Missouri State law, Section 162.081.2, RSMo, requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) conduct at least two public hearings in districts that are unaccredited, and to continue to hold those hearings every year in which the district remains unaccredited or provisionally accredited, to give members of the public the opportunity to comment on community resources that may be useful or necessary in supporting the district’s attempt to return to accredited status.

This statutory requirement for 2020 spring hearings was waived due to COVID-19. In light of these circumstances, DESE will solicit public comments electronically that would have been presented at a public hearing, had one been held. Members of the public who wish to have the opportunity to comment on community resources that may be useful or necessary in supporting the Riverview Gardens School District and Normandy Schools Collaborative as these districts attempt to return to accredited status may do so by submitting an email to msip@dese.mo.gov, between June 29 and July 29, 2020.