

Standards for Accreditation

2020

Table of Contents

1.0 Regulatory Authority

2.0 Purpose

3.0 Definitions

4.0 Bi-annual review and approval of the Standards for Accreditation

5.0 Cited Status

6.0 Probationary Status

7.0 Accreditation of Public Schools and Public School Districts

8.0 Specific Time Frame for Citations or Probations

9.0 Enforcement of Standards for Accreditation

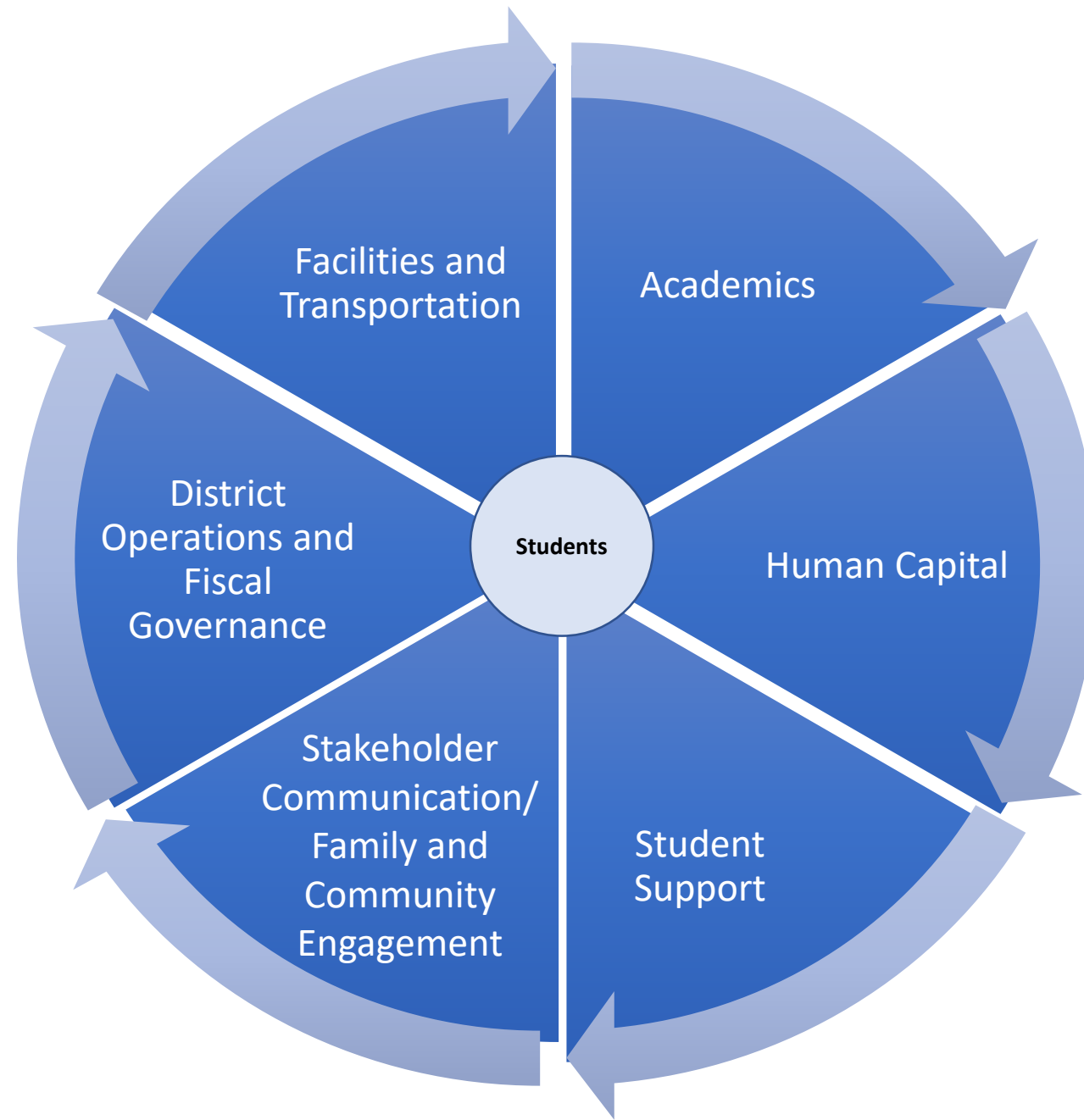
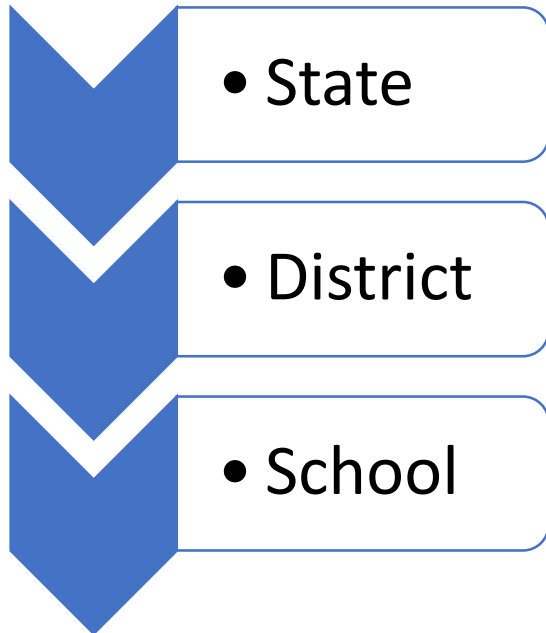
10.0 Right of Appeal

