



Self Assessment

Grand Bay Middle School
Mobile County Board of Education

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Introduction

AdvancED's Self Assessment (SA) diagnostic is based on the AdvancED Standards of Quality, which serves as the foundation of the accreditation and continuous improvement process. The SA is a valuable tool for collaboratively engaging staff members and stakeholders in purposeful, honest dialogue and reflection to assess the institution's adherence to the Standards, and guide its continuous improvement efforts. The SA includes the institution's self-ratings of and the evidence cited for each of the indicators, comments that explain the indicator's ratings and an overall narrative for each Standard. The results of the SA are reviewed by the External Review Team as one essential component of the preparation process for the institution's External Review.

Standard 1: Purpose and Direction

The school maintains and communicates a purpose and direction that commit to high expectations for learning as well as shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning.

Overall Rating: 3.0

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
1.1	The school engages in a systematic, inclusive, and comprehensive process to review, revise, and communicate a school purpose for student success.	The school's process for review, revision, and communication of the purpose statement is documented. The process is formalized and implemented on a regular schedule. The process includes participation by representatives from all stakeholder groups. The purpose statement focuses on student success.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Examples of communications to stakeholders about the school's purpose (i.e. website, newsletters, annual report, student handbook) •Minutes from meetings related to development of the school's purpose •Documentation or description of the process for creating the school's purpose including the role of stakeholders •Purpose statements - past and present 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
1.2	The school's leadership and staff commit to a culture that is based on shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning and supports challenging, equitable educational programs and learning experiences for all students that include achievement of learning, thinking, and life skills.	Commitment to shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning is evident in documentation and decision making. This commitment is regularly reflected in communication among leaders and staff. Challenging educational programs and equitable learning experiences are implemented so that all students achieve learning, thinking, and life skills necessary for success. Evidence indicates a commitment to instructional practices that include active student engagement, a focus on depth of understanding, and the application of knowledge and skills. School leadership and staff share high expectations for professional practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Agendas and/or minutes that reference a commitment to the components of the school's statement of purpose •Survey results •The school's statement of purpose 	Level 3

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
1.3	The school's leadership implements a continuous improvement process that provides clear direction for improving conditions that support student learning.	School leaders implement a documented, systematic continuous improvement process for improving student learning and the conditions that support learning. All stakeholder groups are engaged in the process. School personnel maintain a profile with current and comprehensive data on student and school performance. The profile contains analyses of data used to identify goals for the improvement of achievement and instruction that are aligned with the school's purpose. Improvement goals have measurable performance targets. The process includes action planning that identifies measurable objectives, strategies, activities, resources, and timelines for achieving improvement goals. School leaders hold all school personnel accountable for and evaluate the overall quality of the implementation of all interventions and strategies. The process is reviewed and evaluated. Documentation that the process yields improved student achievement and instruction is available and communicated to stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Survey results•The school data profile•Agenda, minutes from continuous improvement planning meetings•Communication plan and artifacts that show two-way communication to staff and stakeholders•The school continuous improvement plan	Level 3

Reflect upon your responses to each of the indicators and performance levels by considering and responding to the following questions when drafting your narrative response. Use language from the performance level descriptions to guide your writing. Cite sources of evidence External Review team members may be interested in reviewing.

Narration for Standard 1: Purpose and Direction

Grand Bay Middle School has a great number of strengths and some areas of improvement.

Our purpose statement is clearly focused on student success at Grand Bay Middle School. There is a definite commitment to shared values and beliefs about teaching and learning. This is evident in our documentation and decisions made at our school. The commitment to instructional practices is evident in the school wide Literacy Program, use of CFA's and Math Design Collaborative program. These are a few of our research based instructional practices that engage the student and focus on their depth of understanding. A final overall strength is the school's leadership team implements a continuous improvement process that provides clear direction for improving conditions that support student learning.

