Accrediting Commission for Schools
Western Association of Schools and Colleges

HIDOE/WASC Accreditation/School Improvement Project

A Focus on Student Learning
College and Career Ready

Accreditation/School Improvement Project

Purpose of Project:

- **To build a coordinated accreditation system integral to the school improvement process for <u>ALL</u> Hawaii DOE Public Schools K-12**

Rationale for Accreditation of ALL Schools

- Aligns to Strategic Plan 2011-2018
- Supports one ongoing school improvement process
- Aligns to the Annual Academic/Financial Plan
- Aligns, systematizes and standardizes protocols and current practices to the WASC Focus on Learning accreditation process
- Streamlines planning and reporting

HIDOE Strategic Plan 2011-2018

Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Student Success

Goal 2: Staff Success

Goal 3: Successful Systems of Support

Western Association of Schools and College (WASC)

- A private, nonprofit, regional accrediting association in the United States that serves schools worldwide (Hague, 1961)
- Serves schools in California, Hawaii, Pacific Islands, and Worldwide, especially Asia (Hague, 1961)
- Composed of three commissions
  - Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities, e.g., Stanford University
  - Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, e.g., San Francisco Community College
  - Accrediting Commission for Schools, accrediting K-12 schools and non-degree granting postsecondary institutions

Accrediting Commission for Schools, WASC

- Works closely with the U.S. Department of State, Office of Overseas Schools
- Extends services to over 4,500 pre-K to 12 elementary and secondary public and private schools of various types (225 in Asia)
- Works with 16 other associations in joint processes, such as California and Hawaii state departments of education, HAIS, CAIS, Chinese and Thailand Ministries, IB, WCEA, ACSI
- WASC Commission (Board) composed of 32 members from various organizations

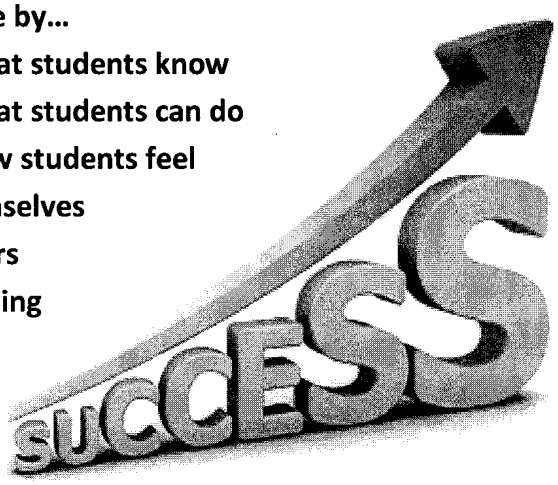
What is Accreditation?

- The quality or state of being trustworthy or credible for student learning (Root is French word meaning "to credit")
- An Ongoing Cycle of School Improvement

Accreditation: A Value-Added Evaluation

Schools add value by…

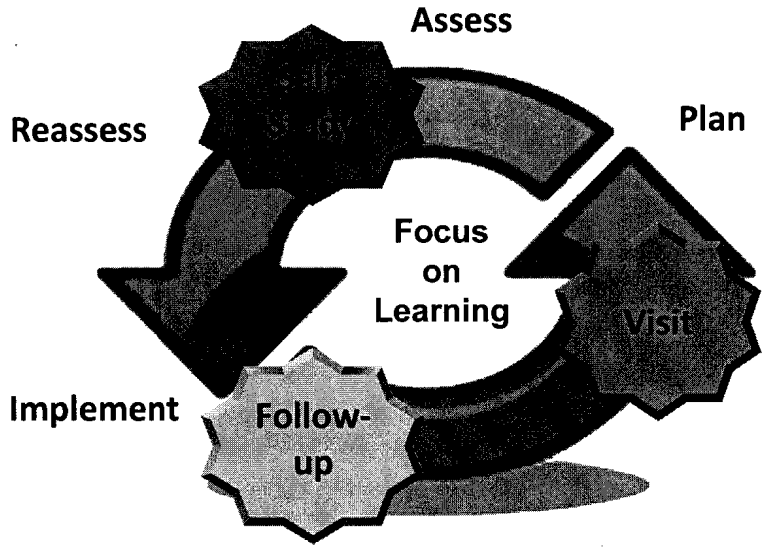
- Increasing what students know
- Increasing what students can do
- Improving how students feel
  - ✓ about themselves
  - ✓ about others
  - ✓ about learning



Why Accreditation?

