WASC
Mid-Cycle and Revisit Training

• School Process
• Visiting Committee Process
I TAUGHT SPOT HOW TO WHISTLE

I DON'T HEAR HIM WHISTLING

I SAID I TAUGHT HIM. I DIDN'T SAY HE LEARNED IT
Workshop Goals

- Understanding the school’s process since the last full self-study/visit
- Roles/responsibilities for the Mid-cycle (Midterm) or Probationary Revisit for:
  - Schools
  - Visiting Committees
- Commission Action
WASC FOL Accreditation Cycle of Quality

- Assess
- Plan
- Visit
- Implement
- Follow-up
- Reassess
- Self-Study
One Umbrella Plan
Schoolwide Action Plan

How does the school ensure the plan will strengthen student achievement?

Visualize what will be different for students....

– One year from now?
– Two years from now?
– Three years from now?
Mid-cycle/Revisit: Purpose

- The school’s progress report and visit shall focus on demonstrating that the school has:
  - made progress in addressing the critical areas for follow-up, especially through implementation of the schoolwide action plan.
  - improved student achievement relative to the schoolwide learner outcomes and academic standards.

- The visit results will determine the future accreditation status of the school.
Overview of School’s Responsibilities

➢ Prepare school report using the guidelines
  ▪ Written Progress Report
  ▪ Sent to Visiting Committee 4-5 weeks prior to visit and WASC office (mail@acswasc.org)
  ▪ Procedures can be found on the WASC website. (www.acswasc.org)

➢ Communicate with the chair

➢ Establish schedule for the visit
School Progress Mid-cycle Report Format

Section I: Student/Community Profile

- Updated Profile from the Self-Study, including student demographic and achievement data for a 3-year period (see Task 1 of the Focus on Learning book)

- Include Summary of Data: Implications and identified critical academic needs and important questions for staff discussion
School Progress Report Format (cont.)

Section II: Significant Changes and/or Developments (since last full self-study)

Section III: Ongoing School Improvement

Comments on...

- Engagement of all stakeholders in review of student achievement data and implementation/monitoring of the schoolwide action plan
- Preparation of annual progress reports
School Progress Report Format (cont.)

Section IV: Schoolwide Action Plan Progress

Comments on...

- the accomplishment of each schoolwide action plan section — reference critical area(s) of follow-up addressed through each section
- evidence supporting how each area has impacted student achievement
- progress and supporting evidence on critical areas of follow-up not included in the plan
Section V: Schoolwide Action Plan Refinements

Comments on...

- the refinements made to the schoolwide action plan since the last full visit to reflect progress and identified new issues

Appendix

- modified annual schoolwide action plan since prior full visit
Findings Supported by Analyzed Evidence

How can the Leadership Team, Schoolwide Focus, Stakeholder or other Groups ensure that the progress report findings are supported by analyzed evidence?
**School’s Progress Report: Section IV**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Progress: Each Action Plan Section noting integrated Critical Areas for Follow-up*</th>
<th>Supporting Evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(*use asterisk to note which critical areas)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Observable Evidence

Includes analyzing results of:

- What the students are doing and producing
- Student interviews and observations
- Hard data and information
- Other interviews, observations, etc.
Samples of Evidence for Visiting Committee

- Formative assessments and how teachers use them
- Examples of differentiation of instruction
- Staff development calendar
- Student interviews
- Minutes from team meetings
- Campus overall impression — conducive to learning
- Student portfolios and work samples — teacher reflection or student reflection
Critical Question

How does the current school program impact student learning...

- critical academic needs
- related schoolwide learner outcomes
- academic standards?
Review of Progress Report

Ask ...

☑️ Do the findings on progress address the identified critical areas for follow-up?
☑️ How did the evidence support the progress?
☑️ Has the school gained insight about the degree to which learning is being supported and provided analyzed student achievement data for the last three years?
☑️ Does the current schoolwide action plan reflect the progress to date and next steps?
Schedule

*Mid-cycle (Midterm) — 1 or 2 ½ days*

*Three Year Revisits — 2 ½ days*

*Probationary Revisits — 2 ½ days*
Details of Review or Revisit

➤ Pre-Visiting Committee Responsibilities

✓ Chair: Work with school and member(s) prior to visit
✓ Follow guidelines for visiting committee report
✓ Carefully study school report and do pre-writing
Where’s the school now?

