

Administrative Memo

Date: August 14, 2014
To: School Administrators
From: Dennis Cooper, Assistant Commissioner
Subject: QS-14-005 - Accredited with Distinction

As you will recall, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education originally presented criteria for “Accredited with Distinction” in September of 2013 for State Board approval. That conversation had been tabled until this time. The criteria, for identifying school districts as “Accredited with Distinction”, were presented to the State Board during Tuesday’s meeting. The criteria focus on the performance standards and reflect the feedback received by committee members, school districts and other stakeholders. The State Board is expected to vote on the proposal at its September meeting. The following link includes the materials that were presented to the State Board: <https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/AccreditedwithDistinction.pdf>

The classification will be made using each year’s APR from the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP 5) beginning with the 2015 APR. The following standards will be used to make classification determinations:

- Academic Achievement
- Subgroup Achievement
- College and Career Readiness (K-12 Districts)
- High School Readiness (K-8 Districts)
- Attendance
- Graduation Rate

If you would like to provide additional comments regarding the criteria, please email msip@dese.mo.gov by August 29, 2014.