



**SUMMARY OF ADVANCED
QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW
WRITTEN REPORT**



Purpose

1. Host an independent evaluation of our district's adherence to quality standards and policies.
2. Assess the efficacy of our improvement process.
3. Identify commendations and required actions to improve the district and its schools.
4. Maintain national AdvancED district accreditation.



Purpose

- “The key aim of the Quality Assurance Review is to verify that the school district is operating with institutional integrity.”



Final Report Contents


- In depth evaluation of district
- Focused on research based standards
 - Vision and Purpose
 - Governance and Leadership
 - Teaching and Learning
 - Documenting and Using Results
 - Resource and Support Systems
 - Stakeholder Communications and Relationships
 - Commitment to Continuous Improvement



Vision and Purpose

Operational:

“The building principals are seen as instructional leaders and demonstrate a commitment to student needs with a culture of enthusiasm and motivation on the part of the staff to plan for meeting the needs of individual students on a daily basis.”





Governance and Leadership

Highly Functional:

“The superintendent and board of education share a commitment to quality instructional practices and student achievement.”

“The district displays fiscally prudent stewardship in the budgetary process and is creative in finding additional financial funding streams.”





Teaching and Learning

Highly Functional:

“Focused professional development has yielded systemic common knowledge of research-based best practices.”

“The district has developed and articulated a curriculum based on state standards, including maps and pacing guides.”





Documenting and Using Results

Operational

“Common assessments have been developed and are administered in all grades.”

“Student achievement scores are above state averages.”






Resources and Support Systems

Highly Functional

“A rigorous hiring system assures the maintenance of high quality staff.”

“The district provides safe, secure, and well-maintained learning environments.”





Stakeholder Communication and Relationships

Operational




“Stakeholder communication is highly effective and reaches out to parents and the community with a myriad of partnerships and avenues for communication.”



Commitment to Continuous Improvement

Operational


“The district has successfully assimilated the Marzano research-based model into its curriculum.”



“Collaboration among teachers and professional learning communities is evident and reflects on ways to enhance instruction.”




Strengths

- Information from the 2006 AdvancEd QAR report indicated that the district had “pockets of excellence” in the classroom. The current 2011 team noticed “consistent excellence.”
 - Community stakeholders have shown unwavering support for the school district.
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Strengths

- The school board and leadership team have consistently led the district toward higher expectations with a focus on curriculum development and professional learning.
 - The school board and superintendent have shown the strong leadership that is needed to make difficult decisions in tough economic times.
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Opportunities

- Create an action plan to respond to the 2011 AdvancEd required actions.
- Adhere to the AdvancED accreditation standards by adopting a future-oriented statement of purpose and direction focusing on student success that drives the goals.
- Revive the school improvement process to reflect the district goals and measureable outcomes.
- Formulate stakeholder perception surveys to increase involvement in the decision-making process.

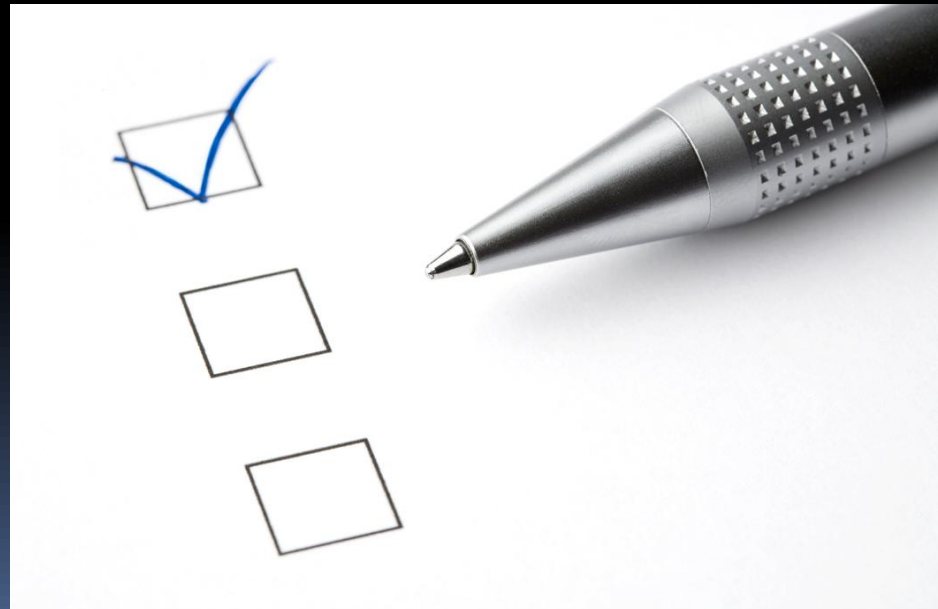


Opportunities

- Develop and implement a process to monitor quality assurance and continue to garner public support.
- Develop a timeline for collecting stakeholder perception.

Final Report Findings

- Gaylord Community Schools received the status of “fully accredited,” the highest level of AdvancED accreditation.





Conclusion

“The school district is encouraged to use the report as a call to action, a tool to sustain momentum in the ongoing process of continuous improvement.”