

SECTION 100 – DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

POLICY 108

ARTICLE 1 DISTRICT ACCREDITATION

- A. The Board of Education shall enter into an accreditation contract with the State Board of Education in keeping with requirements of the Education Accountability Act of 2009 and applicable state Board of Education Rules. It is the intent of the Board that the District maintains a status of being “accredited” or “accredited with distinction” by the State Board of Education.
- B. The Board shall adopt, by April 15 of each year, a District Performance Plan taking into account the advice and recommendations of the DAC. The adopted Plan shall be submitted to CDE for publication on SchoolView. The Plan shall be in effect for the District and schools for the following school year. Copies of the District Performance Plan shall be made available to members of the public upon request. The Plan shall:
1. Be designed to raise the academic performance of students enrolled in the District and to have the District attain a higher accreditation category or remain in the same accreditation category if the District is “accredited with distinction.”
 2. Set, reaffirm or revise, as appropriate, ambitious but attainable targets that the District, including the schools, shall attain on the performance indicators. The Board shall ensure that the targets are aligned with the statewide targets set by the State Board of Education.
 3. Identify positive and negative trends for the schools as a group and individually in the levels of attainment by the schools on the performance indicators.
 4. Assess and prioritize the issues and needs for the District and schools that must be addressed to raise the levels of attainment on the performance indicators by the schools.

ARTICLE 2 SCHOOL ACCREDITATION

- A. The Board of Education shall accredit each school in keeping with requirements of the Education Accountability Act of 2009 and applicable rules. School accreditation shall require:
1. Contracts comparable to the accreditation contract between the District and the State Board;
 2. Accreditation categories that are comparable to the accreditation categories for school districts (Accredited with Distinction, Accredited, Accredited with Improvement Plan, Accredited with Priority Improvement Plan, Accredited with Turnaround Plan, Unaccredited);
 3. Annual assignment of each school to an accreditation category that correlates with the type of plan that the Colorado Department of Education requires each school to adopt;
 4. A requirement for adoption and implementation of a School Performance, Improvement, Priority Improvement, or Turnaround plan as required by the State Board of Education; and
 5. May include addition requirements that meet or exceed the state standards for District accreditation as determined by the Board of Education.
- B. The Principal of each school, with the approval of the Superintendent or designee, shall create and adopt a School Performance Plan, or other Plan as required by the school’s accreditation category, taking into account the advice and recommendations of the School Accountability Committee (SAC).

Reference:

Colorado Constitution Article IX, Section 15 Board has control of instruction within the District
C.R.S. 22-11-101 et seq. Educational Accountability Act of 2009
C.R.S. 22-11-307 Board accreditation of district schools
C.R.S. 22-30-105 School district organization planning process
C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(t) Board duty to determine educational program and prescribe textbooks
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(2)(b) safe school reporting requirements
1 CCR 301-1, Rules 2202 R 2.01 et seq.

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- C. The Board shall consider each school's adopted School Performance Plan or other required plan in developing the budget.
- D. The Board shall submit each school's Performance Plan to the Colorado Department of Education for publication on SchoolView.
- E. Each school shall make copies of its Performance Plan available to members of the public upon request.
- F. In addition to accreditation by the State of Colorado, Platte Canyon High School shall maintain accreditation status with the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

ARTICLE 3 ACCOUNTABILITY

- A. The District shall adhere to the provisions of Colorado's Education Accountability Act of 2009 and applicable rules.
- B. The District shall maintain, in each student's individual record, academic growth information received from CDE as required by Colorado's Education Accountability Act of 2009.
- C. The District and each school shall report accurately the data required for the Colorado Department of Education to produce performance reports to be published annually on the state's SchoolView website. Each school shall notify the parent or legal guardian of each student of the availability on SchoolView of its performance report and the performance report for the District, and shall ask each parent or legal guardian if he/she wants a printed copy of the school or District Performance Report. A copy shall be provided if one is requested.

ARTICLE 4 DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE (DAC)

- A. The Board shall organize a District Accountability Committee (DAC). The Committee and the Board shall, each year, cooperatively determine the DAC's areas of study, in addition to the powers and duties prescribed by state law:
 - 1. Recommend to the Board priorities for spending District moneys. When the DAC recommends spending priorities, it shall make reasonable efforts to consult in a substantive manner with the School Accountability Committees.
 - 2. Advise the Board concerning preparation of the District Performance Plan and make recommendations concerning the content of the Plan or other plan as required based on the District's accreditation category. In making recommendations, the DAC shall make reasonable efforts to consult in a substantive manner with School Accountability Committees and shall compile and submit to the Board the required plan for each school.
 - 3. At least annually, cooperatively determine, with the Board, the areas and issues, in addition to budget issues, that the DAC shall study and make recommendations upon;
 - 4. At its option, meet at least quarterly to discuss whether District leadership, personnel, and infrastructure are advancing or impeding implementation of the District's performance, improvement, priority improvement, or turnaround plan, whichever is applicable; and
 - 5. Serve as the District's Certified Personnel Performance Evaluation Council (CRS 22-9-107).

