

**IMPORTANT
ACCREDITATION
INFORMATION**

Subject: Assignment of Accreditation Status to the JONESBORO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the 2010-2011 accreditation status of the Jonesboro Independent School District is **Accredited-Warned**. Under state law, the accreditation statuses that may be assigned to districts include Accredited, Accredited-Warned, Accredited-Probation, and Not Accredited-Revoked. A status of **Accredited-Warned** means that a district exhibits deficiencies in performance that, if not addressed, will lead to probation or revocation of the district's accreditation status.

The JONESBORO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT has been assigned an **Accredited-Warned** status due to the ratings assigned to the district in the state's FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM. Specifically, the JONESBORO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT was assigned A 2009 AND 2010 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING OF SUBSTANDARD ACHIEVEMENT.

The district is taking the following steps to address the areas of identified deficiency. In the last 4 ½ years, Jonesboro ISD has decreased total staff members from 35 to 26. The most recent was the combination of the Principal/Superintendent positions in January. This school year Jonesboro ISD combined Kindergarten and First grade and we continue to analyze the cost effectiveness of each current teaching position. Next year we plan again to reduce our number of teaching positions. Jonesboro ISD will also look to make cuts in educational aides and ancillary employees. The Superintendent and Business Manager of Jonesboro ISD work extremely close with the financial experts at the Region 12 Educational Service Center. Next school year Jonesboro ISD will be switching financial software in effort to work even closer with the service center. Jonesboro ISD currently has a house on the market to help with generating more cash flow for the district. We continuously monitor spending, cut budgets and only expend money necessary for the daily operations of our district.

Under law, if the current accreditation concerns for the district are not addressed, the district may be assigned an accreditation status of **Accredited-Probation** or **Not Accredited-Revoked**. A Not Accredited-Revoked status means that the TEA no longer recognizes the district as a Texas public school. Districts with an accreditation status below Accredited also may be subject to additional accreditation sanctions as referenced in statute and rule.

For more information regarding the assignment of accreditation statuses to school districts, you may access the TEA website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/accredstatus>. This website will provide you with background information as well as links to the Texas Education Code and current commissioner's rules related to accreditation.

If you have additional questions regarding the assignment of an **Accredited-Warned** status to the JONESBORO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, or if you would like additional information about the district's ongoing improvement efforts, please contact Mike Kelly at (254) 463 2111 or mike.kelly@jonesboroisd.net.

SINCERELY,

MIKE KELLY- SUPERINTENDENT