External Review Exit Report

Suwannee County School District
Live Oak, Florida

Nov. 2, 2016

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

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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

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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

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External Review

Professional judgment by the External Review Team results in:

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

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Stakeholders

Stakeholder Interviewed	Number
Superintendent	1
School Board Members	4
Administrators	40
Teachers	29
Support Staff	10
Parents/Community Members	13
Students	74
Total	171

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Domain

Leadership Capacity

The External Review Team examined:

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

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Findings: Powerful Practice #1

- **Suwannee County School District has established extensive partnerships with community organizations, area educational institutions, agencies and local businesses resulting in expanded learning opportunities for all students.**

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Findings: Powerful Practice #2

- **Throughout the Suwannee County District, both leadership and school staff are highly regarded as caring, responsive and reflective of the district mission "…to educate all students in a safe and supportive learning environment…."**

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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

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	Learning Environments	External Review	AEN
1	Equitable Learning Environment	2.55	2.69
2	High Expectations Environment	2.94	2.80
3	Supportive Learning Environment	3.30	3.05
4	Active Learning Environment	2.89	2.93
5	Progress Monitoring and Feedback Environment	2.93	2.76
6	Well-Managed Learning Environment	3.30	3.12
7	Digital Learning Environment	1.89	1.86

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Findings: Powerful Practice #3

- **The Suwannee County School District has initiated an effective system of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) as a forum for teacher networking and professional development.**

Findings: Powerful Practice #4

- **The Suwannee County School District employs three grant-funded instructional coaches that provide outstanding support for the improvement of instructional practices of core content teachers, ensuring student success.**

Opportunity for Improvement:

- **Create and deploy a marketing plan to advertise the many examples of outstanding programs as well as student, staff and school successes.**

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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

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Findings: Powerful Practice #5

- **Suwannee County School District has created a comprehensive, district-wide strategic plan with action steps to carry the system into the next five years.**

Findings: Powerful Practice #6

- **There is an outstanding level of pride displayed and reflected in the facilities in the Suwannee County District schools.**

Improvement Priority:

- **Develop and implement a comprehensive program evaluation protocol to determine whether implemented programs and services are effective in meeting the needs of teachers and students for continuous improvement.**

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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

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IEQ Results

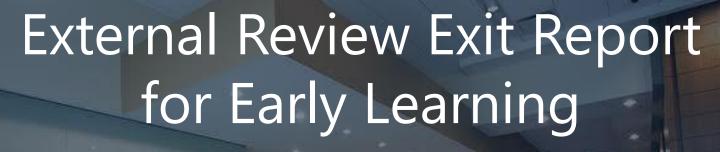|	External Review IEQ Score	AE Network Average
Overall Score	285.37	278.03
Teaching and Learning Impact	268.57	267.91
Leadership Capacity	310.00	292.76
Resource Utilization	292.50	284.48

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IEQ Results

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

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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*

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External Review Exit Report for Early Learning

Suwannee County School District
Nov. 2, 2016

Stakeholders

Stakeholders Interviewed	Number
Superintendent	1
District Directors	5
Principals and Assistants Principals	5
Teachers, academic coaches , resource teachers , support staff	16
Parents	7
Students	22
Branford Elementary School, Suwannee Primary School & River Oak Technical College Early Learning Total	56

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erel™ Results

Environmental Domain	School Score
Supportive Interactions	2.88
Intentional Learning	3.21
Positive Guidance	3.28
Safe and Healthy	2.81
erel™ Total	3.04

Requirements for Safe Environments rated as Yes: 10/10

Branford Elementary School

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erel™ Results

Environmental Domain	School Score
Supportive Interactions	3.06
Intentional Learning	3.20
Positive Guidance	3.31
Safe and Healthy	3.17
erel™ Total	3.19

Requirements for Safe Environments rated as Yes: 10/10
Suwannee Primary School

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erel™ Results

Environmental Domain	School Score
Supportive Interactions	2.73
Intentional Learning	2.77
Positive Guidance	3.11
Safe and Healthy	3.05
erel™ Total	3.05

Requirements for Safe Environments rated as Yes: 10/10
River Oak Technical College Early Learning

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Findings

Powerful Practices :
- The school leadership and staff are committed to maintaining a positive culture supported by shared beliefs.   (Indicator 1.2)

- The school's leadership is autonomous, capable of meeting goals for student achievement and instruction, and managing day-to-day operations. (Indicator 1.5)

- Instructional practices are consistently monitored to ensure they are appropriate for young learners. Mentoring, coaching, and induction programs are based upon best practices.
(Indicator 3.7)

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Opportunities for Improvement:

- Clearly define the expectations and outcomes for the Early Learning Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)

which are in their infancy, but are

proven to be highly effective (Indicator 4.2)

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Improvement Priorities:

- Provide certified personnel trained to address students with disabilities, individualized instruction, and intervention through technology. (Ind. 3.9)

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

Suwannee County School District's

Early Learning Centers

earn the distinction of accreditation by AdvancED for a five-year term.

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Recommendation

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

Suwannee County School System

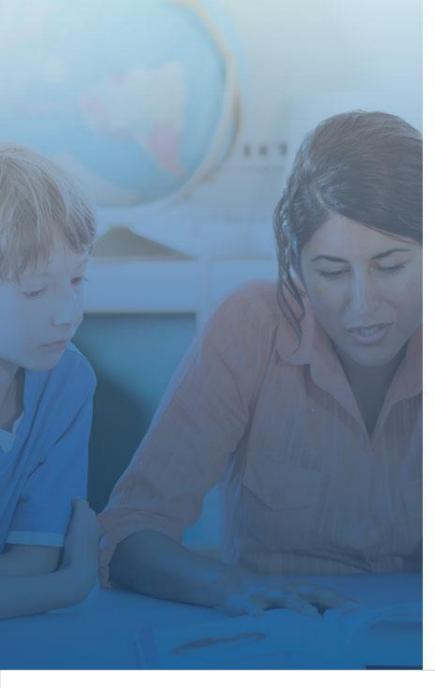earn the distinction of accreditation by AdvancED.

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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 system and community on *completing the requirements for AdvancED Systems Accreditation.*

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