

Hitchcock

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Date: February 21, 2017

Subject: Assignment of Accreditation Status to the HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

DEAR PARENTS,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the 2016-2017 accreditation status of the HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 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 HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT has been assigned an **Accredited-Warned** status due to the ratings assigned to the district in the state's ACADEMIC ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM. Specifically, the HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT was assigned A 2015-2016 ACCOUNTABILITY RATING OF IMPROVEMENT REQUIRED.

The district is taking the following steps to address the areas of identified deficiency. Hitchcock ISD is working with Mrs. Sherry Green, a Texas Education Agency certified Professional Service Provider, on a monthly basis to improve our accountability standard. She is working to build capacity within our principals and our teachers so that we challenge and engage our students to excel at their highest potential. Hitchcock ISD has also hired part time instruction coaches for our middle school and high school, and has implemented new instructional strategies to increase student engagement. We are also offering more small group and individual instruction to our struggling students. Hitchcock ISD, as well as each campus, have implemented highly developed improvement plans and have been addressing areas of deficiency since the beginning of school. Our principals and teachers work diligently to break down the data to determine each student's strengths and weaknesses at the end of each six weeks and are making curriculum and/or instructional changes as needed. The district also offers before, during and after-school tutoring.

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 the HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, or if you would like additional information about the district's ongoing improvement efforts, please contact CARLA VICKROY, SUPERINTENDENT AT 409-316-6545 OR CVICKROY@HITCHCOCKISD.ORG.

SINCERELY,

CARLA VICKROY