



Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools

Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools

3624 Market Street, 2 West | Philadelphia, PA 19104-2614

Phone: 267-284-5000 | www.middlestates.org

May 11, 2012

Mrs. Leah M. Christman, Acting Superintendent Southern Lehigh School District 5775 Main Street Center Valley, PA 18034-9703

Dear Mrs. Christman:

On behalf of the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools, it is my pleasure to present to you the report of the visiting team's recent evaluation of your system. We suggest strongly that you share this report with the stakeholders of your system and that you use this report to support and provide direction for your continuing work and efforts to provide the highest quality education for your students.

The enclosed team report is only the first step in a four-tiered review process that will lead to an accreditation decision by the Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools. This review process has been established to help ensure that Standards for Accreditation and the requirements of the protocol (the bases upon which the accreditation decision is made) are applied as consistently as possible across the Commissions' membership. Therefore, the team's recommendations may be changed, for cause, at any point in the review and decision-making process. The remainder of the review process through which your team's report will now go includes reviews by:

- The staff of the Commissions based on its reading of the team's report and the system's self-study materials;
- An advisory committee based on its reading of the team's report, the system's self-study, and the recommendations of the staff;
- The Commissions' Membership and Accreditation Committee based on the recommendations of the team, the staff, and the advisory committee.

In addition, the Commissions' policy provides you with the right to respond to the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the team included in its report. Any response will accompany the visiting team's report throughout the review process and will be made part of your institution's accreditation file. If you decide to submit a response, please send it to the Commissions' office within 30 days of the receipt of this letter.

Southern Lehigh School District
Center Valley, PA

Page 2

Taking all of this into consideration, the Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools will take action on your institution's accreditation at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Commissions act on systems visited during the fall semester at its March meeting and on systems visited in the spring semester at its October meeting.

You and your system's community of stakeholders are to be congratulated for engaging in the Middle States Association's comprehensive self-evaluation and external evaluation process. By doing so, you have joined with more than 3,500 education institutions throughout not only the Middle Atlantic states but also the world that are holding themselves accountable for meeting internationally recognized and accepted standards of education quality.

I trust that the self-study and evaluation processes have been valuable and worthwhile for your system and your community. Will you please take the time to complete an evaluation of your Middle States self-study, team visit, and accreditation experience by completing a brief survey.

We strive continually to ensure that the accreditation experience is valuable and of the highest quality; therefore, your comments and suggestions regarding this evaluation are welcomed. We thank you in advance for taking the time to provide us with this valuable feedback.

Sincerely,
Jacqueline L. Gilbert Associate Director



Enclosures: Report of the Visiting Team