Reference:

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- B. The DAC shall meet at least quarterly. All DAC meetings shall be open to the public. Meeting notices shall be posted in the same place and manner as notices of Board meetings.
- C. The DAC shall develop and adhere to by-laws that, at a minimum, meet the requirements of this policy.
- D. The DAC shall include eleven (11) members:
1. One parent from each school who is elected for a two year term by parents of students enrolled at the school. Each may be re-elected for a second two-year term. Elections shall be held in May for membership in August of Year one through July of year two. A District employee or person related to a District employee shall not be eligible to serve as a parent on the DAC. "Related" means the person's spouse, son, daughter, sister, brother, mother or father. *Note: If the school has made a good faith effort to obtain candidates, and has not been able to do so, a "related" person may be considered for election.*
 2. The elected Chairperson from each School Accountability Committee.
 3. One teacher from each school elected for a one year term by the school's teachers. Elections shall be held each May for August through July membership. The teacher representative may be re-elected for a second one year term.
 4. One administrator elected for a one year term by the District's administrators. Elections shall be held each May for August through July membership. The administrator may be re-elected for a second one year term.
 5. One person who is involved in business within the District's boundaries who is appointed by the Board of Education for a one year term. The representative shall be appointed in May for an August through July membership. The appointed representative may be re-appointed for a second year term.
- Note: A person may not serve in more than one of the required membership positions on the DAC.*
- E. Members of the DAC shall, each May, select, from among the parent representatives serving on the Committee, a chairperson who shall serve a one-year term but may be selected to serve additional terms.

ARTICLE 5 SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEES (SAC)

- A. Each school shall establish a School Accountability Committee (SAC). The SAC shall have those powers and duties prescribed by state law:
1. Recommend to the Principal priorities for spending school moneys. The Principal shall consider the SAC's recommendations regarding spending state, federal, local, or private grants and any other discretionary moneys and take them into account in formulating budget requests. The SAC shall send a copy of its recommended spending priorities to the DAC and to the Board.

Reference:

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2. Advise the Principal and Superintendent concerning the preparation of the School Performance Plan, or other plan as required by the school's accreditation category, and submit recommendations to the Principal and Superintendent concerning the contents of the Plan. The Principal, with the approval of the Superintendent or designee, shall create and adopt the School Performance Plan taking into account the advice and recommendations of the SAC.
 3. Discuss, at least quarterly, whether school leadership, personnel, and infrastructure are advancing or impeding implementation of the Performance Plan or other plan, or other progress pertinent to the school's accreditation contract.
- A. Each SAC shall meet at least quarterly. All SAC meetings shall be open to the public. Meeting notices shall be posted at the school and on the school website.
 - B. Each SAC shall develop and adhere to by-laws that, at a minimum, meet the requirements of this policy.
 - C. SAC membership is to be set through By-laws but must minimally include:
 1. Three parents (includes legal guardians) who are elected by parents of students enrolled at the school. Parent representatives from each school shall be elected for a two year term and may be elected for a second two year term. Elections shall be held in May for membership in August of Year one through July of year two.
 2. One teacher who is elected for a one year term by teachers at the school. The teacher representative shall be elected in May for an August through July term. The teacher may be re-elected for a second one year term.
 3. One adult member of an organization of parents, teachers, and students recognized by the school who is elected for a one year term by the organization's membership. The representative shall be elected in May for an August through July term. The representative may be re-elected for a second one year term.
 4. One person from the community who is not a parent of an enrolled student; The non-parent community representative shall be appointed by the Principal for a one year term and may be re-appointed for a second one year term.
 5. The Principal of the school or the Principal's designee.

Note: A person may not serve in more than one of the required membership roles on the SAC.

Note: If By-laws increase the membership, the number of parents must always exceed numbers in other categories.
 - E. Members of each SAC shall, each May, select from among the parent representatives serving on the Committee, a chairperson who shall serve a one-year term but may be selected to serve an additional one-year term.

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