

October 11, 2017

Dear Commissioner Anthes,

For the past 7 years, Academy District 20 received a rating of Accredited with Distinction. On the 2017, District Performance Framework Academy District 20 received a rating of Accredited and corresponding score of 73.9. The District is requesting a rating of Accredited with Distinction, as we believe our rating does not describe our dedication to performance. We are providing the following body of evidence to support our request and highlight areas where small differences would affect our performance rating.

Conditions for the Request to Reconsider:

Body of Evidence:

1. ELP Growth Data
2. Performance of Schools
3. Performance of Students with Disabilities
4. College Readiness and Graduation Rates
5. Local Assessment Data
6. Community Support and Participation Rates

1. ELP Growth Data

Academy District 20 earned the **ELPA Excellence Award** for the past three years demonstrating that our programs achieve the highest English language and academic growth among English learners and the highest academic achievement for English learners who transition out of the English language proficiency program. Additionally, the ELP data on past DPFs support and demonstrate our district performance. We request CDE use this data to support our request, as we believe this would move our rating from Accredited to Accredited with Distinction.

ELP Performance 2016

Academic Growth	Level	MGP	Points Earned
<i>(2015 per DPF)</i>	Elementary	54	3/4
	Middle School	52	3/4
	High School	56.5	3/4

2. Performance of schools previously on Improvement Plans in 2016

District Performance Framework Accreditation Rating 2016 to 2017

- 2016 74.5% Accredited with Distinction
- 2017 73.9% Accredited

Academy 20 schools who received a plan type of Improvement in 2016 moved to Performance plan types in 2017. We attribute this success to the work we have done as a district to support our District and School Improvement Plans, District Site Plans and External Review process. These schools demonstrated their commitment to academic performance, made needed changes and excelled on their School Performance Framework in 2017.

- High Plains Elementary moved to Performance (44.4% in 2016 and 66.1% in 2017)
- Rockrimmon Elementary moved to Performance (51.5% in 2016 and 69.9% in 2017)

3. Performance of Students with Disabilities

Using the 2016 District Unified Improvement Plan, Academy 20 focused our efforts on students in subgroups specifically Students with Disabilities. The district completed the UIP process and implemented planning teams from the Learning Services department to implement the action plan. Our District Performance Framework highlights where this work has come to life through the improved performance of Students with Disabilities. Additionally, our Special Education team placed focus on High Leverage Practices and provided Professional Learning to support this population. This work produced gains for our Students with Disabilities.

District Improvement Plan:

(One example from our district UIP demonstrating support put in place to support Students with Disabilities)

Priority Performance Challenges

ELA Achievement and Growth: ELA performance, including growth and achievement for subgroups is lower than their peers.

Math Achievement and Growth: Math performance, including growth and achievement for subgroups is lower than their peers.

Science Achievement: Science performance for subgroups is lower than their peers.

Major Improvement Strategy 1: Staff Collaboration: Improve collaboration among special education staff, TAG staff, ESL staff, and general education staff to improve learning outcomes for all students.

Root Cause:

- Insufficient teacher implementation of differentiated instruction.
- Insufficient teacher implementation of standards driven instruction.

- Insufficient collaboration among special education staff, TAG staff, ESL staff, and general education staff.
- Diagnostic information for students is not sufficiently linked to daily effective instruction and ongoing progress monitoring.

Action Plan:

1. Develop a shared vision for a comprehensive MTSS plan.
2. Provide guidance for bringing coherence to individual learning plans.
3. Ensure that students with IEPs receive accommodations during instruction and assessment that maximize access to the grade level standards.
4. Facilitate planning conversations with building administrators and instructional leaders regarding protocols and best practices for collaboration.
5. Provide consultation and follow up support for problem solving teams.

4. College Readiness and Graduation Rates

Academy 20 has a proven performance record of accomplishment on College Readiness exams. Historically, Academy 20 performed in the Exceeded range on the CO ACT. As the CO SAT is a newly implemented state assessment, we expect our performance in the future to mirror our success on the CO ACT. In spring 2017 our district scale score of 554.7 (EBRW) for the CO SAT was 4.4 points from the Exceed rating and our district scale score of 537 (math) for the CO SAT was 6.4 points from the Exceed rating. We anticipate scores will increase in 2018 as demonstrated in our past performance on the CO ACT.

CO SAT 2017	ASD20 Scale Score	DPF Cut Points
CO SAT EBRW	554.7 – Meets	559.1 - Exceeded
CO SAT Math	537.0 – Meets	543.4 – Exceeded
CO PSAT Growth		
PSAT to SAT EBRW	54 – Meets	
PSAT to SAT Math	54 – Meets	
ACT (Past Performance)	ASD20 Performance	Colorado Performance
2017 Graduate Scores	23.0	20.4
2016 Graduate Scores	22.9	20.6
2015 Graduate Scores	23	20.7
2014 Graduate Scores	22.9	20.6
2013 Graduate Scores	22.5	20.8

Graduation Rates: Academy District 20 graduation rates support our focus on academic excellence. As seen in the chart below, four of the five subgroups represented demonstrated growth in graduation rates. This also highlights our work with Students with Disabilities as they

progressed from 86% to 90.7% in 2017 and our English learners who went from 87.5% to 95.7%.

