

Self Assessment

Tequesta Trace Middle School Broward County School District

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Introduction

AdvancED's Self Assessment (SA) diagnostic is based on the AdvancED Standards of Quality, which serves as the foundation of the accreditation and continuous improvement process. The SA is a valuable tool for collaboratively engaging staff members and stakeholders in purposeful, honest dialogue and reflection to assess the institution's adherence to the Standards, and guide its continuous improvement efforts. The SA includes the institution's self-ratings of and the evidence cited for each of the indicators, comments that explain the indicator's ratings and an overall narrative for each Standard. The results of the SA are reviewed by the External Review Team as one essential component of the preparation process for the institution's External Review.

Standard 1: Purpose and Direction

The school maintains and communicates a purpose and direction that commit to high expectations for learning as well as shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning.

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
1.1	The school engages in a systematic, inclusive, and comprehensive process to review, revise, and communicate a school purpose for student success.	The school has a process for review, revision, and communication of its purpose. The process has been implemented. The process includes participation by representatives from stakeholder groups. The purpose statement focuses primarily on student success.	Survey results Examples of communications to stakeholders about the school's purpose (i.e. website, newsletters, annual report, student handbook) Communication plan to stakeholders regarding the school's purpose Documentation or description of the process for creating the school's purpose including the role of stakeholders	Level 2

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
1.2	The school's leadership and staff commit to a culture that is based on shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning and supports challenging, equitable educational programs and learning experiences for all students that include achievement of learning, thinking, and life skills.	Commitment to shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning is evident in documentation and decision making. This commitment is regularly reflected in communication among leaders and staff. Challenging educational programs and equitable learning experiences are implemented so that all students achieve learning, thinking, and life skills necessary for success. Evidence indicates a commitment to instructional practices that include active student engagement, a focus on depth of understanding, and the application of knowledge and skills. School leadership and staff share high expectations for professional practice.	Agendas and/or minutes that reference a commitment to the components of the school's statement of purpose Survey results The school's statement of purpose	Level 3

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
1.3	The school's leadership	School leaders implement a	•Survey results	Level 3
	implements a continuous	documented, systematic continuous		
	improvement process that	improvement process for improving	•Agenda, minutes from	
	provides clear direction for	student learning and the conditions that	continuous improvement	
	improving conditions that support	support learning. All stakeholder groups	planning meetings	
student learning.	student learning.	are engaged in the process. School		
		personnel maintain a profile with current		
		and comprehensive data on student and	artifacts that show two-	
		school performance. The profile contains		
		analyses of data used to identify goals	staff and stakeholders	
	for the improvement of achievement and			
	instruction that are aligned with the	•The school continuous		
		school's purpose. Improvement goals	improvement plan	
		have measurable performance targets.		
		The process includes action planning		
		that identifies measurable objectives,		
		strategies, activities, resources, and		
		timelines for achieving improvement		
		goals. School leaders hold all school		
		personnel accountable for and evaluate		
		the overall quality of the implementation		
		of all interventions and strategies. The		
		process is reviewed and evaluated.		
		Documentation that the process yields		
		improved student achievement and		
		instruction is available and		
		communicated to stakeholders.		

Reflect upon your responses to each of the indicators and performance levels by considering and responding to the following questions when drafting your narrative response. Use language from the performance level descriptions to guide your writing. Cite sources of evidence External Review team members may be interested in reviewing.

TTMS continuously communicates the school purpose for student success through meetings, newsletters, the website, etc. Reaching out to all stakeholders and expanding that grasp is always a priority and we continue to strengthen that relationship.

Standard 2: Governance and Leadership

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

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.1	The governing body establishes policies and supports practices	Policies and practices support the school's purpose and direction and the	•Student handbooks	Level 3
that ensure effective	effective operation of the school. Policies	•Governing body policies,		
	administration of the school.	and practices promote effective instruction and assessment that produce	procedures, and practices	
		equitable and challenging learning experiences for all students. There are	•Staff handbooks	
			Communications to stakeholder about policy revisions	
		direction for, and oversight of fiscal		
		management.		1