One area in need of improvement involves communication. We need to review and revise the process of communicating to all stakeholder groups in order to ensure that all school leaders, staff, and other members are engaged in the process of improving conditions that support student learning.

In order to sustain our areas of strength and make improvements in our areas of weakness we have devised a plan of action. We will review the mission statement at our opening year faculty meeting and then to present it to the other stakeholders at parent meetings, post it on the school letterhead, on Grand Bay Middle School's schoolinsites web page, in all classrooms as well as on the school's Facebook page. The school's ACIP plan and the teacher's Professional Learning Plans will continue.

Our focus has always been and will continue to be student success at Grand Bay Middle School. Recognizing our strengths and weaknesses will help us to achieve this goal.

Standard 2: Governance and Leadership

The school operates under governance and leadership that promote and support student performance and school effectiveness.

Overall Rating: 2.83

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.1	The governing body establishes policies and supports practices that ensure effective administration of the school.	Policies and practices support the school's purpose and direction and the effective operation of the school. Policies and practices promote effective instruction and assessment that produce equitable and challenging learning experiences for all students. There are policies and practices regarding professional growth of all staff. Policies and practices provide requirements, direction for, and oversight of fiscal management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Student handbooks •Staff handbooks •Communications to stakeholder about policy revisions •School handbooks 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.2	The governing body operates responsibly and functions effectively.	The governing body has a process to ensure that its decisions and actions are in accordance with defined roles and responsibilities, a code of ethics, and free of conflict of interest. Governing body members participate in a systematic, formal professional development process regarding the roles and responsibilities of the governing body and its individual members. The governing body complies with all policies, procedures, laws, and regulations and functions as a cohesive unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Governing body minutes relating to training •Communication plan to inform all staff on code of ethics, responsibilities, conflict of interest •List of assigned staff for compliance 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.3	The governing body ensures that the school leadership has the autonomy to meet goals for achievement and instruction and to manage day-to-day operations effectively.	The governing body generally protects, supports, and respects the autonomy of school leadership to accomplish goals for improvement in student learning and instruction and to manage day-to-day operations of the school. The governing body usually maintains a distinction between its roles and responsibilities and those of school leadership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Stakeholder input and feedback •Maintenance of consistent academic oversight, planning, and resource allocation •Survey results regarding functions of the governing body •Agendas and minutes of meetings 	Level 2

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.4	Leadership and staff foster a culture consistent with the school's purpose and direction.	Leaders and staff align their decisions and actions toward continuous improvement to achieve the school's purpose. They expect all students to be held to high standards in all courses of study. All leaders and staff are collectively accountable for student learning. School leaders support innovation, collaboration, shared leadership, and professional growth. The culture is characterized by collaboration and a sense of community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Examples of collaboration and shared leadership•Survey results•Examples of decisions aligned with the school's statement of purpose•Examples of decisions in support of the school's continuous improvement plan	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.5	Leadership engages stakeholders effectively in support of the school's purpose and direction.	Leaders communicate effectively with appropriate and varied representatives from stakeholder groups, provide opportunities for stakeholders to shape decisions, solicit feedback and respond to stakeholders, work collaboratively on school improvement efforts, and provide and support meaningful leadership roles for stakeholders. School leaders' efforts result in measurable, active stakeholder participation; engagement in the school; a sense of community; and ownership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Minutes from meetings with stakeholders•Survey responses•Involvement of stakeholders in a school improvement plan	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
2.6	Leadership and staff supervision and evaluation processes result in improved professional practice and student success.	The focus of the criteria and processes of supervision and evaluation is improving professional practice and improving student success. Supervision and evaluation processes are regularly implemented. The results of the supervision and evaluation processes are used to monitor and effectively adjust professional practice and improve student learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Examples of professional development offerings and plans tied specifically to the results from supervision and evaluation•Supervision and evaluation documents with criteria for improving professional practice and student success noted•Representative supervision and evaluation reports	Level 3

Reflect upon your responses to each of the indicators and performance levels by considering and responding to the following questions when drafting your narrative response. Use language from the performance level descriptions to guide your writing. Cite sources of evidence External Review team members may be interested in reviewing.