Where’s it going?

Does it have a good road map?

The Visit: Are Students Achieving?
Visiting Committee Process

The Visiting Committee chair ...

- reviews the WASC criteria
- refers to the previous self-study/visiting committee reports and action plans
- obtains as much evidence as possible ahead of time along with school report, including current student/community profile
- uses the critical areas for follow-up and the school’s action plan as areas of focus for visit
Visiting Committee Process (cont.)

The Visiting Committee chair...

- works with principal/self-study coordinator to determine the schedule for the visit.
- communicates all information to the VC members.
- submits expenses to WASC office for reimbursement. (Overnight hotel stays usually not associated with a one-day visit)
WASC Schedule

Include: (Time allocated for these and other areas will vary with the school and their critical areas for follow-up.)

- Meeting with site administration
- Meeting with leadership/follow-up team
- Meeting with representative teachers/follow-up committees
- Meeting with parents
- Classroom visitations
- Meeting with students
- Further review of additional documentation
- Visiting team to complete report
- Exit meeting with site leadership
Sample Areas for VC Discussion and Exploration*

- What changes have taken place? What are current and future challenges?
- As school addressed critical areas from full visit, what was the easiest to accomplish and why — lessons learned
- Addressing student achievement as the overall school focus — targeted actions
- Involvement of all stakeholders
- Regularly communicating and sharing — culture
- Professional development and impact on student learning

*Areas will be dependent on school’s critical areas for follow-up.
Sample Areas for VC Discussion and Exploration (cont.)

- Use of formative assessment to adjust instruction — give examples — how representative
- Link between assessments and what actually occurs daily in instruction
- Use of data, display of trends, patterns or anomalies—multiple sources
- Thorough understanding of a standards-based environment – meeting the schoolwide learner outcomes and addressing the Common Core Standards
Visiting Committees: Tips on Interviewing

Examples of tips:

• Use open-ended questions.
• Use language appropriate to the interviewee.
• Listen.
• Avoid asking biased questions.
• Watch nonverbal behavior.
• Other tips......
I: Introduction

- General comments about the school and its setting and the school’s analysis of student achievement data
- Significant changes or developments that have affected the school since the last visit
- Brief comments upon the school’s process for follow-up
Visiting Committee Report Format (cont.)

II: School’s Progress on Critical Areas for Follow-up

Comments..

- accomplishment of each schoolwide action plan section, showing how the critical areas for follow-up have been incorporated
- impact on student achievement
- progress on critical areas for follow-up not included in plan
III: Recommendations/Commendations

- Recommendations, if any
- Commendations Related to Progress, if any
Accreditation Status Options
Mid-cycle (Midterm) Accreditation Options

- Normally a Mid-cycle (Midterm) Visit reaffirms the accreditation cycle of quality.

- However, if sufficient progress has not been made, the Commission may request one or both of the following or additional action:
  - a follow-up progress visit
  - a follow-up report, including a revised action plan
  - other conditions.

- The Visiting Committee explains the rationale for their recommendation on the one page justification statement that is signed by both members.
Accreditation Status Options: Mid-cycle Visits

- Mid-cycle (Midterm):
  - Accreditation cycle granted for 3 years
  - Accreditation granted with a progress report in one year
  - Accreditation granted with a required progress report and visit in one year
  - Accreditation withheld
Accreditation Status Options: Probationary Visits

- **One-Year Probationary Accreditation:**
  - Accreditation status granted with a Mid-cycle progress report and visit in **two years**
  - One additional year of probationary accreditation granted with a Probationary progress report and two-day visit in **one year**
  - Accreditation withheld

- **Two-Year Probationary Accreditation:**
  - Accreditation status granted with a Mid-cycle progress report and visit in **one year**
  - Accreditation withheld
Accreditation Status Options: Progress Visits

- Fourth Year Progress Visit:
  - Accreditation status granted with the next full Self-Study visit in two years
  - Accreditation withheld
Post-Visit Information

- The Visiting Committee chair:
  - Sends a copy of the Visiting Committee Report to the school and asks the school to send copies of the Visiting Committee report to WASC
  - Sends the accreditation status recommendation and a copy of the justification statement and Visiting Committee Report to WASC
  - Informs the school that WASC will send an official letter regarding the accreditation status granted.
We Are Student-Centered