

Guidelines for the Self Study Document

One MNSAA Self Study document is created by the school that includes information and narratives about the school program. The Self Study includes the following:

School Profile

The school profile includes a brief history, data gathering prescribed by MNSAA, and an executive summary of a stakeholder satisfaction survey. Details of parent surveys need to be found onsite.

Standards Narrations

MNSAA requires that the self-study and the documentation for meeting our standards for accreditation be a collaborative process led by an administrative steering committee. The narrations reflect on which accreditation standards that are met, partially met or are in the process of being met. This information is used to define the school's strengths and opportunities for further growth.

School Strategic Plan for Improvement

The school engages in a continuous improvement process and implements an improvement plan that meets all MNSAA quality expectations. The plan is written with sequential action steps that have defined timelines and identified roles and responsibilities. References to the preschool are clearly identified in the strategies and action steps. The school will use this document for posting their annual progress report to MNSAA.

Guidelines for the Onsite Visit

Following the publication of the Self Study Report, the school hosts an onsite accreditation team visit. The purpose of the visit is:

- To validate the findings of the school through a review of documents, observations, and interviews with stakeholders;
- To evaluate if there is sufficient evidence of compliance with the accreditation criteria;
- To analyze the School Strategic Plan for improvement to discern its development was in accordance with the quality expectations of the Association; and
- To provide objective outside feedback on the educational program and strategic plan.

The Onsite Visit: The school is visited for two to three days by a team of impartial, highly trained educators. The MNSAA team will include members with expertise in accreditation, as well as representatives that reflect the school community.

The Team Report: A report is produced for the school that includes affirmations and recommendations for further improvement.

Accreditation Decision by the MNSAA Board

Upon reviewing the Team Report, only the MNSAA Board of Directors has authority for recommending accreditation status for the school.