# Accreditation Engagement Review

July 01, 2023 - June 30, 2024

**Duval County School District** 

Institution #214945

1701 Prudential Drive

### Accreditation Is Continuous Improvement

Cognia defines continuous improvement as "an embedded behavior rooted in an institution's culture that constantly focuses on conditions, processes, and practices to improve teaching and learning." Accreditation is a continuous improvement process that helps an institution improve teaching and

Standards, the institution examines its current effectiveness as well as its capacity and capability to achieve its vision and goals for the future.

Cognia believes all institutions can improve no matter how well they are currently performing. In the same manner that educators are expected to understand the unique needs of every learner and tailor the education experience to drive student success, every institution must be empowered

to map out and embrace their unique improvement journey. Cognia expects institutions to use the results and analyses of data from diverse sources to select and implement actions that drive improvement in education quality and student performance. Cognia recognizes that each rovement journey is

unique and that we can serve you best by providing key findings specific to your institution.

Around the turn of the 21st century, accreditation transformed its focus and process from a ten-year evaluation focused on the accomplishments of an institution's past decade to a forward-focused process examining what an institution is striving to accomplish in the next five years. Modern accreditation examines the current and future

capabilities and capacities of an institution in the context of its mission, purpose and direction. The Standards for Accreditation define how a good institution behaves and provides the criteria to focus improvement efforts that will lead to growing learners, teachers, and leaders.

In reality, modern accreditation is a continuous improvement process. At least every six years, the institution formally engages the Standards for Accreditation to reflect and examine its progress toward its desired future as expressed through its mission, purpose, and strategic direction.

Cognia's purpose-driven, strategic process is the most widely used continuous improvement process in the world.

### Cognia Performance Accreditation and the Engagement Review

This report contains the findings of the Engagement Review. The findings of the report are organized in five sections: Assurances, Rating of Analyses, Cognia Performance Standards, Insights from the Review, and a Summary of Findings that includes Noteworthy Practices and Areas for Improvement.

Accreditation is pivotal to leveraging education quality and continuous improvement. Using a set of rigorous research-based standards, the accreditation process examines the whole institution the program, the cultural context, and the community of stakeholders to determine how

well the parts work together to meet the needs of learners. Through the Cognia Accreditation Process, highly skilled and trained evaluators gather first-hand evidence and information pertinent to evaluating an institution's performance against research-based Cognia Performance Standards. Using these standards, evaluators assess the quality of the learning environment to gain valuable insights and target improvements in teaching and learning as well as the operation of the institution.

To build a comprehensive evaluation of your institution, our experts gain a broad understanding of institution

quality through a review of documented evidence, discussions with leadership, and community feedback. Using the standards as a framework, the report provides valuable guidance to help focus your institution's improvement journey.



# Assurances



#### **Learning Environments Analysis**

The institution has made an accurate appraisal of the quality of their data sources using the Evaluative Criteria.

The institution has analyzed and synthesized information.

Network Average: 2.8

The institution has identified areas of noteworthy achievement and areas in need of improvement.

Network Average: 3.1

The institution has interpreted findings, prioritized themes, and developed theories of action.





#### **Engagement of Learning**

CRITERION YOUR SCORE

The narrative provides evidence for Standards related to Engagement of Learning.

The institution has analyzed and synthesized information and responded to the prompts for Engagement of Learning.

The institution has identified areas of noteworthy achievement and areas in need of improvement.

The institution has interpreted findings, prioritized themes, and developed theories of action.



Network Comparison for Engagement of Learning



#### **Growth in Learning**

CRITERION YOUR SCORE

The narrative provides evidence for Standards related to Growth in Learning.

The institution has analyzed and synthesized information and responded to the prompts for Growth in Learning.

The institution has identified areas of noteworthy achievement and areas in need of improvement.

The institution has interpreted findings, prioritized themes, and developed theories of action.



Network Comparison for Growth in Learning





# Performance Standards Evaluation Results



- 4 Leaders consistently model the attributes and implement practices that shape and sustain the desired institution culture, clearly setting expectations for all staff members. Leaders and professional staff members consistently implement ongoing practices, processes, and decision making that embody the values of respect, fairness, equity, and inclusion and are free from bias.
- 3 Leaders regularly model the attributes and implement practices that shape and sustain the desired institution culture, clearly setting expectations for all staff members. Leaders and professional staff members routinely implement ongoing practices, processes, and decision making that embody the values of respect, fairness, equity, and inclusion and are free from bias.
- 2 Leaders occasionally model the attributes and implement practices that shape and sustain the desired institution culture, clearly setting expectations for all staff members. Leaders and professional staff members sometimes implement ongoing practices, processes, and decision making that embody the values of respect, fairness, equity, and inclusion and are free from bias.
- 1 Leaders rarely model the attributes and implement practices that shape and sustain the desired institution culture, clearly setting expectations for all staff members. Leaders and professional staff members seldom implement ongoing practices, processes, and decision making that embody the values of respect, fairness, equity, and inclusion and are free from bias.