- Assures a school community school is trustworthy for student learning in a global society
- Validates integrity of school's program and transcripts worldwide for university acceptance
- Builds leadership capacity
- Fosters ongoing improvement to support learning
- Provides valuable insight from educators visiting the school
- Benefits schools choosing collaborative processes, e.g., HIDOE/WASC

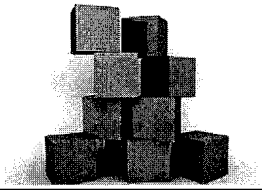
WASC FOL Accreditation Cycle of Quality



Focus on Learning ⟺ School Change

WASC Accreditation Cycle of Quality

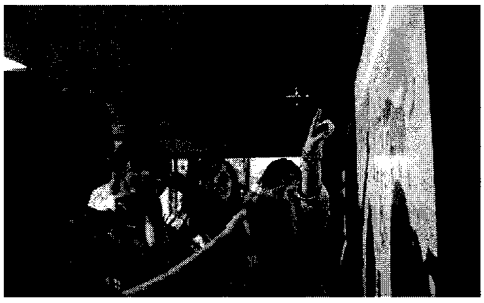
Built on



WASC Seven Accreditation Principles

WASC Seven Accreditation Principles

1. **Accomplishment of school purpose (core beliefs, vision, mission) and <u>General Learner Outcomes (GLOs)…</u>**
   What all students should know, understand and be able to do in order to be globally competent, i.e., a global citizen.



General Learner Outcomes (GLOs)

HIDOE students will be…

- **Self-Directed Learners**
- **Community Contributors**
- **Complex Thinkers**
- **Quality Producers**
- **Effective Communicators**
- **Effective Users of Technology**

WASC Seven Accreditation Principles

2. **High achievement of all students based on General Learner Outcomes /academic standards**

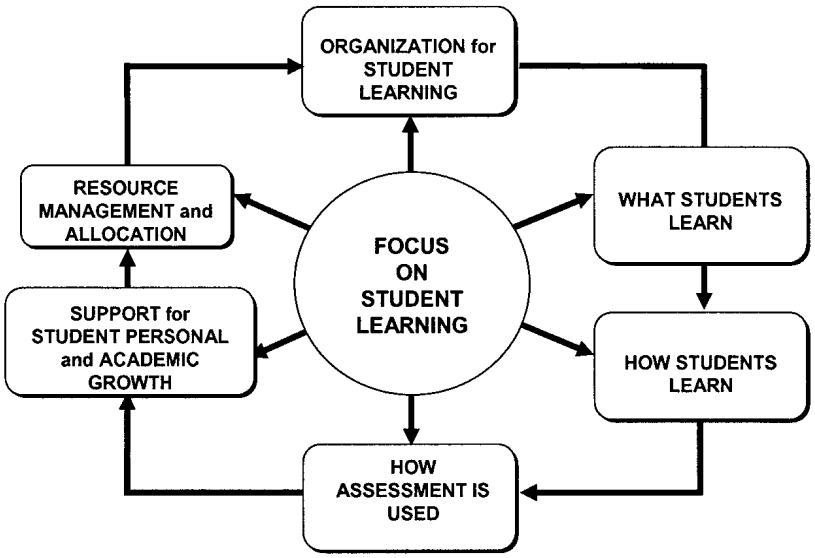
WASC Seven Accreditation Principles

3. Use of multiple ways to analyze data about student achievement

WASC Seven Accreditation Principles

4. Program evaluation based on…
   - -General Learner Outcomes
   - -Academic Standards
   - -HIDOE/WASC Criteria

WASC Criteria Categories



Summary: Focus on Learning Self-Study Process

What?

What is the ideal based upon…?

- ***Vision, Mission, General Learner Outcomes***
- ***WASC International Criteria and Indicators***
- ***Academic Standards***

So What?

What currently exists?
How effective is it?

