ACS WASC Visiting Committee Training for New Chairs 2019-2020
for
Sharing Your Professional Expertise!
Visiting Committee Chair
Keeper of the Vision, Coach, Organizer

team work

motivation

innovation

success

inspiration

vision

leadership
New Chairs: Agenda

ACS WASC Principles/Design Elements

Pre-visit Preparation

The Visit
International

Serving almost 5,200 schools worldwide

33 Commissioners

20 Partner Associations
What is Accreditation?

IS
Self-reflection
Self-evaluation
Student focused
Schoolwide collaboration

IS NOT
Inspection
A Report
Teacher focused
Individual or Small Group Work only
How well are students learning and achieving?
Accreditation: A Value-Added Evaluation

Schools add value by...

• Increasing what students know
• Increasing what students can do
• Improving how students feel
  ✓ about themselves
  ✓ about others
  ✓ about learning
Accreditation: An ongoing journey focused on students and their continuous school improvement
Focus on Learning: Connecting the Dots

CDE Quality Schooling Framework
ACS WASC Guiding Principles

• Total involvement and collaboration of all stakeholders
• Culture that supports the well-being of all students
• Accomplishment of its vision, mission, and schoolwide learner outcomes
• High achievement of all students related to academic standards and schoolwide learner outcomes
• Use of multiple ways to analyze data
• Evaluation of program effectiveness
• Alignment of prioritized findings to a schoolwide action plan focusing on student achievement
• Ongoing improvement responsibility
ACS WASC FOL Accreditation Cycle

- **Follow-up**: Focus on Learning
- **Self-Study**: Assess
- **Visit**: Plan
- **Implement**: Reassess
One Umbrella Schoolwide Action Plan/SPSA (if California Public School, including Charters)

Aligned to LCAP, if CA public school, including charters
Where is the school now?
Where’s it going?
Does it have a good roadmap?
ACS WASC FOL Accreditation Cycle

Focus on Learning
Checklists

Condensed Chair Expectations

Checklist
(in manual)
Previsit, Visit, Post-visit
Quality Questions
Suggested FOL Committees

Focus Groups Criteria

Home Groups
Data, Observations, Interviews, Student Work, & Criteria

Profile Team
Leadership Team Plans & Guides
## Accreditation Status Factors: Unpacking the Criteria and Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are the criteria concepts?</th>
<th>What is the ideal? What evidence supports meeting the criteria/indicators?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VC Reviewing and Analyzing Data/Information</strong></td>
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Preparing for the Visit

- Planning
- Students
- Staff
- Accommodations
- Technology
- Schedule
- Evidence
Sunday-Wednesday (usually)
Schedule/Activities

Daily feedback meetings between Visiting Committee members and school leadership committee

Classroom/campus observations

Informal interviews

Meetings with Focus Groups and others

Daily meeting of VC Chair and principal

VC report editing/reviewing
School: Previsit Discussion Areas

- The Visit Schedule — developed collaboratively
  - 2 people at all schoolwide focus groups (1 1/2–2 hours)
  - Daily leadership team meeting with entire visiting team
  - Daily chair-principal meeting
  - Visit all teachers (keep record) and talk to all
  - Examples of other meetings based on school
    - Parents
    - Students
    - Support Staff
    - Administrators
    - Subject Areas/Departments/Programs/PLCs
    - Counseling Dept., Special Ed, AVID, Title I
    - District
    - Other individual or groups
Previsit Work: Visiting Committee Members

- Regular Communication
- Areas of Expertise
- Attending Training
- Receipt of Self-Study and Evidence via drop box or hyperlink
- Previsit Preparation Worksheet
- Draft Visiting Committee narratives
How do you ensure the VC report reflects accurately school findings and the unified Visiting Committee perspective?
Alignment
Status Rationale based on Findings
What accreditation status best supports the school’s improvement needs?
VC Tools for Status Recommendation

In the Visiting Committee Report...

