

W. W. Ashurst Elementary

AdvancED Standards for Quality Schools



For more information on AdvancEd, please go to
their website at:

www.advanc-ed.org/



4320 Dulaney Road
Quantico, VA 22134
703-221-4108

[www.am.dodea.edu/ny_va/
quantico/ashurst/](http://www.am.dodea.edu/ny_va/quantico/ashurst/)

**New York and Virginia
Domestic Dependent Elementary and
Secondary Schools (NY and VA DDESS)**

AdvancED Standards for Quality Schools

In April 2006, the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), and the National Study of School Evaluation (NSSE) came together to form one strong and unified organization under the name AdvancED.

Dedicated to advancing excellence in education, AdvancED works to:

- Help schools maximize student success
- Build the capacity of schools and school systems to achieve excellence through high standards, quality assurance, and continuous improvement
- Bring together research and resources for student, school, and system improvement

Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools. The goal of accreditation is to evaluate, verify, and improve an institution's quality.

To be accredited, schools must:

- 1) Meet the AdvancED standards for quality schools
- 2) Engage in continuous improvement
- 3) Demonstrate quality assurance through internal and external review

The **seven standards** described in this document are comprehensive statements of quality practices and conditions that research and best practice indicate are necessary for schools to achieve quality student performance and organizational effectiveness.

Standard 1 - Vision and Purpose

The school establishes and communicates a shared purpose and direction for improving the performance of students and the effectiveness of the school.

In fulfillment of this standard, the school provides a vision statement and communicates those goals to the community on an ongoing basis and systematically reviews these goals through the School Improvement Leadership Team (SILT).

Standard 2 – Governance and Leadership

The school provides governance and leadership that promote student performance and school effectiveness.

In fulfillment of this standard, the school operates under the jurisdiction of a governing board that establishes policies and procedures that provide for the effective operation of the school and ensures compliance with applicable local, state, and federal laws, standards, and regulations. The leaders provide direction and allocate resources to implement programs that enable students to achieve highest expectations for their learning. Leaders encourage collaboration and shared responsibility for school improvement among the students, faculty, and community.

Standard 3 – Teaching and Learning

The school provides research-based curriculum and instructional methods that facilitate achievement for all students.

In fulfillment of this standard, the school develops and implements a challenging curriculum to promote higher-level thinking skills such as gathering, analyzing, and using data and research. Interventions are implemented to help all students meet expectations for student learning. The school is committed to providing equality to all students and appreciates diverse backgrounds.

Standard 4 – Documenting and Using Results

The school enacts a comprehensive assessment system that monitors and documents performance and uses these results to improve student performance and school effectiveness.

In fulfillment of this standard, the school uses a comprehensive assessment system based on clearly defined performance measures. The system is used to assess student performance, evaluate the effectiveness of curriculum and instruction, determine interventions to improve student performance, and communicate the performance results to the community.

Standard 5 – Resources and Support Systems

The school has the resources and services necessary to support its vision and purpose and to ensure achievement for all students.

In fulfillment of this standard, the school has sufficient resources to implement a curriculum that enables students to achieve highest expectations for learning, to meet special needs, and to comply with applicable regulations. The school provides ongoing learning opportunities for all staff to improve their effectiveness and ensures compliance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

Standard 6 – Stakeholder Communication and Relationships

The school fosters effective communications and relationships with and among its stakeholders.

In fulfillment of this standard, the school will collaborate with the community to advance improvement efforts.

Standard 7 – Commitment to Continuous Improvement

The school establishes, implements, and monitors a continuous process of improvement that focuses on student performance.

In fulfillment of this standard, the school aligns the evaluation and documentation of student improvement with the purpose of the school in expectations of student learning. Improvements are sustained, documented and demonstrated through student improvement. Professional development of personnel implements interventions toward established goals. All stakeholders are engaged and informed in the process of continuous improvements.