Standard 2, Governance and Leadership, at Grand Bay Middle School is generally thought of as an area of strength, however there is definite room for improvement.

Indicator 2.4 is an area of strength. Leadership and staff foster a culture that is consistent with the school's purpose and direction. The Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) Committee reviews data and devises a plan to focus on the needs of our students. This will continue to be a major focus at GBMS.

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Policies, practices, and procedures that support the school's purpose and direction are visible throughout the school (Indicator 2.5). Time is allotted for teachers to review the Code of Conduct and Student Handbook so that areas of concern or importance can be highlighted. Students are guided through teacher direction and administrative intervention to maintain a school environment that is controlled, calm, and conducive to learning.

We will continue to use a leadership team for assessing data to determine the school's direction. We realize that the use of technology and social media can be better utilized for communicating with parents and gaining stakeholder feedback.

An area of need is using the results of the evaluation process to guide staff professional practice to ensure that teachers are meeting the needs of students. (Indicator 2.6) This year staff professional development will focus on courses that teach reading and writing strategies. This will help our staff to continue to implement our Literacy Plan to ensure that our students become proficient in these skills of expression.

Standard 3: Teaching and Assessing for Learning

The school's curriculum, instructional design, and assessment practices guide and ensure teacher effectiveness and student learning.

Overall Rating: 2.58

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.1	The school's curriculum provides equitable and challenging learning experiences that ensure all students have sufficient opportunities to develop learning, thinking, and life skills that lead to success at the next level.	Curriculum and learning experiences in each course/class provide all students with challenging and equitable opportunities to develop learning skills, thinking skills, and life skills. There is some evidence to indicate curriculum and learning experiences prepare students for success at the next level. Like courses/classes have equivalent learning expectations. Some learning activities are individualized for each student in a way that supports achievement of expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Lesson plans •Learning expectations for different courses •Course schedules •Enrollment patterns for various courses •Descriptions of instructional techniques 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.2	Curriculum, instruction, and assessment are monitored and adjusted systematically in response to data from multiple assessments of student learning and an examination of professional practice.	Using data from student assessments and an examination of professional practice, school personnel monitor and adjust curriculum, instruction, and assessment to ensure vertical and horizontal alignment and alignment with the school's goals for achievement and instruction and statement of purpose. There is a process in place to ensure alignment each time curriculum, instruction, and/or assessments are reviewed or revised. The continuous improvement process ensures that vertical and horizontal alignment as well as alignment with the school's purpose are maintained and enhanced in curriculum, instruction, and assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Curriculum guides •Common assessments •Surveys results •Curriculum writing process 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.3	Teachers engage students in their learning through instructional strategies that ensure achievement of learning expectations.	Teachers plan and use instructional strategies that require student collaboration, self-reflection, and development of critical thinking skills. Teachers personalize instructional strategies and interventions to address individual learning needs of students when necessary. Teachers use instructional strategies that require students to apply knowledge and skills, integrate content and skills with other disciplines, and use technologies as instructional resources and learning tools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Teacher evaluation criteria •Authentic assessments •Examples of teacher use of technology as an instructional resource •Examples of student use of technology as a learning tool •Findings from supervisor walk-thrus and observations 	Level 3

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.4	School leaders monitor and support the improvement of instructional practices of teachers to ensure student success.	School leaders monitor instructional practices through supervision and evaluation procedures to ensure that they 1) are aligned with the school's values and beliefs about teaching and learning, 2) are teaching the approved curriculum, 3) are directly engaged with all students in the oversight of their learning, and 4) use content-specific standards of professional practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Documentation of collection of lesson plans and grade books•Supervision and evaluation procedures•Peer or mentoring opportunities and interactions	Level 2