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.2	The governing body operates responsibly and functions effectively.	The governing body has a process to ensure that its decisions and actions are in accordance with defined roles and responsibilities, a code of ethics, and free of conflict of interest. Governing body members participate in a systematic, formal professional development process regarding the roles and responsibilities of the governing body and its individual members. The governing body complies with all policies, procedures, laws, and regulations and functions as a cohesive unit.	Governing body minutes relating to training Communication plan to inform all staff on code of ethics, responsibilities, conflict of interest List of assigned staff for compliance Proof of legal counsel Assurances, certifications Governing body training plan Findings of internal and external reviews of compliance with laws, regulations, and policies Communications about program regulations Historical compliance data Governing body policies on roles and responsibilities, conflict of interest Governing code of ethics	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.3	The governing body ensures that the school leadership has the autonomy to meet goals for achievement and instruction and to manage day-to-day operations effectively.	The governing body consistently protects, supports, and respects the autonomy of school leadership to accomplish goals for achievement and instruction and to manage day-to-day operations of the school. The governing body maintains a clear distinction between its roles and responsibilities and those of school leadership.	Roles and responsibilities of school leadership School improvement plan developed by the school Stakeholder input and feedback Maintenance of consistent academic oversight, planning, and resource allocation Communications regarding board actions Survey results regarding functions of the governing body Agendas and minutes of meetings	Level 4

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.4	Leadership and staff foster a culture consistent with the school's purpose and direction.	Leaders and staff deliberately and consistently align their decisions and actions toward continuous improvement to achieve the school's purpose. They encourage, support, and expect all students to be held to high standards in all courses of study. All stakeholders are collectively accountable for student learning. School leaders actively and consistently support and encourage innovation, collaboration, shared leadership, and rigorous professional growth. The culture is characterized by collaboration and a sense of community among all stakeholders.	Examples of collaboration and shared leadership Survey results Examples of decisions aligned with the school's statement of purpose Examples of decisions in support of the school's continuous improvement plan	Level 4

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.5	Leadership engages stakeholders effectively in support of the school's purpose and direction.	'	Minutes from meetings with stakeholders Copies of surveys or screen shots from online surveys Survey responses Involvement of stakeholders in a school improvement plan	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.6	Leadership and staff supervision and evaluation processes result in improved professional practice and student success.	The focus of the criteria and processes of supervision and evaluation is improving professional practice and improving student success. Supervision and evaluation processes are regularly implemented. The results of the supervision and evaluation processes are used to monitor and effectively adjust professional practice and improve student learning.	Examples of professional development offerings and plans tied specifically to the results from supervision and evaluation Governing body policy on supervision and evaluation Supervision and evaluation Supervision and evaluation documents with criteria for improving professional practice and student success noted Job specific criteria Representative supervision and evaluation reports	

Our strengths are policies and practices clearly and directly support the school's purpose and direction and the effective operation of the school. Policies and practices require and have mechanisms in place for monitoring effective instruction and assessment that produce equitable and challenging learning experiences for all students. The governing body has implemented a process to evaluate its decisions and actions to ensure they are in accordance with defined roles and responsibilities, a formally adopted code of ethics, and free of conflict of interest. Leaders consistently communicate effectively with appropriate and varied representatives from stakeholder groups, provide opportunities for stakeholders to shape decisions, solicit feedback and respond to stakeholders, work collaboratively on school improvement efforts, and provide and support meaningful leadership roles for stakeholders. The primary focus of the criteria and processes of supervision and evaluation is improving professional practice and ensuring student success. Supervision and evaluation processes are consistently and regularly implemented.

Standard 3: Teaching and Assessing for Learning

The school's curriculum, instructional design, and assessment practices guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning.

