

SECTION 100 – DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

POLICY 108

ARTICLE 1 ACCREDITATION

- A. The District shall adhere to all provisions of Colorado's Educational Accreditation requirements and maintain a status of being accredited. The Board of Education shall enter into an accreditation contract with the State Board of Education in keeping with requirements of the Act. The Superintendent is delegated the responsibility for managing accreditation including implementation of processes, procedures, and practices to meet state requirements necessary for District accreditation and for accreditation of each school.
- B. It is the expectation of the Board that each school be accredited.
- C. In addition to accreditation by the State of Colorado, Platte Canyon High School shall maintain accreditation status by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

ARTICLE 2 ACCOUNTABILITY

- A. The District shall adhere to the provisions of Colorado's Educational Accountability requirements and maintain a strong program of accountability to the public including advisement and monitoring by a District Accountability Committee, advisement and monitoring of schools by School Advisory Councils, annual reports to the public related to the quality of education provided by the District, and School report Cards as required by the State Board of Education. The District shall adhere to accountability process timelines established by legal requirements:
 - 1. By September 1, School Advisory Councils shall adopt school goals/objectives and a plan to improve educational achievement, maximize graduation rates and increase the ratings for the schools accreditation category. (Reference: C.R.S. 22-7-205 (1))
 - 2. By October 1, after consultation with the District Accountability Committee, the Board of Education shall compile school goals/objectives and plans and reports to the public the District's goals/objectives and the District's plan to improve educational achievement, maximize graduation rates and increase the ratings for each school's accreditation category. (Reference: C.R.S. 22-7-205 (2))
 - 3. By December 1 the Board of Education shall compile a written report to the taxpayers and local community regarding progress on District and school accreditation indicators. The report shall be made available to the State Board of Education, the General Assembly, the Governor and the public at large. (C.R.S. 22-11-105 (2) and CCR 301-1 Rules 2202-R0.00)

Reference:

C.R.S. 22-2-117 (waivers from State Board of Education)
C.R.S. 22-7-101 through 105 (Educational Accountability Act)
C.R.S. 22-7-205 (local goals and objectives)
C.R.S. 22-7-207 (building level committee recommendations)
C.R.S. 22-11-101 et seq. (Educational Accreditation Act of 1998)
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1(2)(b) (safe school reporting requirements)
1 CCR 301-1, Rules 2202 R 2.01 et seq.

Adopted: 12/13/00; Revised 10/15/07

SECTION 100 – DISTRICT ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

POLICY 108

4. After January 15 and within a reasonable time after completion of the State Accountability Report, each school shall notify the parents/guardians of each student enrolled in the school of the availability on the internet of the State Accountability Report. Printed copies of the report will be made available, upon request, to parents and members of the public at large. (Reference: C.R.S. 22-7-207)
5. Prior to adopting the budget for the fiscal year, each School Advisory Council shall make recommendations to the District Accountability, Board and Superintendent relative to prioritization of expenditures of District moneys by each school. The Superintendent shall consider recommendation by the School Advisory Councils when formulating budget requests presented to the Board. (Reference: C.R.S. 22-7-207) The Board shall consider recommendations prior to adopting the budget. (Reference C.R.S. 22-7-105)

ARTICLE 3 DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

- A. The Board shall organize a District Accountability Committee that shall make recommendations to the Board relative to accreditation and accountability. The Committee and the Board shall cooperatively determine the areas of study for the District Accountability Committee at least annually.
 1. Review school profiles (information on student achievement and learning environments), school improvement plans, school reports submitted to the community, and year-end School Advisory Council reports, and report to the Board of Education, on an annual basis, each school's status with regard to accreditation and accountability compliance.
 2. Review the District's status in meeting State requirements as a standards based educational system including adoption of standards, establishment of grade level benchmarks for meeting the standards, alignment of curriculum to focus instruction on the benchmarks, implementation of standards based instruction, use of standards based assessments, and reporting of student performance levels.
 3. Make recommendations to the Board of Education relative to priorities for expenditures of District moneys. Whenever the Committee makes recommendations, it shall attempt to consult with the School Advisory Councils.
 4. Serve as the District's Certificated (Licensed) Personnel Performance Evaluation Council.
 5. Provide consultation to the Board on adoption, revision and implementation of a safe school plan.
 6. Complete an annual report for the Board of Education summarizing the Committee's activities, findings and recommendations.

