

## ACCREDITATION

The purpose of district and school accreditation in Colorado Springs School District 11 is to help sustain schools in their drive for excellence and to ensure state and federal legal obligations are met.

Accreditation in Colorado is a two-part process. The state accredits districts and districts accredit their respective schools (including all charter and contract schools).

State accreditation of the district: As called for by Colorado law, the district shall develop a contract that identifies criteria the state shall use to determine whether the district will be accredited. As a minimum, the contract must meet the requirements of 1 C.C.R 301-1, Rules for the Administration of Accreditation of School Districts. Once approved by the state Board of Education, the state reviews district accomplishments against this contract to determine the accreditation status of Colorado Springs School District 11.

District accreditation of Colorado Springs School District 11 schools: Accreditation decisions by the Board of Education in District 11 shall take into account the Administration's recommendation that is based on: 1) recent school performance; 2) school self-assessment; and 3) results from a review conducted by individuals who are external to the school. Details of the school accreditation process shall be outlined in the Board approved rules for the administration of the Accreditation of Schools within Colorado Springs School District 11.

The District 11 Board of Education directs the administration to annually publicize the accreditation status of all schools in the district.

Annual review of accreditation process: The District 11 Board shall annually review and make needed changes to the District accreditation contract and to the rules for the administration of the Accreditation of Schools within Colorado Springs School District 11. Based on their legislated responsibility with respect to accountability, the District Advisory Accountability Committee will provide recommendations to the superintendent, or his/her designee, and the Board regarding improvements to the process of district and school accreditation, and also participate in the review and evaluation of schools' progress toward meeting accreditation requirements .

Adopted: September 2003

Legal Refs:       C.R.S. 22-7-204 and 205  
                      C.R.S. 22-7-104  
                      C.R.S. 22-11-101 and 104  
                      No Child Left Behind Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C 6301 et seq.) 1 C.C.R. 301  
                      1 C.C.R. 301-1, Rules for Administration of Accreditation of School Districts