

What is WASC and How Does WASC Impact YOU??

May 6-8, 2024

Connect TK-8



What is WASC?

- **Meaning:** Western Association of Schools and Colleges
- **Purpose:** Accredits schools to ensure they meet high standards for learning and development
- **Benefits:** Guarantees diploma recognition, attracts funding, and promotes continuous improvement

****Definition of Accreditation:**

Accreditation is like a special stamp of approval given to a school by a group that checks to make sure the school meets certain quality standards for teaching and learning.



What is WASC?

The Significance of WASC Accreditation



Validates the school's entire academic program



School staff collaborates through the self-study process



Gives students, families and communities confidence that the school has quality resources for all students and staff



Provides school staff time to reflect on the school's mission and vision and what is best for all students



It is a peer review process that strengthens the school's programs through the lens of experienced educators



Gives students and parents an opportunity to participate in the school improvement process



Creates a continuous improvement cycle



Students will graduate from an accredited institution which will allow them to seek various post secondary opportunities from education to a career



Celebrates areas of strength and focuses on area of growth



Many employers require a diploma from an accredited secondary school

WASC Video

Accrediting Commission for Schools, WASC Informational Video



Feedback!

- **Admin and teachers care to constantly improve our school-** Your honest feedback is important for understanding your needs and perspectives.
- **Ways you may have shared your feedback with us in the past:**
 - a. Student surveys
 - b. Admin classroom visits- ex. Sports/Play
 - c. Administration's open door policy
 - d. SLC's- teacher meeting

What other ways do you give us feedback?



Your Voice Matters!

- Let's stop and chat about strengths and areas of growth!
- *What is one thing that you love about our school and one thing that you wish was different?*



How to participate!

- **Participate in focus groups:** Share your thoughts and suggestions directly with the visiting committee
 - a. *If you are interested in participating in a focus group, please let Kaitlin and Robin know right away!*
- **Ways that you can help represent us at their visit:**
 - a. Be knowledgeable about WASC
 - b. Be present and attentive in class
 - c. Similar to when guests come to visit- clean up our environment, be your best self



Conclusion: This is OUR community!

- **WASC is a collaborative effort:** Students, families, teachers, staff, and administrators work together for a common goal.
- **Your contribution is essential:** Your voice, engagement, and actions make a real difference.
- **Let's embrace WASC as an opportunity to grow:** Together, we can create a school that inspires and empowers everyone

