

APPENDIX A

Sample Questions – Standards, Parent/Community Meeting, Faculty Forum, Students



QUESTIONS FOR THE TWELVE STANDARDS

STANDARD 1: Philosophy, Mission, Beliefs, and/or Objectives

Focus Questions

1. What is the process for establishing and building understanding of and commitment to the mission, vision and beliefs among stakeholders?
2. How is the school's mission, vision and beliefs publicized to the school community?
3. How would you evaluate consensus of the staff to the mission and belief statements?
4. In your opinion, do all stakeholders (staff, parents, community) understand the mission and belief statements?
5. How does the leadership ensure that the school's vision, purpose, and goals guide the teaching and learning process?
6. What are your plans to evaluate your mission statement to assure the school is meeting the mission?

STANDARD 2: Governance and Leadership

Focus Questions

1. Explain the relationship between the governance and the leadership of your school.
2. What issues if any are important for us to know?
3. What is the process for establishing, communicating, and implementing policies and procedures for the effective operation of the school?
4. Explain how the school's governance impacts the viability of the school.
5. In what ways are stakeholders, including staff, given opportunities to provide leadership and to contribute to the decision-making process?
6. How do members of the Leadership Team provide input and oversight into the budget?
7. How do you orient members of the School Board/Advisory Council?
8. How do you recognize the achievements of staff and students?
9. How do you evaluate the superintendent/CEO?

STANDARD 3: School Improvement Planning and Viability

Focus Questions

1. Describe the participation and input from stakeholders the school had when developing the school's improvement plan.
2. Describe the school's planning process, its improvement plans and goals and the results of implementation.
3. How is the school improvement plan reviewed and shared with stakeholders?
4. Describe the analysis completed on historical data, baseline performance information, trend data and projections on which the school improvement plan was developed.
5. Does your school participate in any external reviews other than CEASD accreditation?
6. Describe your school's capacity to implement the action plans/improvement plan developed for this accreditation visit?

STANDARD 4: Finance

Focus Questions

1. What is the process for establishing policies and procedures for maintaining control of the financial integrity of the school?
2. Describe the budgeting process, i.e., how the budget is developed, input from leadership, stability of the budget, financial oversight.
3. Discuss the internal and external audit process and any findings from these audits in the past 4 years.
4. Describe the process used to communicate financial obligations to stakeholders, i.e., parents, school districts.
5. Describe the grants your school receives?
6. Do you receive funds from foundations or other funding sources?

STANDARD 5: Facilities

Focus Questions

1. What is the process for building maintenance, repair and maintenance and capital requests to assure buildings are maintained and meet current standards for schools, dormitories etc.?
2. How does the leadership ensure that the allocation of financial resources is supportive of the building repair, maintenance and capital needs of the school?
3. What process is used to ensure students and staff are provided with an environment that meets health and safety requirements, i.e., inspection for effective operation, codes, etc.
4. How does your department assure that your school meets its vision/mission?

STANDARD 6: School Climate and Organization

Focus Questions

1. Describe the organizational structure of your school indicating how the leadership of the school provides coordination, supervision and direction for the educational program, student services, and student activities.
2. Describe your organizational chart, job descriptions for staff, qualifications of staff, performance evaluation and opportunities for professional development of staff.
3. Describe your personnel policies and procedures for the operation of the school, for orientation of new staff, for handling grievances and indicate how staff know about the policies and procedures.
4. Describe your written code of conduct for students and staff.
5. Describe an agenda for a typical leadership meeting at your school.
6. How would you rate the satisfaction that students, parents, alumni and other stakeholders have with the school?
7. Do staff feel that there is adequate communication about school operations and activities?

STANDARD 7: Health and Safety

Focus Questions

1. What is the process for ensuring that all buildings meet health and safety requirements?
2. How does the leadership insure that health and safety standards are met for students and staff?
3. What procedures are in place to manage emergencies, warning systems, drills, etc.?
4. What types of background and reference checks are completed on new hires, contractual workers, students in training, and volunteers?
5. What processes are implemented to ensure that all staff is well-prepared to meet the health and safety needs of students?
6. How would you rate the safety of this school on a scale of 1-5?

STANDARD 8: Educational Program

Focus Questions

1. Describe your process for school wide curriculum development including implementation and assessment of its effectiveness.
2. Describe one strength of your school and one challenge you are facing.
3. How would you rate the satisfaction of these stakeholders with the educational program (staff, students, parents, alumni, other stakeholders)
4. How does the educational program develop the whole child--cognitive,

psychomotor, affective skills, knowledge competencies, and career knowledge in students?

5. Describe the transition services for students at your school?

STANDARD 9: Assessment and Evidence of Student Learning

Focus Questions

1. How does your school fit in with the state accountability system?
2. What types of assessment results are tracked for students and then how are the results communicated to classroom teachers and parents and used for decision making?
3. How do you measure growth and determine that your students are performing at the expected levels?
4. Describe the process used to track graduates of the school

STANDARD 10: Student Services

Focus Questions

1. Describe the student support services, including career services, provided by your school.
2. How are transportation services provided at your school?
3. Describe the food services program at your school.
4. What services are provided for students who have disabling conditions in addition to deafness.
5. Describe your admissions and placement policies and procedures.

STANDARD 11: Student Life, Student Activities, and Residential Living

Focus Questions

1. Describe your student life program including how you build skills in handling responsibility, how you develop independent living skills, the code of conduct followed by the school, parental involvement in the program and how you recognize the accomplishments of students.
2. Describe your supervision monitoring process of students whereabouts and describe how you provide privacy in the dormitory.
3. Describe student special events or recognition celebrations held by your school.
4. Describe opportunities for dorm and school staff to work together at your school.
5. Describe how your school develops self-advocacy and social skills in students.

STANDARD 12: Learning Resources and Information Technology

Focus Questions

1. Describe the resources and technology available to the school.
2. How would you characterize the budget support for the technology area?

3. Describe the staffing in the Informational Technology area and describe the qualifications of the staff.
4. How do you orient new staff to the technology available at the school?
5. Describe your technology plan and the types of input various staff have in the planning process.
6. How do you support technology integration into the curriculum?

QUESTIONS FOR THE FACULTY FORUM

1. What do you see as your school's greatest strength?
2. Do you have any suggestions for your school?
3. How does your school communicate with parents on a daily, weekly, monthly, annual basis?
4. What role did you have in the CEASD accreditation process, i.e., filled out a survey, served on a Standard committee.
5. How would you rate the safety of this school?
6. What do you see as your greatest challenge as a teacher?
7. What would you like to tell us about your school that we have not asked?

QUESTIONS FOR PARENT-COMMUNITY MEETING

1. What do you see as your school's greatest strength?
2. Do you have any suggestions for your school?
3. How does your school communicate with you on a daily, weekly, monthly, annual basis?
4. What if any role did you have in the CEASD accreditation process, i.e., filled out a survey, served on a Standard committee?
5. How would you rate the safety of this school?
6. Is there anything else you can tell us about your school that we have not asked?

QUESTIONS FOR MEETINGS WITH STUDENTS

1. What do you like best about your school?
2. What would you like to change or improve about your school?
3. Do you feel safe at your school?
4. Is there bullying at your school?
5. Do you feel challenged in your classes?
6. Describe your communication with your teachers.
7. What is your favorite class?
8. Is there anything else you can tell us about your school that we have not asked?