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.5	Teachers participate in collaborative learning communities to improve instruction and student learning.	Some members of the school staff participate in collaborative learning communities that meet both informally and formally. Collaboration occasionally occurs across grade levels and content areas. Staff members promote discussion about student learning. Learning from, using, and discussing the results of inquiry practices such as action research, the examination of student work, reflection, study teams, and peer coaching sometimes occur among school personnel. School personnel express belief in the value of collaborative learning communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Agendas and minutes of collaborative learning committees•Survey results•Examples of improvements to content and instructional practice resulting from collaboration	Level 2

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.6	Teachers implement the school's instructional process in support of student learning.	Most teachers use an instructional process that informs students of learning expectations and standards of performance. Exemplars are sometimes provided to guide and inform students. The process may include multiple measures, including formative assessments, to inform the ongoing modification of instruction. The process provides students with feedback about their learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Examples of assessments that prompted modification in instruction•Samples of exemplars used to guide and inform student learning	Level 2

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.7	Mentoring, coaching, and induction programs support instructional improvement consistent with the school's values and beliefs about teaching and learning.	Some school personnel are engaged in mentoring, coaching, and induction programs that are consistent with the school's values and beliefs about teaching, learning, and the conditions that support learning. These programs set expectations for school personnel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Survey results•Professional learning calendar with activities for instructional support of new staff•Descriptions and schedules of mentoring, coaching, and induction programs with references to school beliefs and values about teaching and learning	Level 2

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.8	The school engages families in meaningful ways in their children's education and keeps them informed of their children's learning progress.	Programs that engage families in meaningful ways in their children's education are designed and implemented. School personnel regularly inform families of their children's learning progress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Volunteer program with variety of options for participation •List of varied activities and communications modes with families, e.g., info portal, online, newsletters, parent centers, academic nights, open house, early release days •Calendar outlining when and how families are provided information on child's progress •Parent Contact Logs (Quarterly) 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.9	The school has a formal structure whereby each student is well known by at least one adult advocate in the school who supports that student's educational experience.	School personnel participate in a structure that gives them long-term interaction with individual students, allowing them to build strong relationships over time with the student. All students may participate in the structure. The structure allows the school employee to gain insight into and serve as an advocate for the student's needs regarding learning skills, thinking skills, and life skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Master schedule with time for formal adult advocate structure •Description of formal adult advocate structures 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.10	Grading and reporting are based on clearly defined criteria that represent the attainment of content knowledge and skills and are consistent across grade levels and courses.	Teachers use common grading and reporting policies, processes, and procedures based on clearly defined criteria that represent each student's attainment of content knowledge and skills. These policies, processes, and procedures are implemented consistently across grade levels and courses. Stakeholders are aware of the policies, processes, and procedures. The policies, processes, and procedures are regularly evaluated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Sample report cards for each grade level and for all courses •Sample communications to stakeholders about grading and reporting •Policies, processes, and procedures on grading and reporting 	Level 3

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.11	All staff members participate in a continuous program of professional learning.	All staff members participate in a continuous program of professional learning that is aligned with the school's purpose and direction. Professional development is based on an assessment of needs of the school. The program builds capacity among all professional and support staff. The program is systematically evaluated for effectiveness in improving instruction, student learning, and the conditions that support learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Evaluation tools for professional learning•Survey results•Brief explanation of alignment between professional learning and identified needs•Crosswalk between professional learning and school purpose and direction	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
3.12	The school provides and coordinates learning support services to meet the unique learning needs of students.	School personnel use data to identify unique learning needs of special populations of students based on proficiency and/or other learning needs (such as second languages). School personnel are familiar with research related to unique characteristics of learning (such as learning styles, multiple intelligences, personality type indicators) and provide or coordinate related learning support services to students within these special populations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Survey results•List of learning support services and student population served by such services•Data used to identify unique learning needs of students	Level 2

Reflect upon your responses to each of the indicators and performance levels by considering and responding to the following questions when drafting your narrative response. Use language from the performance level descriptions to guide your writing. Cite sources of evidence External Review team members may be interested in reviewing.

