Integrated Acceleration System

"At a Glance" for Facilitators

The *Integrated Acceleration System* consists of ten modules. This document provides an overview of each module. Although there is more detailed information embedded within the *Integrated Acceleration System*, this will afford a degree of front-loading for the facilitator. Each module is listed along with a brief summary so the facilitator can get an idea of the comprehensiveness of this tool.

The ten modules are: *Getting Ready, Build Your Team, Demographics & Related Student Data, School Information, Student Answers, Current Grade Level Performance, General School Ability (IQ) Test Results, Indicators of Performance in Next Grade, The Meeting, and Report.*

These modules foster a comprehensive review of an individual student. The breadth of the areas covered through the *Integrated Acceleration System* results in a thorough examination and discussion of the "whole child" as it relates to the appropriateness of a grade skip.

You are strongly encouraged to model trust in the *Integrated Acceleration System* and the process it details. It is a rigorous process, informed by decades of research and clinical experience. It is a team-based approach and focuses on gathering a wide variety of information and building consensus among the members of the child study team.

A. *Getting Ready*

This module provides an overview of what is entailed in the *Integrated Acceleration System*. It points out specific people essential to the process as well as what information will be needed. This serves as an excellent frame of how the facilitator can best ensure success with the *Integrated Acceleration System*.

B. *Build Your Team*

This module identifies the essential members of the team. It allows the facilitator to build a team of individuals who will be involved in both the discussion and the placement decision. It serves to increase efficiency, as the individuals of the team are emailed directly for feedback about the student through this module.

C. *Demographics & Related Student Data*

This module targets demographic and other information pertinent to the student. It collects information related to siblings, extracurricular involvement, and any special services received at school. The *Integrated Acceleration System* allows you to work with families on this module with an email option.

D. *School Information*

This module gathers relevant data that is commonly observed in school. It collects information related to areas such as: attendance, work completion, grades/performance, size, and how a grade skip might look within a school. The *Integrated Acceleration System* allows you to work with school staff on this module with an email option.

E. *Student Answers*

This module taps information directly from the student through a face-to-face conversation. The items are intended to gain insight into the student's perspective on the current school experience, the benefits of working above grade level on a consistent basis, and any questions/reservations a student might have regarding a grade skip. The *Integrated Acceleration System* allows you to work with the current classroom teacher on this module with an email option.

F. *Current Grade Level Performance*

This module records the student's level of academic performance as measured by standardized testing at the student's current grade (on-level). Although the system lists many of the

commonly used standardized tests, it is designed to be flexible by accepting other standardized tests. The comments section offers an excellent opportunity to share additional on-level achievement data that might be curriculum-based.

G. *General School Ability (IQ) Test Results*

This module records the student's cognitive ability as measured by either an individual or group administered standardized test. The *Integrated Acceleration System* is designed to be flexible by accepting five different tests. The general school ability score is critical as it provides reliable information about the need for advanced learning.

H. *Indicators of Performance in Next Grade*

This module records the student's level of academic readiness as measured by above-level standardized testing. Although the *Integrated Acceleration System* lists many of the commonly used standardized tests, it is designed to be flexible by accepting other standardized tests. The comments section is an excellent opportunity to share additional above-level achievement data that might be curriculum-based.

I. *The Meeting*

This module consists of four distinct parts (School & Academic Factors, Developmental Information, Social/Emotional Considerations, and Planning the Next Step) and is a culmination of the previous eight modules. Because social and emotional questions are often raised during discussions of a possible grade skip, this module provides the platform to begin a discussion. Although previous modules gather information from those on the team, this one is uniquely important as it convenes the entire team at one time to review data and hold a discussion about the appropriateness of a grade skip.

J. *The Report*

This module generates an individual student report based on all the data that was gathered and entered through the previous nine modules. It consists of three distinct sections: Recommendations, Summary of Data (including any comments), and Acceleration Resources (including the Belin-Blank Center's [Acceleration Institute](#) website). The comprehensiveness of the report generated by the *Integrated Acceleration System* fosters a productive, data-driven, student-centered meeting and decision.

Note: When you want to print the individual student report that is produced at the Team Meeting, it is best to **print directly from the pdf** (not from the browser). This will allow you to be able to see headers and footers.