

OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
January 16-17, 2014

OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION

26.C. Approval of the Corrective Action Plan for the Gulfport School District in Accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1

Executive Summary

In accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2012*, a school district that has been assigned a PROBATION or WITHDRAWN accreditation status must submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) with defined timelines in which to correct the district's deficiencies. In accordance with policy 2.8.1, the State Board of Education implements the program of development in each district in accordance with Section 37-17-6(10), Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

The Gulfport School District was assigned a PROBATION status by the State Board of Education on September 13, 2013. The district submitted the CAP to the Mississippi Department of Education within sixty (60) days of notification as required. Each program office has reviewed the section of the CAP applicable to its office and has approved the corrective actions and timelines provided by the school district.

The Gulfport School District currently has the following issues of noncompliance with accreditation policies and process standard on record: Accreditation Policy and Process Standard 22.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached



Gulfport School District
Board of Trustees & Office of the Superintendent

October 21, 2013

Mississippi Department of Education
Paula A. Vanderford, Ph.D., Education Bureau Manager
Office of Accreditation
P.O. Box 771
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0771

Dear Dr. Vanderford:

Please accept this letter as receipt of your September 16, 2013, letter; received September 23, 2013, (Attachment 1) that assigns the Gulfport School District an Accreditation Status of PROBATION.

As requested in this letter, the Gulfport School District is required to submit a Corrective Action Plan within sixty (60) days of notification.

Please also accept this letter as the District's Corrective Action Plan as noted below:

The Gulfport School District will continue to work with the Mississippi Department of Education to accomplish the following:

- The Gulfport School District will give the MST2 as defined by the Mississippi Department of Education Assessment Calendar (Attachment 2).
- The Gulfport School District will continue to request a written waiver so as to exempt Gulfport School District students from taking the MCT2 Test based on the fact that over the last three years the Gulfport School District has fully immersed its students with a curriculum based on the Common Core State Standards; and the MCT2 Assessments do not measure student achievement on that curriculum. Please note below, the current assessments given to Gulfport School District students.

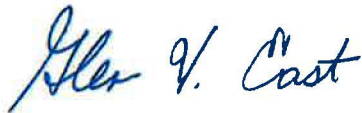
Gulfport School District Current Testing Windows

- August 27-30, 2013 – gave District Common Core-Based Comprehensive Exam Pretest to our Kindergarten through 8th grade students (based on PARCC model)
- October 7-11, 2013 – give ELA District Performance Test to our 3rd grade through 5th grade students
- January 7-9 and 14, 2014 – give District Common Core-Based Comprehensive Exam Mid-Year Test to our Kindergarten through 6th grade students (based on PARCC model)
- March 11-13, 2014 - give ELA District Performance Test to our 3rd grade through 5th grade students

- March 24–April 11, 2014 – give Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career Performance-Based Assessments (Bayou View Middle School, Gaston Point Elementary School, Gulfport High School, Pass Road Elementary School, and West Elementary School)
 - April 8-9, 2014 – give ACT Explore and ACT Plan to our 7th grade and 8th grade students
 - April 23, 2014 – give End-of-domain ACT to our 2nd year high school students
 - April 24, 2014 – give ACT Plan to our 1st year high school students.
 - May 5-30, 2014 – give Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career End-of-Year Assessments (Central Elementary School, Bayou View Middle School, Gaston Point Elementary School, Gulfport High School, Pass Road Elementary School, and West Elementary School)
 - May 5-30, 2014 – give ACT Aspire to our 3rd grade through 7th grade students
 - May 13-15, 2014 – give District Common Core-Based Comprehensive Exams to our Kindergarten through 6th grade students
- If unsuccessful in a total waiver on MCT2 Assessments which do not measure the skill sets currently being taught to Gulfport School District students, the District will request permission to give the MCT2 Assessments at a later date in the 2013-2014 school term so the District may give the assessments based on the above schedule so as to place proper emphasis on the skill sets currently being taught to the District's students.
 - If unsuccessful in a total waiver on MCT2 Assessments which do not measure the skill sets currently being taught to Gulfport School District students, the District will comply with Mississippi Department of Education guidelines for administering the MCT2 Assessments to our students for the spring of 2014.

Please be advised that the contents of this letter were thoroughly vetted at the Gulfport School District Board of Trustees meeting held on Monday, October 21, 2013, at 5:00 p.m., in the Palmer/Dukes Boardroom located at 2001 Pass Road, Gulfport, Mississippi, and will become a part of the minutes of that meeting as required in your September 16, 2013, letter (Attachment 1).

In service to the youth of the Gulfport School District,



Glen V. East, Superintendent



Bridget Weatherly, Gulfport School District Board President