- Profile Data-Critical Student Needs (subset of Schoolwide Learner Outcomes)
- Progress Report
- Criteria/Indicators — Analytical Comments
- Schoolwide Strengths
- Critical Areas For Follow-up (Concur with School’s and other VC Areas)
- Accreditation Status Worksheet
- Documentation/Justification Statement
Accreditation Status Factors:
VC Recommendation & Commission Action

- Highly effective
- Effective
- Somewhat effective
- Ineffective
Accreditation Status Factors: VC Recommendation and Commission Action

To what extent is the school demonstrating quality student achievement/improvement?

1. Meeting the ACS WASC international criteria and indicators
2. Clear globally minded purpose and schoolwide learner outcomes
3. Quality processes to analyze student achievement
4. Action plan aligned to areas of greatest need
5. Capacity to implement/monitor action plan
6. Use of prior accreditation findings
7. Involvement and collaboration of all
Accreditation Status

• Six-Year Accreditation Status
  Progress report at mid-cycle
  Progress Report and one-day visit at mid-cycle
  Progress Report and two-day visit at mid-cycle

• One-or-Two-Year Probationary Status with an in-depth progress report and a two-day visit

• Accreditation Status Withheld
ACS WASC Accreditation Status Timeline

- Self-Study
  - Six-Year Accreditation Granted
  - [School Preparing Mid-cycle Report and/or Visit]

Year 1
- Mid-cycle Report and One-Day Visit
- Mid-cycle Report
- Mid-cycle Report and Two-Day Visit

Year 2
- Special Progress Report and/or Visit (if required)

Year 3
- [School Preparing Next Self-Study]

Year 4
- Next Self-Study

Year 5
- Special Visit and/or Report (if required)

Year 6
- Next Self-Study

Accreditation Withheld
- Appeal Process and Visit
- Reinstatement Process and Visit
  - Denied
  - Accreditation Cycle Continues (next visit to be determined)

Legend:
- Accredited: 
- Probationary Accreditation: 
- Accreditation Withheld: 

*A special visit and/or report may be required at any time in the accreditation cycle.
†Probationary accreditation status may be appealed.
DOC/JUST — Supporting Narrative

- Status options seriously considered
- Cite the reasons for the status recommended
- Provide compelling evidence that supports the VC recommendation
  - VC discussions and process
  - Degree to which students are learning
  - Strengths and growth needs of school
  - Capacity of school to implement and monitor action plan
During the Full Visit: VC Chair Reminders

- Reimbursement Policy
- ACS WASC Anti-Discrimination Policies and Procedures
- Check report includes **ALL** sections, e.g., Chapter IV, B. Schoolwide Strengths and Critical Areas for Follow-up and Chapter V: Ongoing School Improvement—Word Process **ALL**, including doc/just
- Ensure **grade levels** on ballot are **accurate**
- Ensure **signatures** on ACS WASC **ballot** (do this early in the visit)
- Draft visiting committee report **left** with school
Other Visits: VC Chair Reminders

• Chair submits **ballot, doc/just statement, and visiting committee report** to ACS WASC within two weeks after the visit using the **Document Upload link** on the ACS WASC Website: [www.acswasc.org/document-upload/](http://www.acswasc.org/document-upload/)

• Chair makes sure that the school receives a copy of the final visiting committee report

• Chair understands that school already invoiced for any type of revisit or mid-cycle visit

• School and chair are notified 2-3 weeks following Commission action
After the Visit: Report Submissions
Commission Meeting Deadlines

• December 20, 2019: Winter Commission meeting

• April 6, 2020: Spring Commission meeting

• May 29, 2020: Summer Commission meeting
Reminder: Updated ACS WASC Website
Document Upload

Please fill out the correct form below to upload school or visiting committee documents. Documents must be uploaded one at a time.

**School Materials**
Fill out the form below to upload school materials:

- **School Name**
- **Title and Name of Person Submitting Report**
- **Email**
- **Type of School Report**
  - Initial Visit School Description Report
- **Report/Document**
  - [Browse] No file selected.

**Submit**

**Visiting Committee Materials**
Fill out the form below to upload Visiting Committee materials:

- **School Name**
- **Visiting Committee Chairperson**
- **Email**
- **Date**
- **Type of Report**
  - Self-Study Visiting Committee Report
- **Report/Document**
  - [Browse] No file selected.

**Submit**
Questions
ACS WASC
We Are Student Centered