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.1	The school's curriculum provides equitable and challenging learning experiences that ensure all students have sufficient opportunities to develop learning, thinking, and life skills that lead to success at the next level.	Curriculum and learning experiences in each course/class provide all students with challenging and equitable opportunities to develop learning skills, thinking skills, and life skills. There is some evidence to indicate curriculum and learning experiences prepare students for success at the next level. Like courses/classes have equivalent learning expectations. Some learning activities are individualized for each student in a way that supports achievement of expectations.	Survey results Lesson plans Learning expectations for different courses Posted learning objectives Representative samples of student work across courses Course schedules Course descriptions Descriptions of instructional techniques	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.2	Curriculum, instruction, and assessment are monitored and adjusted systematically in response to data from multiple assessments of student learning and an examination of professional practice.	Using data from student assessments and an examination of professional practice, school personnel monitor and adjust curriculum, instruction, and assessment to ensure vertical and horizontal alignment and alignment with the school's goals for achievement and instruction and statement of purpose. There is a process in place to ensure alignment each time curriculum, instruction, and/or assessments are reviewed or revised. The continuous improvement process ensures that vertical and horizontal alignment as well as alignment with the school's purpose are maintained and enhanced in curriculum, instruction, and assessment.	Curriculum guides Common assessments Standards-based report cards Surveys results Curriculum writing process Products – scope and sequence, curriculum maps Lesson plans aligned to the curriculum	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.3	Teachers engage students in their learning through instructional strategies that ensure achievement of learning expectations.	Teachers plan and use instructional strategies that require student collaboration, self-reflection, and development of critical thinking skills. Teachers personalize instructional strategies and interventions to address individual learning needs of students when necessary. Teachers use instructional strategies that require students to apply knowledge and skills, integrate content and skills with other disciplines, and use technologies as instructional resources and learning tools.	Teacher evaluation criteria Agenda items addressing these strategies Professional development focused on these strategies Authentic assessments Examples of teacher use of technology as an instructional resource Examples of student use of technology as a learning tool Student work demonstrating the application of knowledge Findings from supervisor walk-thrus and observations Surveys results	

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.4	School leaders monitor and support the improvement of instructional practices of teachers to ensure student success.	School leaders formally and consistently monitor instructional practices through supervision and evaluation procedures beyond classroom observation to ensure that they 1) are aligned with the school's values and beliefs about teaching and learning, 2) are teaching the approved curriculum, 3) are directly engaged with all students in the oversight of their learning, and 4) use content-specific standards of professional practice.	•Documentation of collection of lesson plans	Level 4

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.5	Teachers participate in collaborative learning communities to improve instruction and student learning.	All members of the school staff participate in collaborative learning communities that meet both informally and formally. Collaboration often occurs across grade levels and content areas. Staff members have been trained to implement a formal process that promotes discussion about student learning. Learning from, using, and discussing the results of inquiry practices such as action research, the examination of student work, reflection, study teams, and peer coaching occur regularly among most school personnel. School personnel indicate that collaboration causes improvement results in instructional practice and student performance.	Examples of cross curricular projects, interdisciplinary instruction, and classroom action research project Common language, protocols and reporting tools Agendas and minutes of collaborative learning committees Calendar/schedule of learning community meetings Survey results Peer coaching guidelines and procedures Examples of improvements to content and instructional practice resulting from collaboration	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.6	Teachers implement the school's instructional process in support of student learning.	All teachers use an instructional process that informs students of learning expectations and standards of performance. Exemplars are often provided to guide and inform students. The process includes multiple measures, including formative assessments, to inform the ongoing modification of instruction and provide data for possible curriculum revision. The process provides students with specific and timely feedback about their learning.	Examples of learning expectations and standards of performance Survey results Examples of assessments that prompted modification in instruction	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.7	Mentoring, coaching, and induction programs support instructional improvement consistent with the school's values and beliefs about teaching and learning.	School personnel are engaged in mentoring, coaching, and induction programs that are consistent with the school's values and beliefs about teaching, learning, and the conditions that support learning. These programs set expectations for all school personnel and include measures of performance.	Records of meetings and walk thrus/feedback sessions Survey results Professional learning calendar with activities for instructional support of new staff Descriptions and schedules of mentoring, coaching, and induction programs with references to school beliefs and values about teaching and learning Personnel manuals with information related to new hires including mentoring, coaching, and induction practices	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.8	The school engages families in meaningful ways in their children's education and keeps them informed of their children's learning progress.	Programs that engage families in meaningful ways in their children's education are designed, implemented, and evaluated. Families have multiple ways of staying informed of their children's learning progress.	Survey results Volunteer program with variety of options for participation List of varied activities and communications modes with families, e.g., info portal, online, newsletters, parent centers, academic nights, open house, early release days Calendar outlining when and how families are provided information on child's progress	Level 4