Graduation Rates	2016	2017	Difference	
All Students	94.7	95.4	+ .7	Increase
English Learners	87.5	95.7	+ 8.2	Increase
Free/Reduced Lunch Eligible	87.8	89.2	+1.4	Increase
Minority Students	95.9	95.8	-.1	Slight Decrease
Students with Disabilities	86.0	90.7	+4.7	Increase

5. Local Assessment Data

STAR Assessment: The fall to winter growth scores (MGP) for grades 1-3 have been provided from 2014-2015 through 2016-2017 STAR assessments in reading and math. The district provides schools with a choice regarding their testing window for STAR (fall and winter or fall, winter and spring – the presented scores represent fall to winter as all students are included). The district STAR assessment results demonstrate Academy 20 students in grades 1-3 performed well above benchmark. The district STAR assessment results have been loaded into the provided Request to Reconsider Template and Simplicity for further review.

STAR Reading						
Grade	District Percentile Rank	District MGP Fall to Winter	# of Students Tested	% Above Benchmark	% At Benchmark	% At and Above Benchmark
2016-2017						
1	70.14	73	128	25.93	55.56	81.49
2	62.98	62	1316	21.96	55.47	77.43
3	66.47	59	1430	23.15	60.84	83.99
2015-2016						
1	51.98	66	179	26.03	31.51	57.54
2	66.57	62	1349	27.61	54	81.61
3	65.11	58	1311	19.42	61.82	81.24
2014-2015						
1	69.15	83	233	36.03	31.51	67.54
2	65.24	71	1319	24.82	54.71	79.53
3	64.93	67	1298	19.38	60.47	79.85

STAR Math						
Grade	District Percentile Rank	District MGP Fall to Winter	# of Students Tested	% Above Benchmark	% At Benchmark	% At and Above Benchmark

2016-2017						
1	72.13	55	526	24.14	65.97	90.11
2	68.01	57	1213	25.47	58.94	84.41
3	73.75	59	1429	35.69	53.60	89.29
2015-2016						
1	69.76	55	396	20.20	68.43	88.63
2	73.06	60	934	30.84	58.99	89.83
3	72.29	58	1350	32.07	55.04	87.11
2014-2015						
1	69	59	441	35.14	42.34	77.48
2	65.24	71	905	29.39	54.71	84.10
3	64.93	67	1322	19.38	60.47	79.85

DIBELS Next: The kindergarten and first grade DIBELS Next district level results provided represent the fall, winter and spring assessment window. Students performing At and Above Benchmark mirror our districts high level of performance including students from rated subgroups on the School Performance Frameworks. The data including excel spreadsheets are included in the Request to Reconsider Template and in Syncplicity.

16-17 Kindergarten DIBELS Next Composite: All Students									
	Fall	Fall	Fall	Winter	Winter	Winter	Spring	Spring	Spring
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points
Above Benchmark	900	59.8%	38+	894	57.5%	156+	912	58.5%	152+
At Benchmark	219	14.6%	26-37	346	22.3%	122-155	439	28.2%	119-151
At & Above Benchmark	1119	74.4%	26	1240	79.7%	122	1351	86.7%	119
Below Benchmark	223	14.8%	13-25	220	14.1%	85-121	146	9.4%	89-118
Well Below Benchmark	163	10.8%	0-12	95	6.1%	0-84	62	4.0%	0-88
Total Students	1505			1555			1559		
Mean Composite Score	52		26	163		122	163		119

16-17 1st Grade DIBELS Next Composite: All Students									
	Fall	Fall	Fall	Winter	Winter	Winter	Spring	Spring	Spring
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points
Above Benchmark	853	54.9%	129+	1037	65.0%	177+	892	58.0%	208+
At Benchmark	243	15.6%	113-128	271	17.0%	130-176	321	20.9%	155-207
At & Above Benchmark	1096	70.5%	113	1308	82.0%	130	1213	78.9%	155
Below Benchmark	214	13.8%	97-112	122	7.6%	100-129	157	10.2%	111-154
Well Below Benchmark	245	15.8%	0-96	166	10.4%	0-99	167	10.9%	0-110
Total Students	1555			1596			1537		
Mean Composite Score	142		113	229		130	217		155

