

**IMPORTANT
ACCREDITATION
INFORMATION**

Dear Parents and Taxpayers

Subject: Assignment of Accreditation Status to the TERRELL COUNTY I.S.D.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the 2015-2016 accreditation status of the TERRELL COUNTY I.S.D. 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 TERRELL COUNTY I.S.D. 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 Terrell County ISD was assigned A 2014 AND 2015 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING OF SUBSTANDARD ACHIEVEMENT.

The district is taking the following steps to address the areas of identified deficiency. THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATION HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH A TEA REQUIRED FINANCIAL ADVISOR SINCE DECEMBER 2013 TO ADDRESS AND CORRECT FINANCIAL DEFICIENCIES BY IMPLEMENTING NUMEROUS COST SAVING MEASURES TO BRING CURRENT EXPENDITURES IN LINE WITH AVAILABLE REVENUES. IT APPEARS THAT THE DEFICIENCIES IDENTIFIED IN THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATINGS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED AND THE DISTRICT WILL NOT RECEIVE A SUBSTANDARD RATING FOR 2016. 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.texas.gov/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 Terrell County ISD, or if you would like additional information about the district's ongoing improvement efforts, please contact: Terrell County I.S.D. at (432) 345-2515 or email Mr. Kenn Norris, Superintendent at: knorris@terrell.esc18.net

SINCERELY,

KENN NORRIS, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

TERRELL COUNTY I.S.D.