In Standard 3, we found three areas of strength and three areas of weakness.

Indicator 3.2, related to monitoring and adjusting curriculum in response to data is an area of strength. Our faculty are always adjusting their teaching and the student's response to learning based on the scores they receive on assessments. The next indicator, 3.3, or teachers engaging students in their learning, is also an area we are proud of. Our schoolwide Literacy Plan has helped numerous students to develop their writing skills and strengthen their higher-order thinking skills. The use of our Computer Labs on a frequent basis to use online programs have also served to help our students in their learning needs. Teachers are aware of students' learning styles when developing lessons and build speaking, reading, and writing across all curriculums. The use of projects where the teacher is the facilitator in student centered learning are frequently used at our school. Collaboration, use of technology, and hands on learning are all modes of teaching used to help our students achieve success. The continued use of our Literacy Plan and collaboration in our learning will help us continue to see success. Adult advocates (Indicator 3.9) and programs that support our students are an important part of our school program. We have many opportunities on campus to involve our students. Assisting Special Education students, volunteering in the community by the National Junior Honor Society, Student Council, and the Band and Chorus department, participating in our Sports programs and in our Scholars Bowl and serving as Library and Office Workers are just some of the ways our students can be involved in our school. These programs and others will continue to be a part of our school culture.

Areas in need of improvement include more documentation of observations of teacher and student practices (3.4), increasing the use of teacher collaborative learning communities (3.5), using teacher mentors to assist new teachers (3.7) and providing professional development to our faculty to help them recognize and meet the unique learning needs of students (3.12). Developing a schedule of observations by

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administration to ensure that all teacher practices are observed each quarter is one way of improving and increasing more documentation of observations. The use of shared planning time and more department meetings with specific goals will make better use of time and collaboration by our faculty to improve instruction and learning. Establishing a mentoring program for new teachers is an effective way of sharing the knowledge and experience that veteran teachers have accumulated and it allows the new teachers to become acclimated to their new environment more quickly. Finally, creating and planning an ongoing professional development program that allows our focus to be on the unique learning styles and needs of our students will certainly strengthen our curriculum, teaching, and success of our students at Grand Bay Middle School.

Standard 4: Resources and Support Systems

The school has resources and provides services that support its purpose and direction to ensure success for all students.

Overall Rating: 3.0

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.1	Qualified professional and support staff are sufficient in number to fulfill their roles and responsibilities necessary to support the school's purpose, direction, and the educational program.	Policies, processes, and procedures ensure that school leaders have access to, hire, place, and retain qualified professional and support staff. School leaders systematically determine the number of personnel necessary to fill all the roles and responsibilities necessary to support the school purpose, educational programs, and continuous improvement. Sustained fiscal resources are available to fund positions critical to achieve the purpose and direction of the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •School budgets for the last three years •Survey results •Documentation of highly qualified staff 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.2	Instructional time, material resources, and fiscal resources are sufficient to support the purpose and direction of the school.	Instructional time, material resources, and fiscal resources are focused on supporting the purpose and direction of the school. Instructional time is protected in policy and practice. School leaders work to secure material and fiscal resources to meet the needs of all students. School leaders demonstrate that instructional time, material resources, and fiscal resources are allocated so that all students have equitable opportunities to attain challenging learning expectations. Efforts toward the continuous improvement of instruction and operations include achieving the school's purpose and direction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •School schedule •School calendar •According to the survey results, all stakeholders rated Grand Bay Middle School with approximately a 4 out of 5 in Resources and Support Systems. 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.3	The school maintains facilities, services, and equipment to provide a safe, clean, and healthy environment for all students and staff.	School leaders have adopted or created clear expectations for maintaining safety, cleanliness, and a healthy environment and have shared these definitions and expectations with stakeholders. School personnel and students are accountable for maintaining these expectations. Measures are in place that allow for continuous tracking of these conditions. Improvement plans are developed and implemented by appropriate personnel as necessary to improve these conditions. Results of improvement efforts are evaluated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Documentation of compliance with local and state inspections requirements •Documentation of emergency procedures such as fire drills, evacuation and other emergency procedures. •System for maintenance requests •Maintenance schedules •Safety committee responsibilities, meeting schedules, and minutes 	Level 3

