**ELA CMAS grade 8 to PSAT 9 growth template letter**

*Instructions: Please copy and paste the following letter onto District letterhead, make all appropriate modifications, retrieve the required signatures, and fill in any blanks in the form with your district/school information highlighted in yellow. Please submit this form, along with your* [*District and School Accreditation and Request to Reconsider Form*](http://www2.cde.state.co.us/scripts/AccreditationForm/) *via Syncplicity (*[*https://my.syncplicity.com/*](https://my.syncplicity.com/)*) in the “Request to Reconsider” folder by October 16, 2019.*

August 15, 2019

Dr. Katy Anthes, Commissioner

Colorado Department of Education

201 East Colfax Avenue, Room 500

Denver, CO 80223

Dear Commissioner Anthes,

XX School District is requesting a reconsideration of the preliminary district/school performance framework rating, based on the exclusion of ELA CMAS grade 8 to PSAT 9 growth 2019 state assessment data in our school/district. The initial rating was: XX. We are requesting a rating of XX, based on the request below.

CMAS English Language Arts assessment results will no longer be linked to PSAT/SAT results in determining student growth percentiles. CMAS English language arts (ELA) and PSAT measure the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) in different ways. CMAS requires students to engage in direct writing, while PSAT does not. The resulting correlation between these two tests is below 0.80, a target that is appropriate for this high stakes use and which is met by the other assessments included in the frameworks. Given the two assessment approaches to measuring the CAS, to improve the interpretation of growth scores, ELA CMAS grade 8 to PSAT 9 growth scores will not be included in the 2019 performance frameworks.

At the end of August 2019, CDE calculated ELA CMAS grade 8 to PSAT 9 growth for all districts and schools and CDE contacted our district where the district or school performance framework was lowered an accreditation rating or school plan type due to exclusion of these growth data for:

Insert name(s) of District or School(s) for request.

Our school district understands this condition will only be available for a request for reconsideration for the 2019 Frameworks. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Board President Signature Superintendent Signature

President, Board of Education Superintendent of Schools