

New Fairfield High School  
NEASC Accreditation Visit  
October 21 - 24, 2018





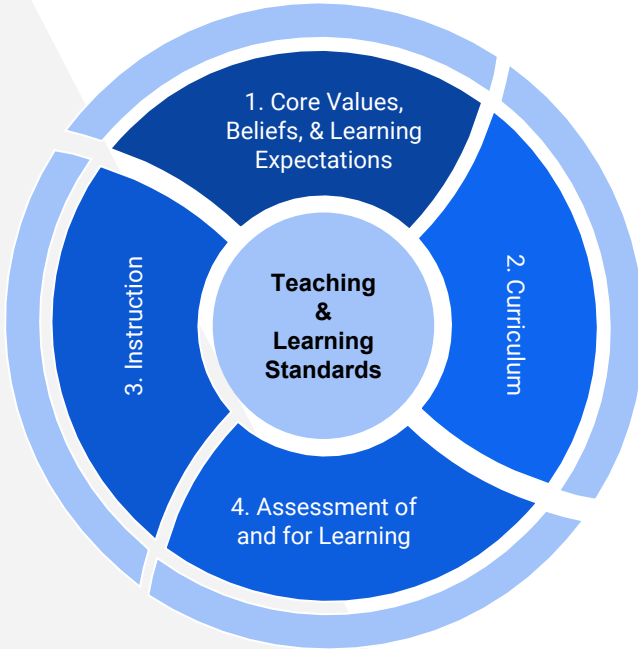
# What is Accreditation?

Providing Value to the NFHS Diploma

## What does Accreditation mean for NFHS?

- Our school has met or exceeded the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Standards for Accreditation and works to maintain those standards
- Our school is committed to improvement through implementing the recommendations of the NEASC Commission on Public Secondary Schools following a four-day intensive visit by colleagues from other schools across New England
- Provides assurance to members of our community and outside institutions, including colleges and universities, that our school offers a quality learning experience
- Earning a New Fairfield High School diploma has substantial meaning and value

# NEASC Standards for Accreditation



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*Accredited public schools are dynamic learning communities where teachers, administrators, staff, students, and parents are committed to the ongoing pursuit of the highest quality education.*

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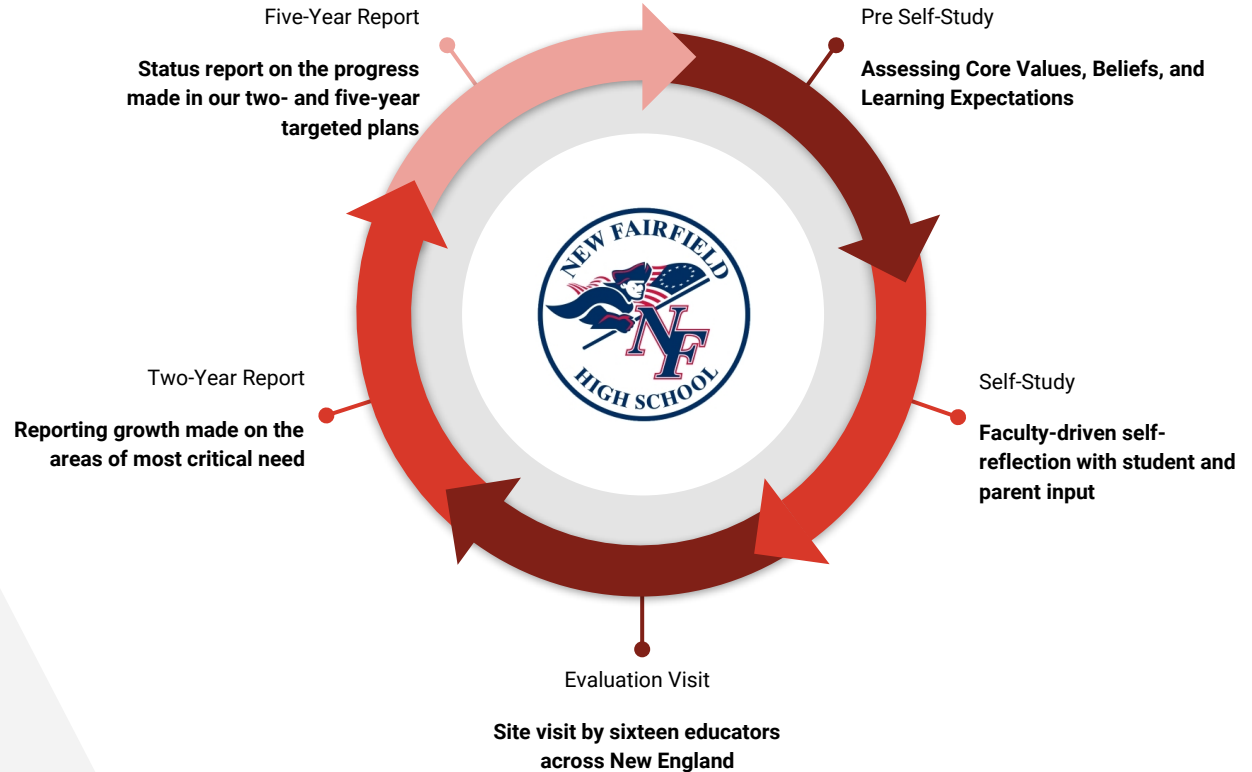
# How are schools accredited?

