

Self-Study Part II: Reflection, Recommendations, and Issues for Further Discussion

An assignment as comprehensive and self-reflective as the preparation of Part I of the Self-Study will generate a variety of future oriented questions, concerns, ideas, recommendations, and commitments from those who participate in drafting it and those who review it before submission to NEASC. Part II of the Self-Study asks the school to draw together and prioritize these ideas into a thoughtful, reflective, creative summary of the school's most significant concerns, hopes, and dreams for the future.

Part II of the Self-Study is intended to be a macro-look at major findings, presented in a one to three page report. The school may present its findings in any of several formats:

- As recommendations that are *self-identified* and are action-oriented
- As issues for further discussion in which the goal is to extend important conversations generated by the Self-Study
- As a combination of both action items and discussion items

Key elements to discuss within the report are:

- Report of major findings and conclusions
- Prioritization of the findings with explanation
- Specific action items for any Standard(s) on which the school rates itself as SU1 or SU2 (see note below)
- Overview of implementation strategies to address the conclusions, including:
 - Part II committee membership
 - Meeting schedule
 - Timeline
 - Any specific procedures

Part II of the Self-Study, once completed, becomes a central resource for future planning at the school. Quite often, it will evolve nicely into the school's next Multi-Year Strategic Plan. In the short run, it is a vital resource to the school's advancement team.

For the Catholic Schools Edition of the Self-Study, Part II is divided into two sections.

Part IIA: Catholic Identity

The essential concept that underlies and ties together all additions to the Catholic Schools Edition can be summarized as: *The school demonstrates a clear commitment to its Catholic identity, and to expressions of Catholic identity in the mission and programs of the school.*

Indicators related to Catholic identity are included under more than half of the Standards for Accreditation to prompt reflection and evaluation by sub-committees in every area of school life. Part IIA of the Self-Study should focus specifically on Catholic identity as it draws together the work of the sub-committees and examines the observations and conclusions that emerge from the Self-Study. Reflections and recommendations concerning Catholic identity should represent a consensus of the professional staff.

Part IIB: Overall Reflection, Recommendations, and Issues for Further Discussion

Part IIB of the Self-Study should examine the other overall observations and conclusions from the Self-Study that are not specifically focused on Catholic identity.

Note on unmet Standards: Specific action items must be presented in Parts IIA and IIB for any Standard on which the school rates itself as SU1 or SU2 (Standard Unmet). A Special Progress Report followed by a staff visit will be assigned to be due within one year.