Standard 2

purpose, and beliefs.





#### **Leadership for Learning Standards**

The ability of a leader to provide leadership for learning is a key attribute of a good institution. Leaders who engage in their own learning while tangibly supporting the learning process for learners and teachers have a significant positive impact on the success of others. Leaders must also communicate the learning expectations for all learners and teachers continuously with consistency and purpose. The expectations are embedded in the culture of the institution, reflected by

#### Keys to Leadership for Learning

Leadership for learning is demonstrated when school leaders:

Standard 7

Leaders guide professional staff members in the continuous improvement process

Network Average: 2.8

LEVEL DESCRIPTION



4 -



4 - Leaders intentionally and consistently identify, develop, and retain qualified professional staff members who priorities. Leaders consistently use analyzed data from a variety of



Professional staff members implement curriculum and instruction that are aligned for





#### **Engagement of Learning Standards**

A good institution ensures that learners are engaged in the learning environment. Learners who are engaged in the learning environment participate with confidence and display agency over their own learning. A good institution adopts policies and engages in





#### Standard 19

Learners are immersed in an environment that promotes and respects student voice and responsibility for their learning.

Network Average: 2.6

LEVEL DESCRIPTION

4

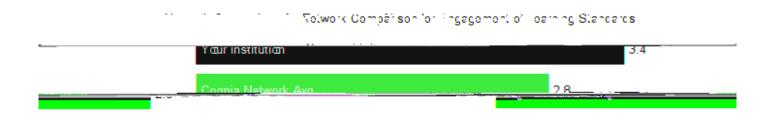


curiosity.

- 3 Professional staff members intentionally select and integrate digital resources that add value to the learning
   a engagement in the learning process. Digital resources routinely
- 2 Professional staff members occasionally select and integrate digital resources that add value to the

curiosity.

- 1 Professional staff members select and integrate few or no digital resources or select digital resources that
- 1 Digital resources rarely support lea



#### **Growth in Learning Standards**

A good institution positively impacts learners throughout their journey of learning. A positive impact on the learner is reflected in readiness to engage in and preparedness for the next transition in their learning. Growth in learning is also reflected in

#### **Keys to Growth in Learning**

Growth is evident when

-academic skills that ensure readiness to learn learn

#### Standard 24

#### Leaders use data

-being.



#### LEVEL DESCRIPTION

- 4 Leaders consistently demonstrate skill and insight in considering a variety of information, choosing relevant and timely information, and interpreting data. Leaders make intentional decisions by consistently taking into account data and additional factors that have an impact on learners and staff members such as institution history, recent experiences, and future possibilities.
- 3 Leaders regularly demonstrate skill and insight in considering a variety of information, choosing relevant and timely information, and interpreting data. Leaders make decisions by routinely taking into account data



and additional factors that have an impact on learners and staff members such as institution history, recent experiences, and future possibilities.

- 2 Leaders sometimes demonstrate skill and insight in considering and choosing information and interpreting
   data. Leaders make decisions that occasionally take into account data and additional factors that have an impact on learners and staff members such as institution history, recent experiences, and future possibilities.
- 1 Leaders rarely demonstrate skill and insight in considering and choosing information and interpreting data.
   Leaders make decisions that rarely take into account data and additional factors that have an impact on learners and staff members such as institution history, recent experiences, and future possibilities.