Self-Reflection, Analysis, and Evaluation



# The Accreditation Cycle

**A Process  
Driving  
Continuous  
Improvement**



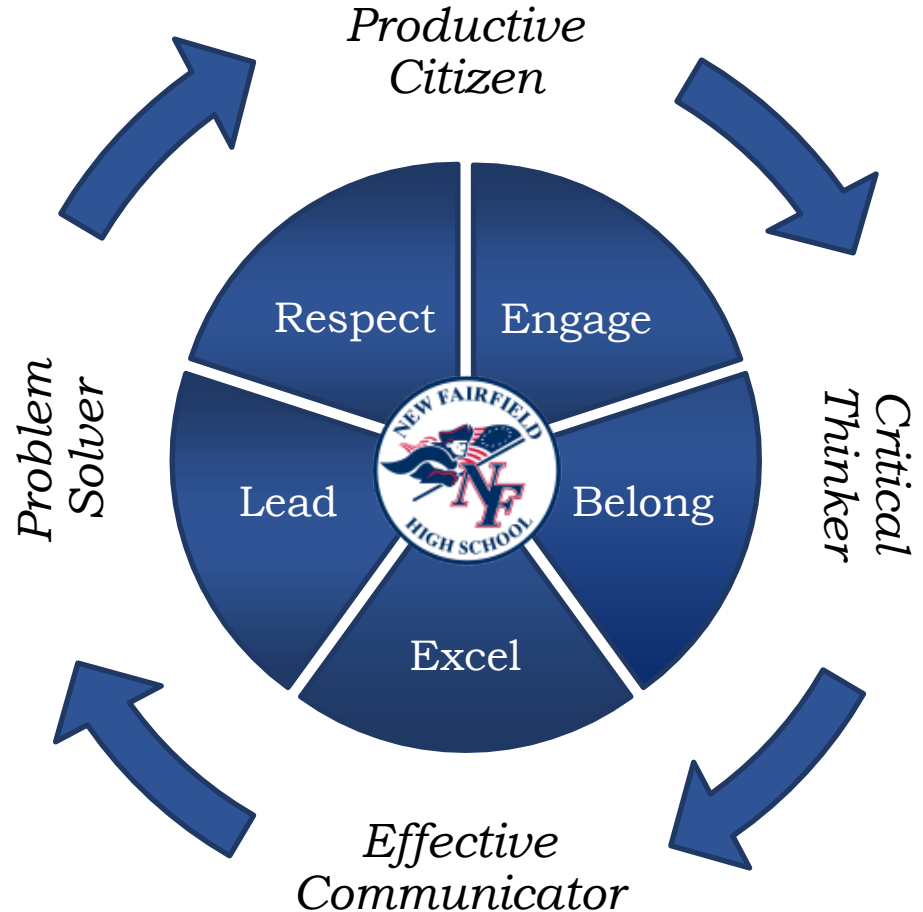
# New Fairfield High School

## MISSION STATEMENT

New Fairfield High School strives to provide a safe educational environment in which students *respect* the right for all to become *engaged* learners and responsible citizens who *belong, excel* and *lead* within a diverse society and changing world.

## CORE VALUES & BELIEFS STATEMENT

New Fairfield High School is committed to all students achieving high academic standards and personal wellness, enabling continuous growth through authentic, flexible pathways. By prioritizing connectedness and compassion, we empower all members of our learning community to take ownership of our individual and collective development as we foster the *Attributes of the Graduate*.





“

*Continued accreditation is dependent upon a school demonstrating ongoing, reflective progress to improve teaching and learning and the support of teaching and learning.*

”

## Highlights of our Critical Strengths

- The dynamic and inclusive process, involving all faculty and multiple stakeholder groups, to develop and commit to its core values, beliefs, and *Attributes of the Graduate*
- A process and plan for curriculum development that is collaborative and includes a common template to develop units of study
- The use of reflective practice by most teachers, and the maintenance of expertise in content areas and in content-specific instructional practices

## Highlights of our Critical Strengths

- The use of a variety of interventions and services to identify and address student needs, employed by the support services teams
- The improved and positive climate among staff and students that is fostered by approachable and supportive leadership
- The involvement of the school community, including parents, teachers, outside organizations, and students, in participation and support of various academic and extracurricular activities

## NFHS Critical Needs & Plans for Growth

- A process to complete the revision and implementation of the school-wide analytic rubrics to ensure that they are measurable, and are guiding instruction, curriculum, and assessment in every classroom, and are clearly communicated to all stakeholders