Reference:

C.R.S. 22-2-117 (waivers from State Board of Education)
C.R.S. 22-7-101 through 105 (Educational Accountability Act)
C.R.S. 22-7-205 (local goals and objectives)
C.R.S. 22-7-207 (building level committee recommendations)
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ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

POLICY 108

7. Assist with preparation of the Annual Report to the Community.
 8. Fulfill areas of study or additional charges as mutually agreed upon by the Committee and the Board of Education.
- B. Membership on the Committee shall minimally include:
1. The Chairperson from each School Advisory Council.
 2. One parent of a student enrolled at each school that is not an employee of the District nor related to employees of the District. Related means spouse, son, daughter, sister or brother. The Board shall appoint parent representatives.
 3. A teacher from each school chosen as a representative by the faculty.
 4. A school administrator chosen by the Superintendent.
 5. One person from the community who is involved in Business and appointed by the Board.
 6. The Superintendent who is not a voting member but who participates as a resource person.
- C. Committee officers shall minimally include a Chairperson who is responsible for preparing the agendas and chairing the meetings, a Vice-chairperson who assumes the Chairperson's duties in the absence of the Chairperson, and a Secretary who is responsible for distribution of agendas, posting of public notices of meetings, and recording of minutes. The Chairperson may not be a District employee.
- D. The Committee shall establish by-laws for its operation including establishment of regular meeting times. The public shall be notified of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public.

Reference:

C.R.S. 22-2-117 (waivers from State Board of Education)
C.R.S. 22-7-101 through 105 (Educational Accountability Act)
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ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

POLICY 108

ARTICLE 4 SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCILS

- A. Each school shall have a School Advisory Council to advise the Principal on matters of accreditation and accountability. The Council shall meet at least quarterly to discuss: (1) means for determining whether decisions affecting the educational process are advancing or impeding student achievement, (2) reporting to students, parents, educators, District and Board on the educational performance of the school and providing data for the appraisal of such performance, (3) recommendations to the Principal on the expenditure of all school grants, and (4) safety issues related to the school environment. Each Council is responsible for:
1. Adopting high, but achievable goals and objectives for the improvement of education in its school and shall adopt a plan to improve educational achievement in the school, to implement methods of maximizing graduation rates from the high school, and to increase the ratings for the school's accreditation category.
 2. Reviewing the school's profile, school improvement plan, and reporting to the District Accountability Committee and Board of Education, on an annual basis, the school's status with regard to accreditation and accountability compliance.
 3. Conducting surveys and collecting data to determine the school's status with regard to school goals and improvement plans, District expectations, accreditation status, and accountability.
 4. Making recommendations to the Principal relative to the prioritization of expenditures of District funds at the school. A copy of the recommendations shall be sent to the District Accountability Committee and to the Board of Education. The Principal shall consider such recommendations in formulating budget requests.
 5. Developing, revising and implementing a safe school plan for the school consistent with the District's safe school plan and policies.
 6. Assisting the Principal with preparation of the Annual Report to the Community.
- B. Membership on each School Advisory Council shall minimally include:
1. The Principal's designee.
 2. One teacher who provides instruction at the school elected by a vote of all licensed professionals who provide instruction at the school or have an office in the school.
 3. Three parents or legal guardians of students enrolled in the school who are elected by a vote of the parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in the school.

Reference:

C.R.S. 22-2-117 (waivers from State Board of Education)
C.R.S. 22-7-101 through 105 (Educational Accountability Act)
C.R.S. 22-7-205 (local goals and objectives)
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ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

POLICY 108

4. One adult member designated by an organization of parents, teachers, and students recognized by the school.
 5. A person from the community who is involved in business and who is appointed by the Principal.
 6. The Principal shall attend meetings as a resource and to receive Council recommendations.
- C. Committee officers shall minimally include a Chairperson who is responsible for preparing the agendas and chairing the meetings, a Vice-chairperson who assumes the Chairperson's duties in the absence of the Chairperson, and a Secretary who is responsible for distribution of agendas, posting of public notices of meetings, and recording of minutes. The Chairperson may not be a District employee.
- D. The Council shall establish by-laws for its operation including establishment of regular meeting times. The public shall be notified of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public.

Reference:

C.R.S. 22-2-117 (waivers from State Board of Education)
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