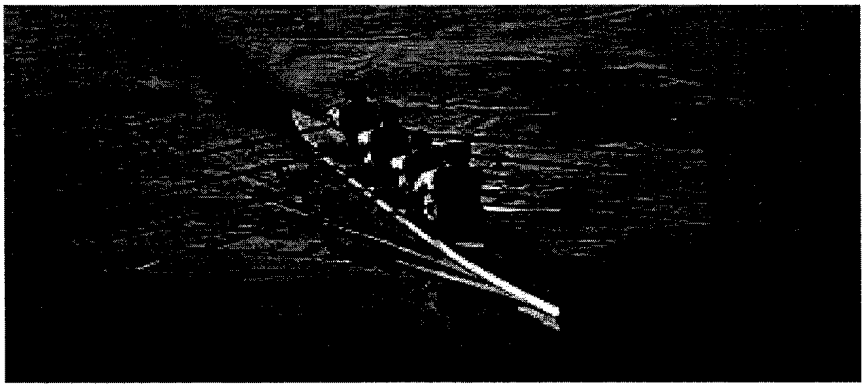
Now What?

What and how will we modify?

What should be in the Academic and Financial Plan?

WASC Seven Accreditation Principles

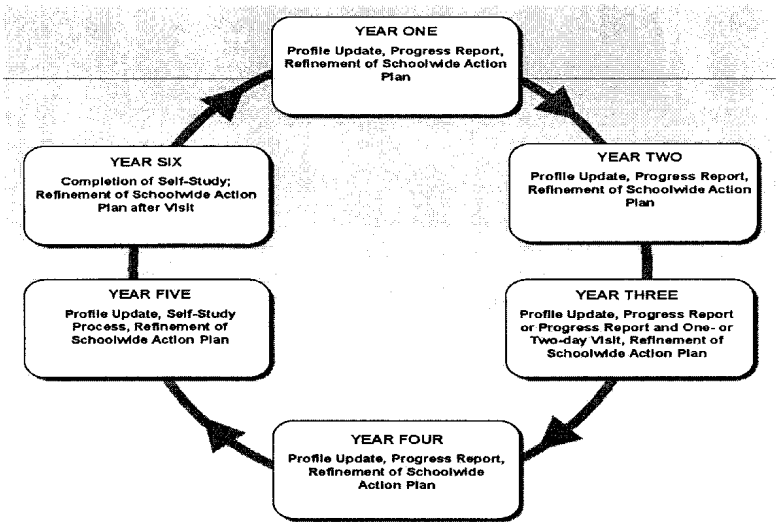
5. Alignment of findings to..
   Academic and Financial Plan and
   HIDOE 2011–2018 Strategic Plan



WASC Seven Accreditation Principles

6. Evaluation of ongoing improvement and impact on student learning
7. Total involvement/collaboration of all leaders, board members, teachers, staff, students, parents and others

WASC Accreditation Cycle of Quality
(five or six years)

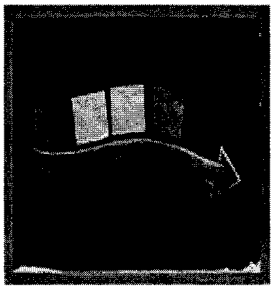


HIDOE/WASC Plan and Timeline for Phase-In

Currently Accredited Schools (96)

(all high schools, middle schools, K-12 schools, some elementary schools, and the 2 adult community schools)

Note: Current accredited schools continue their normal accreditation cycles.



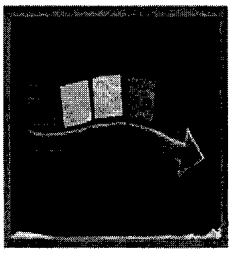
HIDOE/WASC Plan and Timeline for Phase-In

New Elementary Schools (159)

- Five-Year Phase-in for Accreditation

  Elementary Full Visits in Spring of ...

  - 2014–2015
  - 2015–2016
  - 2016–2017
  - 2017–2018
  - 2018–2019



HIDOE/WASC Timeline for Phase-In

- December 2012-January/February 2013
  - Orientation by district/complex areas on elementary accreditation
  - Collaboration: CAS and elementary principals collaborate on timing for phase-in by complex
  - Suggested Phase-In

    2014-2015 – 31 schools
    2015-2016 – 34 schools
    2016-2017 – 26 schools
    2017-2018 – 34 schools
    2018-2019 – 34 schools

HIDOE/WASC Desired Results

Ongoing Improved Student Achievement and School Improvement through…

- A culture that values and takes responsibility
- Common understanding and commitment
- Active involvement
- All Hawaii public schools accredited

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W We

A Are

S Student

C Centered