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.4	Students and school personnel use a range of media and information resources to support the school's educational programs.	Students and school personnel have access to media and information resources necessary to achieve the educational programs of the school. Qualified personnel are available to assist students and school personnel in learning about the tools and locations for finding and retrieving information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Budget related to media and information resource acquisition •Survey results •Data on media and information resources available to students and staff •Schedule of staff availability to assist students and school personnel related to finding and retrieving information 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.5	The technology infrastructure supports the school's teaching, learning, and operational needs.	The technology infrastructure meets the teaching, learning, and operational needs of all stakeholders. School personnel develop and administer needs assessments and use the resulting data to develop and implement a technology plan to improve technology services and infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Technology plan and budget to improve technology services and infrastructure •Survey results •Policies relative to technology use 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.6	The school provides support services to meet the physical, social, and emotional needs of the student population being served.	School personnel implement a process to determine the physical, social, and emotional needs of each student in the school. School personnel provide or coordinate programs to meet the needs of students as necessary. Measures of program effectiveness are in place, and school personnel use the data from these measures to evaluate all programs. Improvement plans related to these programs are designed and implemented when needed to more effectively meet the needs of students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Schedule of family services, e.g., parent classes, survival skills •Social classes and services, e.g., bullying, character education •List of support services available to students 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
4.7	The school provides services that support the counseling, assessment, referral, educational, and career planning needs of all students.	School personnel implement a process to determine the counseling, assessment, referral, educational, and career planning needs of all students. School personnel provide or coordinate programs necessary to meet the needs of students whenever possible. Measures of program effectiveness are in place, and school personnel use the data from these measures to evaluate all programs. Improvement plans related to these programs are designed and implemented when needed to more effectively meet the needs of students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of services available related to counseling, assessment, referral, educational, and career planning •Survey results •Description of IEP process •Description of referral process 	Level 3

Reflect upon your responses to each of the indicators and performance levels by considering and responding to the following questions when drafting your narrative response. Use language from the performance level descriptions to guide your writing. Cite sources of evidence External Review team members may be interested in reviewing.

Standard 4: Resources and Support Systems

While reviewing the standard, several areas of strength were noted: specifically, technology infrastructure (4.5) and use of media and information resources (4.4). To maintain these areas, administrators, stakeholders, and staff work together to create a technology plan that examines the technological infrastructure in its current state and accesses what the long term technological goals are for Grand Bay Middle School. The school is fortunate to have high quality technology on campus which affords teachers the ability to use exemplary resources when educating students. Many educators also attend professional development in the areas of technology throughout the school year.

Although indicator 4.1 (Qualified professional and support staff) received an overall score of 3, some concerns were discussed over the need for more paraprofessionals to assist with Special Education students. While the staff acknowledged the support staff in place is of high quality, the reviewing committee did express a desire for more support staff (paraprofessional) to assist with Special Education students. The committee also acknowledged this is a staffing issue above the school level as they are allocated at the State and District level. The school will continue to maximize our current's staff's usefulness through scheduling.

Standard 5: Using Results for Continuous Improvement

The school implements a comprehensive assessment system that generates a range of data about student learning and school effectiveness and uses the results to guide continuous improvement.

