Middle States Accreditation Team

What is Middle States Accreditation?
Middle States Accreditation is an external process that validates school quality and student achievement, and provides a focus for continuous school improvement. The Middle States Commission delivers one of the highest available forms of accreditation as one of seven United States Department of Education-recognized regional agencies.

Why are we doing this?
We are committed to academic excellence for all students and are looking for feedback from the accreditation team to help us improve. Most colleges and universities are accredited, and we aspire to join the public school districts who have also met accreditation standards. Other schools in this area that are accredited include Aquinas, Bishop Kearney, McQuaid, Mercy, St. Pius, St. Agnes, Geneva Central, and Mt. Morris.

How did we prepare for this?
We completed a Candidacy application, which was reviewed by a representative from the Middle States Commission. Based on our application, we met the standards for and were offered Candidacy for Accreditation. A self-study was then completed, which included surveys of our staff, parents, and students.

Learn more at www.wheatland.k12.ny.us
Questions: communications@wheatland.k12.ny.us

Watch for next week's poster for more information on the Middle States Accreditation visit.
Middle States Accreditation Team

**What is a Middle States Accreditation team?**
This team is a group of six people from across New York State and Pennsylvania who will visit our schools, gather information about our District, and give us some ideas of how to strengthen the support that we provide to our students, staff, and community.

**How will I be involved?**
You will see the team in the District and may be asked to answer questions about things that you know about – programs, sports, clubs, etc. You may also see team members in your classrooms during the visit.

**How long will the team be here?**
The accreditation team will arrive on Monday, March 7, 2016, and will leave on the afternoon of Thursday, March 10, 2016.

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All information from past posters is located on the website.

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Middle States Accreditation Team

Why is this important?
We believe in the potential of our students to grow and excel as citizens in a global society. Through the Middle States Accreditation process, we will receive feedback to strengthen the support and programs that we provide to our students.

How will I be involved in this process?
Surveys of our staff, parents, and students were available for completion in November through January. Small group meetings of staff, parents, and students will be organized during the accreditation visit for your feedback to the team. You may be asked to participate in one of the meetings.

What kinds of questions will be asked?
Middle States Accreditation is based on twelve standards in the areas of leadership, mission, school improvement planning, student services, health and safety, educational program, assessment and evidence of student learning, student life and student activities, facilities, school organization and staff, finances, and information resources. The District calendar has been organized around these standards to help you see the work that we are doing in these twelve areas. Questions will be related to these areas.

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Middle States Accreditation Team

When will the visit take place?

The visit will begin on the afternoon of Monday, March 7, 2016, and will end on the afternoon of Thursday, March 10, 2016. The Middle States Accreditation team will be located in the Middle/High School Main Office during their stay.

How will I find out if the team will want to talk with me?

There are two ways that the groups will be created to talk with the team. Several groups will be identified prior to the visit. If you are a member of this group, your invitation will be arriving this week.

Individuals will also be identified during the visit to talk with the team. If you are a student, you may be approached by one of the team members to be a part of a student group. Your teachers are aware of this possibility, and you will be given a pass to participate.

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**Middle States Accreditation Team**

**When will the visit take place?**

The visit will begin in the afternoon of Monday, March 7, 2016, and will end on the afternoon of Thursday, March 10, 2016. The Middle States Accreditation team will be located in the Middle/High School Main Office during their stay. A formal presentation will occur on Thursday, March 10, 2016, at 2:15 p.m. in the Wheatland-Chili Middle/High School Auditorium. At that time, the Chair of the Accreditation Team will share results from the visit.

**Are there any last minute things that I need to know about the accreditation visit?**

Just be yourself and answer questions honestly. The accreditation team members are here to gather information about the District and give us ideas to strengthen the District for our current and future students.

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