#### Standard 25

4

2

# Leaders promote action research by professional staff members to improve their practice and advance learning.



#### LEVEL DESCRIPTION

- 4 Leaders intentionally create and preserve a culture that invites inquiry, reflection, and dialogue about instructional problems and issues relevant to the institution and/or individual learning environments. Professional staff members, as a group or as individuals, consistently engage in action research using an inquiry-based process that includes identifying instructional areas of improvement, collecting data, and reporting results to make informed instructional changes. Leaders provide and engage in learning opportunities customized for professional staff members about action research.
- 3 Leaders regularly create and preserve a culture that invites inquiry, reflection, and dialogue about instructional problems and issues relevant to the institution and/or individual learning environments.
   Professional staff members, as a group or as individuals, routinely engage in action research using an inquiry-based process that includes identifying instructional areas of improvement, collecting data, and reporting results to make informed instructional changes. Leaders provide and engage in learning opportunities for professional staff members to implement action research.
  - 2 Leaders occasionally create and preserve a culture that invites inquiry, reflection, and dialogue about instructional problems and issues relevant to the institution and/or individual learning environments. Professional staff members, as a group or as individuals, sometimes engage in action research using an inquiry-based process that includes identifying instructional areas of improvement, collecting data, and reporting results to make informed instructional changes. Leaders provide and engage in some learning opportunities for professional staff members to implement action research.
- 1 Leaders rarely create a culture that invites inquiry, reflection, and dialogue about instructional problems and issues relevant to the institution or learning environments. Professional staff members seldom engage in action research to make informed instructional changes. Leaders provide and engage in few or no learning opportunities for professional staff members about action research.

#### Standard 26

Leaders regularly evaluate instructional programs and organizational conditions to improve instruction and advance learning.



LEVEL DESCRIPTION





demonstrates the urgency of purpose, strong collaboration, and a commitment to the vision, mission, and core beliefs. A distinctive culture exists at DCSD as the organization passionately and intentionally works to support quality education. The governing board provides consistency and constancy. The board is recognized with the Master Board Distinction by the Florida School Board Association. The district has cultivated strong ties with families and local leaders. Pride is evident in all stakeholder



experiences. The district provides opportunities for all students, whether pursuing college or moving into the workforce. Thirty schools are recognized as Schools of Excellence, sixteen academies have achieved Master Level, zero schools are in turn around status, twelve Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academies are new, and middle and high schools significantly outperform state averages in acceleration rates. Curricular work has been extensive, with units developed. During teacher interviews, staff referenced the work occurring at the district level and commented on how much they valued the opportunity to work with curriculum personnel during the summer. Further, staff commented that someone always responded when they called the district offices. Curriculum audits are implemented to provide a guaranteed and viable curriculum free from unintended obstacles often created through policies or practices. Technology integration is a priority as the district upholds its mission to prepare every student for success in college, career, and life through strategic technology integration. Grounded in the Technology Vision,





# Accreditation Status and Index of Education Quality®

Cognia will review the results of the Accreditation Engagement Review to make a final determination concerning the accreditation status of your institution based on these findings. Cognia provides the Index of Education Quality (IEQ) as a holistic measure of overall performance.

		SCORE	DESCRIPTION
385	253	Below 220	An IEQ score below 220 indicates that the institution has several Areas for Improvement and should focus their improvement efforts on those areas and the related Standards and/or Assurances. The institution will be required to present evidence of improvement to Cognia within one year through a Progress Monitoring Review. Additional Progress Reports may be required if satisfactory improvement is not achieved.
		220 - 300	An IEQ in the range of 220-300 suggests the institution has some Areas for Improvement and may include one or more Noteworthy Practices. Institutions must address the Areas for Improvement and provide evidence of actions taken and results to Cognia in a required Progress Report due three years following the review. Additional progress monitoring may be required if satisfactory improvement is not achieved.
		Above 300	expectations for accreditation that include one or more Areas for Improvement and may include one or more Noteworthy

Practices. Institutions must address the Areas for Improvement and provide evidence of actions taken and results to Cognia in a required Progress Report due three years following the review. Additional progress monitoring may be required if

## Your Next Steps

Accreditation is a continuous improvement process. The Engagement Review provides independent, objective guidance in relation to the Performance

Engagement Review R6(t)6E nBT/P4 10 Tf1 0 0 1 169.83 272.08 Tm0.224 0.22 0.22 rg0.224 0.22 0.220213.6 454Et Review R6(t)

satisfactory progress is not achieved.



### **Evaluator Roster**

The Engagement Review is conducted by professionals with varied backgrounds and professional experiences. All evaluators complete Cognia training and eleot certification to ensure knowledge and understanding of the Cognia tools and processes. The following professional(s) served on the Engagement Review:

EVALUATOR NAME	BRIEF BIOGRAPHY
Phyllis Gilworth  Lead Evaluator	Dr. Phyllis Gilworth is an educator with over 40 years of experience as a teacher, counselor, and administrator. She has teaching experience at all levels in rural, suburban, and urban settings. Her counseling experience includes elementary school students and atrisk students in the alternative school setting and adults in the



# References and Readings



