

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.

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

Part II. A. (Islamic Identity)

High quality Islamic schools provide an environment where Islam is declared, its tenants are followed, and its values are actualized within the schools. An Islamic ethos and God-consciousness permeate throughout the school community.

Indicators related to Islamic 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 II. A. of the Self-Study is intended to draw together the work of the several sub-committees regarding Islamic identity and focus on overall observations and conclusions that emerge from the entire Self-Study. Reflections and recommendations concerning Islamic identity should represent a consensus of the professional staff.

Part II. B. (Overall Reflection, Recommendations, and Issues for Further Discussion)

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 both Part A and B 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 Standard Unmet
- 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.