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.9	known by at least one adult advocate in the school who supports that student's educational experience.	School personnel participate in a structure that gives them long-term interaction with individual students, allowing them to build strong relationships over time with the student. All students may participate in the structure. The structure allows the school employee to gain insight into and serve as an advocate for the student's needs regarding learning skills, thinking skills, and life skills.	•Survey results	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.10	Grading and reporting are based on clearly defined criteria that represent the attainment of content knowledge and skills and are consistent across grade levels and courses.	Teachers use common grading and reporting policies, processes, and procedures based on clearly defined criteria that represent each student's attainment of content knowledge and skills. These policies, processes, and procedures are implemented consistently across grade levels and courses. Stakeholders are aware of the policies, processes, and procedures. The policies, processes, and procedures are regularly evaluated.	Evaluation process for grading and reporting practices Survey results Sample report cards for each grade level and for all courses Sample communications to stakeholders about grading and reporting Policies, processes, and procedures on grading and reporting	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.11	All staff members participate in a continuous program of professional learning.	builds capacity among all professional and support staff. The program is systematically evaluated for effectiveness in improving instruction, student learning, and the conditions that support learning.	Results of evaluation of professional learning program. Evaluation tools for professional learning Survey results Brief explanation of alignment between professional learning and identified needs Crosswalk between professional learning and school purpose and direction	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.12	The school provides and coordinates learning support services to meet the unique learning needs of students.	School personnel use data to identify unique learning needs of all students at all levels of proficiency as well as other learning needs (such as second languages). School personnel stay current on research related to unique characteristics of learning (such as learning styles, multiple intelligences, personality type indicators) and provide or coordinate related learning support services to all students.	Survey results List of learning support services and student population served by such services Training and professional learning related to research on unique characteristics of learning Data used to identify unique learning needs of students	Level 3

.....In the area of teaching and assessing for learning, Tequesta strives to ensure that all students are assessed at their level of performance

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and teaching strategies built around areas needed for proficiency. All staff participates in professional learning that concentrates on Common Formal Assessment data review and best practice discussion and sharing. Performance Tasks are also integrated into the conversations at our PLCs. We are working to improve data chats with our students and parents. Tequesta provides and coordinates learning support services with the addition of a 3rd Guidance Counselor, a 3rd ESE Support Facilitator, an ESOL support person and an extra bi-lingual clerical staff member at the front desk.

Standard 4: Resources and Support Systems

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

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.1	Qualified professional and support staff are sufficient in number to fulfill their roles and responsibilities necessary to support the school's purpose, direction, and the educational program.	leaders systematically determine the number of personnel necessary to fill all the roles and responsibilities necessary to support the school purpose, educational programs, and continuous improvement. Sustained fiscal resources are available to fund positions critical to achieve the purpose and direction of the	School budgets for the last three years Survey results Policies, processes, procedures and other documentation related to the hiring, placement and retention of professional and support staff Assessments of staffing needs Documentation of highly qualified staff	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.2	Instructional time, material resources, and fiscal resources are sufficient to support the purpose and direction of the school.	Instructional time, material resources, and fiscal resources are focused on supporting the purpose and direction of the school. Instructional time is protected in policy and practice. School leaders work to secure material and fiscal resources to meet the needs of all students. School leaders demonstrate that instructional time, material resources, and fiscal resources are allocated so that all students have equitable opportunities to attain challenging learning expectations. Efforts toward the continuous improvement of instruction and operations include achieving the school's purpose and direction.	Survey results School schedule Alignment of budget with school purpose and direction School calendar	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.3	The school maintains facilities, services, and equipment to provide a safe, clean, and healthy environment for all students and staff.	School leaders have adopted or created clear expectations for maintaining safety, cleanliness, and a healthy environment and have shared these definitions and expectations with stakeholders. School personnel and students are accountable for maintaining these expectations. Measures are in place that allow for continuous tracking of these conditions. Improvement plans are developed and implemented by appropriate personnel as necessary to improve these conditions. Results of improvement efforts are evaluated.	of equipment •Survey results	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.4	Students and school personnel use a range of media and information resources to support the school's educational programs.	Students and school personnel have access to media and information resources necessary to achieve the educational programs of the school. Qualified personnel are available to assist students and school personnel in learning about the tools and locations for finding and retrieving information.	Budget related to media and information resource acquisition Survey results Data on media and information resources available to students and staff Schedule of staff availability to assist students and school personnel related to finding and retrieving information	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.5	The technology infrastructure supports the school's teaching, learning, and operational needs.	needs of all stakeholders. School personnel develop and administer needs assessments and use the resulting data to develop and implement a technology plan to improve technology services and infrastructure.	•Assessments to inform	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.6	The school provides support services to meet the physical, social, and emotional needs of the student population being served.	School personnel implement a process to determine the physical, social, and emotional needs of each student in the school. School personnel provide or coordinate programs to meet the needs of students as necessary. Measures of program effectiveness are in place, and school personnel use the data from these measures to evaluate all programs. Improvement plans related to these programs are designed and implemented when needed to more effectively meet the needs of students.	Student assessment system for identifying student needs Survey results Social classes and services, e.g., bullying, character education List of support services available to students	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.7	support the counseling,	School personnel implement a clearly defined, systematic process to determine the counseling, assessment, referral, educational, and career planning needs of all students. School personnel provide or coordinate programs necessary to meet the needs of all students. Valid and reliable measures of program effectiveness are in place, and school personnel use the data from these measures to regularly evaluate all programs. Improvement plans related to these programs are designed and implemented to more effectively meet the needs of all students.	List of services available related to counseling, assessment, referral, educational, and career planning Survey results Budget for counseling, assessment, referral, educational and career planning Description of IEP process Description of referral process	Level 4

