



External Review Exit Report

Missouri School for the Blind

March 8-9, 2016

AdvancED is the global leader in providing continuous improvement and accreditation services to over 32,000 institutions serving 20 million students worldwide.

Accreditation

An international protocol for institutions committed to systemic, systematic and sustainable improvement

- Builds capacity of the system and its schools to increase and sustain student learning
- Stimulates and improves effectiveness and efficiency throughout the system

External Review

A diagnostic process to stimulate and guide continuous improvement with a focus on:

- Impact of teaching and learning
- Capacity of leadership
- Use of resources

External Review

Professional judgment by the External Review Team results in:

- Powerful Practices
- Opportunities for Improvement
- Improvement Priority
- Index of Education Quality
- Accreditation Recommendation

Stakeholders

Stakeholder Interviewed	Number
Leadership Team	3
Instructional/Residential Staff	8
Students	7
Parents/Community Members	7
Total	25

Domain

Teaching and Learning Impact

The External Review Team examined:

- Student performance results
- instructional quality
- Learner and family engagement
- Support services for student learning
- Curriculum quality and efficacy
- College and career readiness data

Findings

- Powerful Practice 3.12/3.1
- Missouri School for the Blind assures that every student's unique needs are met affording them academic, social, athletic and extra-curricular opportunities that their home schools are ill-equipped to manage.

Findings

- Powerful Practice 3.5/5.1/3.9
- Missouri School for the Blind uses the Professional Learning Communities process to accomplish multiple outcomes for students and staff.

Findings

- Opportunity for Improvement 3.8
- Create opportunities that engage parents in meaningful ways in their student's education beyond the Individualized Education Plan.

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	Domains	External Review	AEN
1	Equitable Learning Environment	3.40	2.69
2	High Expectations Environment	3.28	2.81
3	Supportive Learning Environment	3.76	3.06
4	Active Learning Environment	3.48	2.94
5	Progress Monitoring and Feedback Environment	3.26	2.79
6	Well-Managed Learning Environment	3.29	3.13
7	Digital Learning Environment	1.80	1.82



Domain

Leadership Capacity

The External Review Team examined:

- Institutional purpose and direction
- Governance and leadership effectiveness
- Stakeholder engagement
- Improvement capacity
- Results

Findings

- Powerful Practice 1.1

Missouri School for the Blind engages all stakeholders in a Comprehensive School Improvement Process that is inclusive and reflects the culture of the school.

Findings

- Powerful Practice 1.2/2.4
- Missouri School for the Blind's nurturing environment contributes to a positive school culture embodying shared values and beliefs resulting in challenging and equitable educational programs for all students.

Domain

Resource Utilization

The External Review Team examined:

- Allocation and use of resources
- Equity of resource distribution to need
- Level and sustainability of resources
- Long range capital and resource planning effectiveness

Findings

- Opportunity for Improvement 4.5
- Review and respond to the increasing demands on the technology infrastructure required to support specialized teaching tools necessary to meet the unique learning needs of the student population.

Findings

- Improvement Priority 4.7
- Evaluate current career planning activities and expand transitional support opportunities for all students.

Conclusions

Index of Education Quality™ (IEQ™)

- Impact of teaching and learning on student performance
- Capacity of leadership to guide and ensure effectiveness in carrying out strategic direction of institution
- Utilization of resources to meet diverse needs of students and institution
- Use as a tool for formative analysis and continuous improvement
- Connection for the conditions, processes, and practices to evidence including student performance

IEQ Results

	External Review IEQ Score	AE Network Average
Overall Score	335.26	278.34
Teaching and Learning Impact	330.95	268.94
Leadership Capacity	356.82	292.64
Resource Utilization	314.29	283.86

IEQ Results

The IEQ results indicate that the school system is performing within acceptable ranges as compared to expected criteria as well as other institutions in the AdvancED network.

Recommendation

The External Review Team recommends to the AdvancED Accreditation Commission that the

Missouri School for the Blind

earn the distinction of accreditation by AdvancED.

Continuous Improvement

- Improvement Priorities must be addressed within two years
- Beginning of a journey of improvement
- Deliberate and strategic actions to ensure that every child, *every day is being prepared and achieving success for their future*

Final Thoughts

The External Review Team:

- Appreciates *your hospitality, support and professionalism.*
- Respects and acknowledges the *efforts to improve the quality of your institution.*
- Congratulates your school and community on *completing the requirements for AdvancED School Accreditation.*

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