

# **Colorado State Board of Education Model District Accreditation Contract**

## **1. Parties**

This Contract is between [*insert name of local school board*], hereinafter referred to as the District, and the Colorado State Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as the State Board, to administer accreditation in accordance with part 2 of article 11 of title 22 and 1 CCR 301-1.

## **2. Length of Contract**

This accreditation contract shall have a term of one year and shall be automatically renewed each year so long as the District remains in the accreditation category of “accredited with distinction”, “accredited”, or “accredited with improvement plan” as described in 1 CCR 301-1.

## **3. Renegotiation**

The contract may be renegotiated at any time by the parties, based upon appropriate and reasonable changes in circumstances upon which the original terms of the contract were based.

## **4. Attainment on Performance Indicators**

The District will be responsible for overseeing the academic programs offered in its schools and ensuring that those programs meet or exceed state and local expectations for levels of attainment on the four statewide performance indicators, and specified in 1 CCR 301-1.

## **5. Adoption and Implementation of District Plan**

The District shall create, adopt and implement a Performance Plan, Improvement Plan, Priority Improvement Plan, or Turnaround Plan, whichever is required by the Colorado Department of Education (Department), in accordance with the time frames specified in 1 CCR 301-1. Said plan will conform to all of the requirements specified in 1 CCR 301-1. As required by 1 CCR 301-1, the District will be provided with an opportunity to appeal placement in the category of Accredited with Priority Improvement Plan or Accredited with Turnaround Plan.

## **6. Accreditation of Public Schools and Adopting and Implementation of School Plans**

The District will implement a system of accrediting all of its schools. The system shall include accreditation categories that are comparable to the accreditation categories for school districts specified in section 22-11-207, C.R.S, meaning that the District’s accreditation system shall emphasize school attainment of the four statewide performance indicators, as described in 1 CCR 301-1, and may, in the District’s discretion, include additional accreditation indicators and measures adopted by the District. District accreditation systems also may include additional measures specifically for those schools that have been designated as Alternative Education Campuses, in accordance with the provisions of 1 CCR 301-57. The District will ensure that plans are implemented for each school in compliance with the requirements of the State Board pursuant to 1 CCR 301-1.

The District shall not permit a school to implement a Priority Improvement Plan and/or Turnaround Plan for longer than a total of 5 consecutive school years before the District is required to restructure or close the school.

## **7. Accreditation of On-line Programs**

The District will implement a system of accrediting its certified full-time multi-district online programs that are authorized pursuant to article 30.7 of title 22, C.R.S. and to which the Department has assigned a school code and/or its full-time single-district online programs that are authorized pursuant to article 30.7 of title 22, C.R.S. and to which the Department has assigned a school code. This system shall emphasize school attainment on the four statewide performance indicators, as described in 1 CCR 301-1, as well as the extent to which the school has met the quality standards outlined in section 22-30.7-105, C.R.S. and made progress in implementing any corrective actions required pursuant to section 22-30.7-103(3)(m) C.R.S., and may, in the District's discretion, include additional accreditation indicators and measures adopted by the District.

## **8. Substantial and Good-Faith Compliance with Statutory and Regulatory Requirements**

The District will substantially comply with all statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to the District, including, but not limited to, the following:

- the provisions of article 44 of title 22 concerning budget and financial policies and procedures;
- the provisions of article 45 of title 22 concerning accounting and financial reporting; and
- the provisions of section 22-32-109.1 concerning school safety.

## **9. Consequences for Non-Compliance**

If the Department has reason to believe that the District is not in substantial compliance with one or more of the statutory or regulatory requirements applicable to the District, the Department shall notify the District that it has ninety (90) days after the date of notice to come into compliance. If, at the end of the ninety-day period, the Department finds the District is not substantially in compliance with the applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, meaning that the District has not yet taken the necessary measures to ensure that it shall meet the applicable legal requirements as soon as practicable, the District may be subject to the interventions specified in sections 22-11-207 through 22-11-210, C.R.S. If the District has failed to comply with the provisions of article 44 of title 22 or article 45 of title 22 and the District has not remedied the noncompliance within ninety (90) days and loss of accreditation is required to protect the interests of the students and parents of student enrolled in the District public schools, the Department may recommend to the State Board that the State Board remove the District's accreditation.

If the Department determines that the District has substantially failed to meet requirements specified in this accreditation contract and that immediate action is required to protect the interests of the students and parents of students enrolled in the District's public schools, the Department may change the District's accreditation category prior to conclusion of the annual performance review. When the Department conducts its annual performance evaluation of the District's performance, the Department will take into consideration the District's compliance with the requirements specified in this accreditation contract before assigning the District to an

accreditation category. The District will not be permitted to remain in the accreditation category of Accredited with Priority Improvement Plan and/or Accredited with Turnaround Plan for longer than a total of five (5) consecutive school years before having its accreditation removed.

#### **10. Monitoring Compliance with Contract**

For purposes of monitoring the District's compliance with this contract, the Department may require the District to provide information or may conduct site visits as needed.

#### **11. Signatures**

Local School Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

District Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Colorado State Board of Education Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Commissioner of the Colorado Department of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date