Forum for Excellence in Career and Technical Education

MSA CESS
MSA Senior Leadership Team

Dr. Lisa Marie McCauley, CPA
President

Kelly Christian
Vice President, Operations

Dr. Glen R. Mort
Vice President, Accreditation
MIDDLE STATES BY THE NUMBERS

2,600 members
50 states
100 countries
130 year legacy

nearly all
more than
Achieving Excellence in Career and Technical Education through Accreditation

The Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools
Sean Achor

- Author
- Harvard Professor
- Esteemed World-Wide Speaker
- One of My Professional “Heroes”
College Completion: Certificate-Granting Institutions by Sector

- Public
- Private
- For-Profit

Completion Rates

- 0-25%
- 25-50%
- 50-75%
- 75-100%

% of Institutions

What is Quality Accreditation? Let’s Take A Look At Our Process
Our Process

Reflective

(Current Reality)

Forward Thinking

(Preferred Future)
Current Reality

- What do your school stakeholders think and say about every aspect of your school?
- Describe your current student assessment data/statistics.
Preferred Future

Wave a magic wand...

- What do you want your school to look like? Describe your ideal teachers & staff
- Describe your ideal course catalog
- Describe your perfect student...What do you want your students to know and what type of person do you want them to be when they leave your school?

We call them your Foundation Documents – Mission, Core Belief Statement and Profile of Graduate
It’s the difference between your **Preferred Future** and your **Current Reality** that we are interested in and get excited about!

Preferred Future – Current Realty =

Plan For Growth & Improvement
How Do We Define “Quality” in Accreditation?

Where You Sit Is Where You Stand!
It’s a Wall!
It’s a Rope!
It’s a Fan!
It’s a Spear!
It’s a Snake!
It’s a Tree!
The NEW Reality Is NOW!

- MSA is designed to meet each school where they are!
- Not a one-dimensional ONE SIZE FITS ALL approach.
The Accreditation Process

(1) Registration
(2) Candidacy Application & One Day Visit
(3) Self-Study
(4) Team Visit
The Process

Registration and Candidacy Application

• Your Registration Form is reviewed for MSA Requirements including
  • Length of time in business
  • Approved by jurisdiction in which you operate

• Your Candidacy Application is reviewed by MSA leadership to determine if school is ready to host candidacy visit
Candidacy Visit

• One day visit to:
  o Review 12 MSA Standards and compare to your existing organization
  o Tour building(s)
  o Meet with School Stakeholders (students, faculty, etc.)
  o Observe learning

• Report provides recommendations to school
The Process

Self-Study Phase

- Create Planning Team
- Survey School Stakeholders
- Complete Standards Review and Program Assessment for each program offered.
- Develop Plan for Growth & Improvement

Team Visit

- Host a 3 and ½ Day Visit of Peer Reviewers
Based on research, the MSA CT protocol, *Reflections on Standards of Quality*, helps a school increase its capacity!
Accreditation is a process that...

- Encourages and **facilitates school improvement**
- Focuses on **student performance**
- Provides **accountability**
- Fosters **stakeholder involvement and commitment**
- Builds **positive public relations**
Accredited schools enjoy a unique “public trust” role in the United States. In other words, accredited schools can be trusted by the public to be what they claim they are and to do what they claim to do. Whatever an accredited school says about itself has both the sanction and the confidence of the profession, community and school stakeholders.
It’s all about Data...

Yes, you will collect data.

Make sure to collect the **correct** data.

Share the data with ALL Stakeholders for feedback and buy in.

Understand the story behind the data (what is it telling you).
Plan for Growth

“Happiness is not the belief that we don’t need to change; it’s the realization that we can”.

- Shawn Achor
Accreditation Moves Schools Beyond Accountability to Real School Improvement by....

• Using your school’s data to inform your plan for improving your students’ performance

• Providing the structure and support that will lead to ongoing school improvement

• Ensuring that all levels of your school are strategically aligned and working collaboratively

• Offering an efficient and cost effective way to move your school to real school improvement
I’ll Leave You With a Thought from My Personal Hero...

“All Your Dreams Can Come True, If You Have The Courage To Pursue Them!”

- Walt Disney
Forum for Excellence in Career and Technical Education