11.0 Waiver Authority and Process

12.0 Notification to the Public of Accreditation – Probation

Appendix A – The Standards for Accreditation

Education System



Appendix A – The Standards for Accreditation

Standard 1 – Academics

Standard 2 – Student
Support Services

Standard 3 – District
Operations and Fiscal
Governance

Standard 4 – Human
Capital

Standard 5 – Stakeholder
Communication / Parent
and Family Engagement

Standard 6 – Facilities and
Transportation

Appendix A – The Standards for Accreditation

Standard 1 – Academics

- 1-A Curriculum and Instruction
- 1-B Academic Policies
- 1-C Student Performance

Standard 2 – Student Support Services

- 2-A Equal Opportunities
- 2-B Attendance and Enrollment
- 2-C ~~Student Support Services Plan~~ [Comprehensive School Counseling Plan](#)
- 2-D Media Center for Student Support
- 2-E Health and Safety Services
- 2-F Special Education Services
- 2-G Gifted and Talented Services
- 2-H Dyslexia Services
- 2-I Alternative Educational Services

Standard 3 – District Operations and Fiscal Governance

- 3-A Operating Policies, Procedures, and Training
- 3-B School-level Improvement Plans and School District Goals and Reporting
- 3-C Maintenance of Records and Reports
- 3-D Food Service

Standard 4 – Human Capital

- 4-A Background Checks
- 4-B Superintendent
- 4-C Principals [and other Building and District Administrators](#)
- 4-D Teachers
- 4-E ~~Guidance~~ [School](#) Counselors
- 4-F Library Media Specialists
- 4-G Professional Development

Standard 5 – Stakeholder Communication / Parent and Family Engagement

- 5-A Comprehensive Plan for Communication and Engagement

Standard 6 – Facilities and Transportation

- 6-A Facilities and Equipment

Appendix A – The Standards for Accreditation

Standard 1 – Academics

- 1-A Curriculum and Instruction
- 1-B Academic Policies
- 1-C Student Performance

Standard 2 – Student Support Services

- 2-A Equal Opportunities
- 2-B Attendance and Enrollment
- 2-C ~~Student Support Services Plan~~
Comprehensive School Counseling Plan
- 2-D Media Center for Student Support
- 2-E Health and Safety Services
- 2-F Special Education Services
- 2-G Gifted and Talented Services
- 2-H Dyslexia Services
- 2-I Alternative Educational Services

Appendix A – The Standards for Accreditation

Standard 3 – District Operations and Fiscal Governance

- 3-A Operating Policies, Procedures, and Training
- 3-B School-level Improvement Plans and School District Goals and Reporting
- 3-C Maintenance of Records and Reports
- 3-D Food Service

Standard 4 – Human Capital

- 4-A Background Checks
- 4-B Superintendent
- 4-C Principals and other Building and District Administrators
- 4-D Teachers
- 4-E ~~Guidance~~ School Counselors
- 4-F Library Media Specialists
- 4-G Professional Development

Appendix A – The Standards for Accreditation

Standard 5 – Stakeholder Communication / Parent and Family Engagement

- 5-A Comprehensive Plan for Communication and Engagement

Standard 6 – Facilities and Transportation

- 6-A Facilities and Equipment

Proposed Changes

- Section 8.01
 - Aligns the section with the SFA monitoring tool
 - Allows a district to be placed in Accredited-Cited or Accredited-Probation status at any time if any violation of the Standards has not been corrected or a plan or correcting the violation has not been submitted, rather than waiting until May for the classification.
 - Changes the time for submitting a plan to correct the deficiency from thirty days to fifteen days
- Section 10.01
 - Brings the appeal process in line with the proposed new Section 8.01

Proposed Changes

- Section 11.01
 - Allows the Commissioner to waive the timeline for obtaining waivers of the Standards for Accreditation in the event of emergency circumstances
 - Previously could not obtain a waiver after April 20
- 1-A.1.3
 - Requires the Division to post the list of courses that must be offered annually to the Division's website after approved by the State Board of Education.
- 1-A.2
 - Clarifies that the 120 clock-hour rule applies to high school units of credit, not K-12 units of credit

Proposed Changes

- 1-A.5 (now 1-A.4)
 - Requires districts to post the school calendar on the district website by August 1 each year.
- 1-A.4.3
 - Incorporates provisions of Act 641 of 2019 (recess)
- 1-B.3.1
 - This requirement already existed in the DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity, but has been added as a separate standard for monitoring purposes

Proposed Changes

- 1-C.2.4 through 1-C.2.6
 - 1-C.2.4 was previously in the Standards at 1-A.1.3.11, but has been moved to a new Section for convenience
 - 1-C.2.5 and 1-C.2.6 were added so that all graduation requirements would be in the Standards
- 2-B.3
 - Incorporated provisions of Act 676 of 2019 (vaccinations and immunizations)
- 2-C.1
 - Incorporated provisions of Act 190 of 2019 (School Counseling Improvement Act of 2019)

Proposed Changes

- 3-B.2
 - Removed the October 15 deadline to give District's more flexibility to hold the annual public meeting to explain policies, programs, and goals to the community.
- 4-C.3
 - Added to require that any first year administrator be registered with the Division to ensure that these administrators receive mentoring supporting for their first three years.
- 4-C.4
 - Added to require that each building and district level administrator receive a summative rating at east once every four years

Proposed Changes

- 4-D.4
 - Added to require that any first year teacher be registered with the Division to ensure that these teachers receive mentoring supporting for their first three years.
- 4-D.5
 - Added to require that each teacher receive a summative rating at east once every four years
- 4-E.3
 - Added to incorporate the School Counseling Improvement Act of 2019