Our strengths reside in the leaders use a formal, systematic process to determine the number of personnel necessary to fill all the roles and responsibilities necessary to support the school purpose, educational programs, and continuous improvement. School leaders exhaust every option to secure material and fiscal resources to meet the needs of all students. School leaders measurably demonstrate that instructional time, material resources, and fiscal resources are allocated so that all students have equitable opportunities to attain challenging learning expectations.

Our weakness is the need for a technology infrastructure meets the teaching, learning, and operational needs of most stakeholders. School personnel have a technology plan to improve technology services and infrastructure. However, this weakness is being resolved through the SMART Bond Funds initiative.

Standard 5: Using Results for Continuous Improvement

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

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.1	The school establishes and maintains a clearly defined and comprehensive student assessment system.	School personnel maintain and use an assessment system that produces data from multiple assessment measures, including locally developed and standardized assessments about student learning and school performance. The system ensures consistent measurement across classrooms and courses. Most assessments, especially those related to student learning, are proven reliable and bias free. The system is regularly evaluated for reliability and effectiveness in improving instruction, student learning, and the conditions that support learning.	standardized and local assessments on student	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.2	apply learning from a range of data sources, including	comparison and trend data that provide a complete picture of student learning, instruction, the effectiveness of programs, and the conditions that support learning. School personnel use	Survey results Examples of use of data to design, implement, and evaluate continuous improvement plans and apply learning List of data sources related to student learning, instruction, program effectiveness, and conditions that support learning	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.3	interpretation, and use of data.	All professional and support staff members are assessed and trained in a rigorous professional development program related to the evaluation, interpretation, and use of data.	Professional learning schedule specific to the use of data Documentation of attendance and training related to data use Survey results	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.4	The school engages in a continuous process to determine verifiable improvement in student learning, including readiness for and success at the next level.	Policies and procedures describe a process for analyzing data that determine verifiable improvement in student learning, including readiness for and success at the next level. Results indicate improvement, and school personnel consistently use these results to design, implement, and evaluate the results of continuous improvement action plans related to student learning, including readiness for and success at the next level.	Agendas, minutes of meetings related to analysis of data Evidence of student readiness for the next level Evidence of student growth Evidence of student success at the next level	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.5	Leadership monitors and communicates comprehensive information about student learning, conditions that support student learning, and the achievement of school improvement goals to stakeholders.	Leaders monitor comprehensive information about student learning, conditions that support student learning, and the achievement of school improvement goals. Leaders regularly communicate results using multiple delivery methods and in appropriate degrees of sophistication for all stakeholder groups.	Minutes of board meetings regarding achievement of student learning goals Communication plan regarding student learning, conditions that support learning, and achievement of school improvement goals to stakeholders Survey results Sample communications to stakeholders regarding student learning, conditions that support learning, and achievement of school improvement goals	Level 4

Our strengths are that the school maintains and uses an assessment system that produces data from multiple assessment measures, including locally developed and standardized assessments about student learning and school performance. The system ensures consistent measurement across classrooms and courses. We need to ensure this is done consistently throughout the school. Through our PLCs, we are creating more common assessments throughout content areas to ensure we continuously monitor and develop instruction to enhance student achievement. Performance Tasks are also infused in the PLC conversations and in the classroom.

Report Summary

Scores By Section

