

# AdvancED Accreditation Update

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A report to the Transylvania County Board of Education  
April 3, 2017  
Dr. Jeremy Gibbs

# Standards for Quality

## **1. Purpose and Direction**

The system maintains and communicates at all levels of the organization a purpose and direction for continuous improvement that commit to high expectations for learning as well as shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning.

## **2. Governance and Leadership**

The system operates under governance and leadership that promote and support student performance and system effectiveness.

## **3. Teaching and Assessing for Learning**

The system's curriculum, instructional design, and assessment practices guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning across all grades and courses.

# Standards for Quality

## **4. Resources and Support Systems**

The system has resources and provides services in all schools that support its purpose and direction to ensure success for all students.

## **5. Using Results for Continuous Improvement**

The system implements a comprehensive assessment system that generates a range of data about student learning and system effectiveness and uses the results to guide continuous improvement.

# External Review, Spring 2015

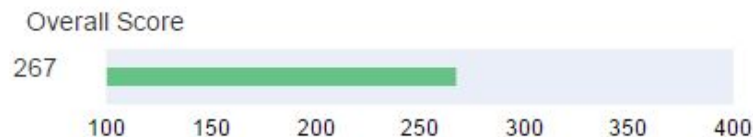
5-Year Cycle

Multi-State Review Team

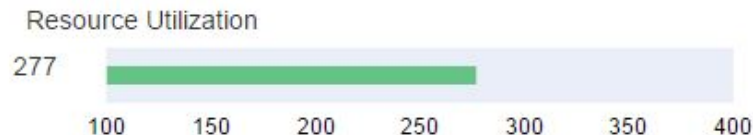
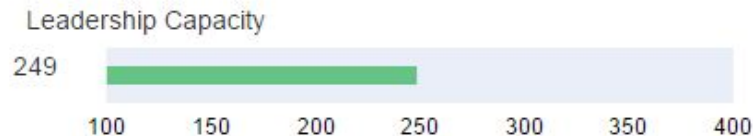
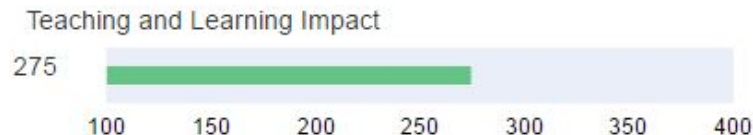
Issued Commendations, Recommendations to consider, and Improvement priorities

The Index of Education Quality provides a holistic measure of overall performance based on a comprehensive set of indicators and evaluative criteria.

## Index of Education Quality<sup>TM</sup>



## Domains



## Summary of Findings--Commendations

**Powerful Practice (Commendation):** The Transylvania County School System has very dedicated and supportive teachers and principals at all schools who promote student engagement and the implementation of effective instructional processes. (Indicators 3.3, 3.6)

**Powerful Practice (Commendation):** The system has created a supportive, safe, and orderly environment which is conducive for student learning. (Indicators 4.3)

# Summary of Findings--Recommendations to Consider

**Opportunity for Improvement (Recommendation):** Monitor and systematically adjust curriculum, instruction, and assessment system-wide in response to data from multiple assessments of student learning and an examination of professional practices to provide equitable and diverse learning experiences for all students. (Indicators 3.2)

**Opportunity for Improvement (Recommendation):** Provide professional development training for certified and support staff in the evaluation, interpretation, and use of data. (Indicators 5.3)

**Opportunity for Improvement (Recommendation):** Develop and implement a comprehensive system-wide communication plan to ensure effective two-way communications among all internal and external stakeholders. (Indicators 2.5)

**Opportunity for Improvement (Recommendation):** Develop a system-wide plan to include a process to evaluate the effectiveness of support systems to meet the social and emotional needs of the students served. (Indicators 4.7)

# Summary of Findings--Improvement Priorities

**Improvement Priority (Required Action):** Ensure that each school engages in a systematic process for the completion of a self assessment report, an executive summary, AdvancED assurances and student performance data reports. (Indicators 1.2)

**Improvement Priority (Required Action):** Develop and implement a comprehensive system strategic plan that includes specific and measurable targets for all actions associated with strategic goals in order to guide the improvement process. (Indicators 1.4)

**Improvement Priority (Required Action):** Develop and implement a systemic process for vertical and horizontal articulation of the curriculum, among and between all grade levels and schools, to monitor student progress and ensure readiness for future grade levels. (Indicators 3.5)