Overall Rating: 2.2

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.1	The school establishes and maintains a clearly defined and comprehensive student assessment system.	School personnel maintain and use an assessment system that produces data from multiple assessment measures, including locally developed and standardized assessments about student learning and school performance. The system ensures consistent measurement across classrooms and courses. Most assessments, especially those related to student learning, are proven reliable and bias free. The system is regularly evaluated for reliability and effectiveness in improving instruction, student learning, and the conditions that support learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Survey results •Brief description of student assessment system including range of data produced from standardized and local assessments on student learning and school performance •Evidence that assessments are reliable and bias free 	Level 3

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.2	Professional and support staff continuously collect, analyze, and apply learning from a range of data sources, including comparison and trend data about student learning, instruction, program evaluation, and organizational conditions.	Some processes and procedures for collecting, analyzing, and applying learning from data sources are used by professional and support staff. Data sources include limited comparison and trend data about student learning, instruction, the effectiveness of programs, and organizational conditions. School personnel use data to design, implement, and evaluate continuous improvement plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Examples of use of data to design, implement, and evaluate continuous improvement plans and apply learning •List of data sources related to student learning, instruction, program effectiveness, and conditions that support learning 	Level 2

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.3	Professional and support staff are trained in the evaluation, interpretation, and use of data.	Few or no professional and support staff members are trained in the evaluation, interpretation, and use of data.	•Survey results	Level 1

Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.4	The school engages in a continuous process to determine verifiable improvement in student learning, including readiness for and success at the next level.	A process exists for analyzing data that determine improvement in student learning, including readiness for and success at the next level. Results indicate mixed levels of improvement, and school personnel sometimes use these results to design, implement, and evaluate the results of continuous improvement action plans related to student learning, including readiness for and success at the next level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Student surveys •Agendas, minutes of meetings related to analysis of data •Examples of use of results to evaluate continuous improvement action plans •Evidence of student growth 	Level 2

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Indicator	Statement or Question	Response	Evidence	Rating
5.5	Leadership monitors and communicates comprehensive information about student learning, conditions that support student learning, and the achievement of school improvement goals to stakeholders.	Leaders monitor comprehensive information about student learning, conditions that support student learning, and the achievement of school improvement goals. Leaders regularly communicate results using multiple delivery methods to all stakeholder groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Communication plan regarding student learning, conditions that support learning, and achievement of school improvement goals to stakeholders•Survey results•Sample communications to stakeholders regarding student learning, conditions that support learning, and achievement of school improvement goals•Executive summaries of student learning reports to stakeholder groups	Level 3

Reflect upon your responses to each of the indicators and performance levels by considering and responding to the following questions when drafting your narrative response. Use language from the performance level descriptions to guide your writing. Cite sources of evidence External Review team members may be interested in reviewing.

Within Standard 5, there were two areas of strength noted. Our school personnel continuously collect, analyze, and apply learning from a range of data sources in order to meet Standard 5.1. This data is derived from the yearly ASPIRE, our system-wide evaluation, and from our Star Reading and Math tests. The Star tests are taken by each student three times yearly. Another area of strength was found in Standard 5.5, wherein our administration communicates comprehensive information about student learning and foster conditions that support it. Instructional methods are then designed to further student achievement. In addition, we disseminate this information to our staff and our stakeholders. We will continue to collect, analyze, and disseminate this data in order to monitor and improve student achievement in order to sustain growth

The areas seen as needing improvement are Standards 5.2 and 5.3. Training our professional and support staff in the evaluation, interpretation, and use of data is necessary so that all personnel can utilize this information to increase learning success. One way this could be accomplished would be to send designated school personnel to attend professional development opportunities such as the CLAS (Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools) "Leaders of Your Own Learning" workshop in February. This seminar focuses on utilizing assessment information to transform student achievement. It is designed to build assessment knowledge where it makes the most difference - in students themselves. By changing assessment from something being done to students into something that they own, students learn to take responsibility for their growth and build motivation to excel.

Report Summary

Scores By Section