  - Developing portfolio and portfolio defense of *Attributes of the Graduate*
  - Aligning curriculum and instruction to *Attributes of the Graduate*
- Additional formal time to collaborate within and between departments to write curriculum for all courses, with a view towards increasing cross-curricular opportunities
  - Continuing to implement the curriculum development plan
  - Common planning time for course-based teams

## NFHS Critical Needs & Plans for Growth

- A process to improve the Capstone program to ensure the development of strong interpersonal relationships between students and staff, and to effectively prepare students for their future endeavors
  - Implementation of Rebel 33 to provide all students with embedded time in the school day to get the support they need to be successful
- A process to improve communication and provide collaborative time between student support staff and the general faculty to promote overall cohesiveness and increase the effective implementation of modifications and accommodations
  - Dedicated time for collaboration at the beginning and throughout the school year to better address the needs of individual students
  - Professional learning for all faculty to support students with special needs

# NFHS Critical Needs & Plans for Growth

- An evaluation of and update to the original portions of the facility, such as the auditorium and locker rooms, to ensure they meet all current federal and state regulations, and meet the learning needs and experiences of all students
  - Thank you to the Board of Education for supporting the RFQ for architectural and design work at the high school!



# Evaluation Visit

- **Sunday, October 21: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.**
  - Panel Presentation
  - Interviews & Meetings  
(**BOE members meet with Visiting Team**)
  - Welcome Reception
- **Monday, October 22**
  - Meetings with students, faculty, staff, central office
  - Shadowing of students
- **Tuesday, October 23**
  - Classroom visits
- **Wednesday, October 24: 2:15 p.m.**
  - Closing presentation
  - Visiting Committee Chair preliminary findings



The image features a dark grey background with a large, light grey diagonal shape on the left side. In the top-left corner, there is a red triangle with a white diagonal line. At the bottom, there is a solid blue horizontal bar.

Thank you!

See you on October 21st!