



# WASC Midterm Review Training

- *School Process*
- *Visiting Committee Process*





## WASC 6-Year Cycle: Midterm

- **The progress report and revisit 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 expected schoolwide learning results and academic standards**



# Overview

- **School**
  - **Written Progress Report**
  - **Sent to Visiting Committee 4-5 weeks prior to midterm visit**
  - **Procedures can be found on the WASC website ([www.acswasc.org](http://www.acswasc.org))**



# Overview

- **Visiting Committee**
  - Visiting Committee Report
  - Procedures/Template and VC materials can be found on the WASC website ([www.acswasc.org](http://www.acswasc.org))
  - Typically a 1-day visit, 2-member team



# Midterm Visit: School Process



# School Progress Report Format

## Section I: Student/Community Profile

- Updated Profile from Self-Study, including student demographic and achievement data for a 3 year period (*see Task 1 of the Focus on Learning book for contents*)
- Include Summary of Data Implications and Identified Critical Academic Needs and Key Questions



# School Progress Report Format (cont.)

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

**Section III: Ongoing School Improvement**

Comments on...

- school's 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

### Appendix

- modified annual schoolwide action plans since prior full visit



# School Progress Report Format (cont.)

## 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 plans since prior full visit



# Midterm Visit: Visiting Committee Process



# 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 are not associated with a one-day revisit — longer revisits decided on case-by-case basis)



# Visiting Committee Report Format

## **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

## **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**



# Visiting Committee Report Format

## **III: Recommendations/Commendations**

- **Recommendations, if any**
- **Commendations Related to Progress, if any**



# Midterm Accreditation Options

- **Normally a Midterm Visit reconfirms the six-year term**
- **However, if sufficient progress has not been made, the Commission may request one or both of the following or additional action:**
  - **a follow-up visit**
  - **a follow-up report, including a revised action plan**
- **The Visiting Committee explains the rationale for their recommendation on the one-page justification statement that is signed by both members**



# Post-Visit Information

- **The Visiting Committee chair should:**
  - **send one copy of the Visiting Committee Report to the school and one copy to WASC**
  - **send the one-page confidential justification statement to WASC**
- **The school will receive official notification of the outcome of the visit from WASC**