Superintendent's Overview</p> <p><b>8:45 a.m.</b> Superintendent's Interview</p> <p><b>9:45 a.m.</b> Standards Overview by Cabinet, Some Principals</p> <p><b>11:00 a.m.</b> School Board Interviews (in two separate groups/locations)</p> <p><b>11:45 A.M.</b> Lunch</p> <p><b>12:30 p.m.</b> Stakeholder Interviews</p> <p><b>1:15 p.m.</b> Principal Interview</p> <p><b>2:00 p.m.</b> Safety and Support Staff Interviews</p> <p><b>3:00 p.m.</b> Central Office Interviews</p> <p><b>3:45 p.m.</b> QAR Team Work Time and Artifact Review</p> <p><b>4:30 p.m.</b> Depart for evening work session, Dinner</p>	<p>7:15-7:30 a.m. Pick Up QAR Team of 8 split into 4 teams of 2 people each</p> <p><b>AM School Visits</b></p> <p><b>Team A</b> (QAR Chair + 1): DSIT* at Hillside @ 7:45 a.m.</p> <p><b>Team B</b> (QAR Co-Chair +1): NHS @ 7:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Team C:</b> Silver Springs @8:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>Team D:</b> Amerman @ 8:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>Lunch: AT Morning School: QAR Team + AM and PM Principal</b></p> <p><b>PM School Visits</b></p> <p>Team A (QAR Chair + 1): Thornton Creek @ 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Team B (QAR Co-Chair +1): DSIT* at Hillside @ 11:55 a.m.</p> <p>Team C: Meads Mills @ 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Team D: OVS @ 12:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>3:30-4:00 p.m.</b> Depart for Evening Work Session</p>	<p><b>7:30 a.m.</b> Pick up at Hotel as necessary</p> <p><b>8:00 a.m.</b> Follow Up Interviews as requested by QAR Team</p> <p><b>10:00 a.m.</b> QAR Work Time and Deliberations Session</p> <p><b>11:45 a.m.</b> QAR Team Working Lunch and Continued Deliberations</p> <p><b>1:30 p.m.</b> Final Meeting with Superintendent and his/her designated staff – review team findings and content of the Oral Exit Report</p> <p><b>2:30 p.m.</b> Board Study Session – Oral Exit Report (Open Meeting)</p>

# Northville Public Schools

## *Oral Exit Report*

December 9, 2009

Quality Assurance Review Team

District Accreditation

# NPS Data Collection

**During the on-site Quality Assurance Review, team members visited 7 schools and interviewed:**

- 6 current board members and one board member elect
- 27 administrators
- 89 teachers
- 25 support staff
- 54 parents, community, and business partners
- 71 students

**TOTAL of 273 stakeholders**

# Strengths

- **Stakeholder involvement** in the Northville Public Schools is extraordinary and reflects a high level of commitment to the district. Excellence is the mantra of Northville and all stakeholders are proud of their achievements and the district's effectiveness.
- **Communications** abound in the Northville Public Schools. There are numerous ways for stakeholders to stay connected to the district and to the individual schools.
- The **Superintendent** does an extraordinary job of representing the district and as a result, is well respected by all stakeholders.

# Commendations

**The Quality Assurance Review Team commends Northville Public Schools for:**

- **an extraordinary culture of respect and pride among all its stakeholders.** From the superintendent and his central office staff to the school principals and their staffs, there is stakeholder support for the work they do and their commitment to student achievement and overall excellence. Not only are parents and community members proud of their schools, but they value and appreciate the well-rounded education students are receiving. Pride and support is evident through the authentic involvement of stakeholders in a variety of activities. When stakeholders support their schools and are engaged in the district's work, both learners and the community benefit.

# Commendations

- The **district of Northville Public Schools demonstrates strong shared leadership.** From the Superintendent to cabinet members to principals to teacher leaders to students to parent and community stakeholders, there is a collaborative approach to continuously achieving the district's vision, mission, and goals. A high degree of dedication and involvement by all stakeholders provides system cohesiveness and creates a culture unified in its beliefs and actions that will help to make the vision a reality.

# Commendations

- Northville Public Schools honors the purpose of **District Accreditation by aligning the work of the district and its schools through a continuous focus on student achievement and improvement.** A systematic and systemic approach to continuous improvement is demonstrated through the establishment and implementation of the District Improvement Team (DSIT). This creative option provides for system-wide communications among stakeholders and fosters a climate of collaboration and trust among stakeholders. School staffs share their progress with pride and request ideas and suggestions for furthering and expanding their improvement efforts. A climate of trust and respect has been clearly established in the Northville Public Schools. This climate allows stakeholders to continually seek and engage in quality improvement efforts.

# Challenges

- The current **economic situation in Michigan** represents uncertain times for Northville. The district is accustomed to providing high quality services to its stakeholders, and as a result, students flourish. In light of the potential decline in revenues, it will be a challenge for the Northville Public Schools to maintain its extraordinary level of excellence.
- The implementation of a **new planning template by the Michigan Department of Education** will present a need for Northville to revise and adopt its template for school improvement plans.

# Recommendations

- **The Quality Assurance Review Team recommends that Northville Public Schools:**
  - **Strengthen the alignment between the Northville Public Schools vision and its Graduate Profile/Adult Roles expectations** (e.g., Analytical Thinker, Effective Communicator, Quality Contributor) by clearly defining measurements or assessment to determine if students are meeting these high expectations.
  - **Expand the current assessment system by incorporating formative and alternative methods into the current plan.**

# 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 recommendations
  - Monitor school and system accreditation standards and improvement efforts on ongoing basis
  - Submit the Accreditation Progress Report.
- **After the next meeting of the AdvancED Accreditation Commission (January and June) reports will be available for public access**

# Accreditation Recommendation

- The Quality Assurance Review Team recommends to the AdvancED Accreditation Commission that the Northville Public Schools be awarded District Accreditation as a quality school system.
- Once reviewed and approved by the AdvancED Accreditation Commission, the district and all its schools are granted a 5-year term accreditation. **NPS was awarded District Accreditation at the January, 2010 meeting of the Accreditation Commission.**

# On the Web ...



<http://www.northville.k12.mi.us>

# A Final Note ...



*This achievement is the result of a collaborative effort across schools, school improvement teams and District stakeholders and is a reflection of the commitment to excellence that exemplifies the entire Northville community.*

*A sincere note of gratitude goes out to each teacher, principal, support staff member, parent, administrator, and community member who served on a stakeholder group, hosted a visit, participated in the DSIT process, spoke with QAR team members, and most importantly, to each and every stakeholder who contributes to “Collaborating for Student Success” on a daily basis.*