**Improvement Priority (Required Action):** Utilize student results systematically to design, implement, and evaluate the results of continuous improvement plans related to student learning. (Indicators 5.4)

# Narrative Information from Findings

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***“The leadership and staff throughout the system have a commitment to a culture of shared values and beliefs of teaching and learning. A strong sense of school and community pride is evident throughout the school system. Students, teachers, parents and the community are loyal to the schools and have a great sense of pride for their system. It is also evident that the vision of the Transylvania County School System and the individual schools clearly focus on student learning.”***

***“The improvement priorities relate to... development and implementation of a comprehensive district strategic plan to guide the improvement process in order to increase student achievement; development and implementation of a systemic process for vertical and horizontal articulation of the curriculum, among and between all grade levels and schools; utilization of student results systematically to design, implement, and evaluate the results of continuous improvement plans related to student learning; and engaging in systematic processes for monitoring and maintaining data on all schools.”***

***“Some significant challenges lay ahead of the school system as state and federal dollars continue to decline and as the local (county) expenditure is the primary alternative for funding. Further, the system's facilities are aging, and many sites require extensive renovation and modernization.”***

***“The system has done well to maintain strong performance and provide appropriate student support services in the face of declining revenues and drastically increasing student poverty in the last decade. In spite of these challenges, the Transylvania County School System moves forward in its quest for providing an excellent education for its students...instruction must be the main focus for continuous improvement and [team members] felt confident this would happen in Transylvania County Schools. There are dedicated teachers and administrators, a supportive board that knows its roles and responsibilities and a supportive community. There is work to be done, but the Transylvania County School System has a dedication to its students and community.”***

# Next Steps

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# Accreditation Progress Report

*Update on Progress on Improvement Priorities  
Due May 1, 2017*

# Progress on Improvement Priorities

**Improvement Priority (*Required Action*):** Ensure that each school engages in a systematic process for the completion of a self assessment report, an executive summary, AdvancED assurances and student performance data reports. (Indicators 1.2)

## **STATUS: Implemented**

### Goal:

Collaborate to complete school-level self-assessments and other required diagnostics to reflect on our current practices by 06/30/2015 as measured by completion of required diagnostics and assessments.

### Activities:

The SIT at each school will reflect on current school policies and practices in order to generate the self-assessment diagnostic and will draw on district-aligned information to aid in the completion of other required diagnostics in the ASSIST system.

# Progress on Improvement Priorities

**Improvement Priority (*Required Action*):** Develop and implement a comprehensive system strategic plan that includes specific and measurable targets for all actions associated with strategic goals in order to guide the improvement process. (Indicators 1.4)

## **STATUS: Plan Created**

### Goal:

Collaborate to develop a district strategic plan by 08/01/2017 as measured by plan completion and implementation

### Activities:

Through both face-to-face meetings and survey instruments, gather feedback on the development of the district plan. Additionally, the district leadership will set measures of progress for system-level performance both in academics and other indicators.



# Progress on Improvement Priorities

**Improvement Priority (*Required Action*):** Develop and implement a systemic process for vertical and horizontal articulation of the curriculum, among and between all grade levels and schools, to monitor student progress and ensure readiness for future grade levels. (Indicators 3.5)

## **STATUS: Implemented**

### Goal:

Collaborate to create a central curriculum committee to advise the system on curriculum matters and to strengthen vertical alignment across the system by 02/28/2017 as measured by formation of the committee and consultation with the new committee.

### Activities:

Leadership will solicit self-nominations from interested stakeholders to serve on the committee. The committee will begin its work analyzing current status, identifying improvement areas, and consulting on regulation development.

# Progress on Improvement Priorities

**Improvement Priority (*Required Action*):** Utilize student results systematically to design, implement, and evaluate the results of continuous improvement plans related to student learning. (Indicators 5.4)

## **STATUS: Plan Created**

### Goal:

Collaborate to create a data portal for district staff and then support staff with appropriate training in the use of both growth and proficiency data for improvement by 09/30/2017 as measured by completion of the data portal and professional learning opportunities embedded in leadership's learning.

### Activities:

Create district data portal (completed) and provide ongoing professional learning for data literacy and use for growth (in progress already).

**Chronicle actions taken toward addressing improvement priorities**

**Submit APR (Accreditation Progress Report) for review**

**Review and compile survey data from spring 2017 stakeholder survey administration** *(note: initial review indicates stable results in all stakeholder groups compared with 2014)*



**Use survey data summary in SIP processes**

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***Growth***

# Growth

*Using all data sources and the continuous improvement process to get better.*