16-17 Kindergarten DIBELS Next Composite: English Language Learners										
	Fall		Fall		Winter		Spring		Spring	
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	
Above Benchmark	17	29.3%	38+	25	37.9%	156+	35	50.7%	152+	
At Benchmark	11	19.0%	26-37	12	18.2%	122-155	15	21.7%	119-151	
At & Above Benchmark	28	48.3%	26	37	56.1%	122	50	72.5%	119	
Below Benchmark	14	24.1%	13-25	15	22.7%	85-121	5	7.2%	89-118	
Well Below Benchmark	16	27.6%	0-12	14	21.2%	0-84	14	20.3%	0-88	
Total Students	58			66			69			
Mean Composite Score	33		26	136		122	152		119	

16-17 1st Grade DIBELS Next Composite: English Language Learners										
	Fall		Fall		Winter		Spring		Spring	
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	
Above Benchmark	13	27.1%	129+	21	44.7%	177+	20	40.0%	208+	
At Benchmark	9	18.8%	113-128	12	25.5%	130-176	14	28.0%	155-207	
At & Above Benchmark	22	45.8%	113	33	70.2%	130	34	68.0%	155	
Below Benchmark	9	18.8%	97-112	3	6.4%	100-129	7	14.0%	111-154	
Well Below Benchmark	17	35.4%	0-96	11	23.4%	0-99	9	18.0%	0-110	
Total Students	48			47			50			
Mean Composite Score	113		113	175		130	181		155	

16-17 Kindergarten DIBELS Next Composite: Students with Disabilities										
	Fall		Fall		Winter		Spring		Spring	
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	
Above Benchmark	48	36.6%	38+	43	29.7%	156+	48	31.4%	152+	
At Benchmark	17	13.0%	26-37	29	20.0%	122-155	44	28.8%	119-151	
At & Above Benchmark	65	49.6%	26	72	49.7%	122	92	60.1%	119	
Below Benchmark	36	27.5%	13-25	35	24.1%	85-121	31	20.3%	89-118	
Well Below Benchmark	30	22.9%	0-12	38	26.2%	0-84	30	19.6%	0-88	
Total Students	131			145			153			
Mean Composite Score	33		26	121		122	129		119	

16-17 1st Grade DIBELS Next Composite: Students with Disabilities										
	Fall		Fall		Winter		Spring		Spring	
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	
Above Benchmark	52	29.9%	129+	63	36.8%	177+	50	31.1%	208+	
At Benchmark	19	10.9%	113-128	21	12.3%	130-176	29	18.0%	155-207	
At & Above Benchmark	71	40.8%	113	84	49.1%	130	79	49.1%	155	
Below Benchmark	20	11.5%	97-112	24	14.0%	100-129	17	10.6%	111-154	
Well Below Benchmark	83	47.7%	0-96	63	36.8%	0-99	65	40.4%	0-110	
Total Students	174			171			161			
Mean Composite Score	104		113	150		130	141		155	

16-17 Kindergarten DIBELS Next Composite: FRL Students									
	Fall		Fall	Winter		Winter	Spring		Spring
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points
Above Benchmark	118	42.3%	38+	123	42.3%	156+	136	46.7%	152+
At Benchmark	44	15.8%	26-37	78	26.8%	122-155	86	29.6%	119-151
At & Above Benchmark	162	58.1%	26	201	69.1%	122	222	76.3%	119
Below Benchmark	61	21.9%	13-25	55	18.9%	85-121	48	16.5%	89-118
Well Below Benchmark	56	20.1%	0-12	35	12.0%	0-84	21	7.2%	0-88
Total Students	279			291			291		
Mean Composite Score	39		26	146		122	151		119

16-17 1st Grade DIBELS Next Composite: FRL Students									
	Fall		Fall	Winter		Winter	Spring		Spring
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points
Above Benchmark	118	40.8%	129+	139	47.8%	177+	125	44.5%	208+
At Benchmark	54	18.7%	113-128	63	21.6%	130-176	60	21.4%	155-207
At & Above Benchmark	172	59.5%	113	202	69.4%	130	185	65.8%	155
Below Benchmark	47	16.3%	97-112	37	12.7%	100-129	38	13.5%	111-154
Well Below Benchmark	70	24.2%	0-96	52	17.9%	0-99	58	20.6%	0-110
Total Students	289			291			281		
Mean Composite Score	124		113	183		130	182		155

16-17 Kindergarten DIBELS Next Composite: Minority Students									
	Fall		Fall	Winter		Winter	Spring		Spring
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points
Above Benchmark	232	54.2%	38+	232	52.1%	156+	259	57.9%	152+
At Benchmark	66	15.4%	26-37	101	22.7%	122-155	119	26.6%	119-151
At & Above Benchmark	298	69.6%	26	333	74.8%	122	378	84.6%	119
Below Benchmark	65	15.2%	13-25	71	16.0%	85-121	42	9.4%	89-118
Well Below Benchmark	65	15.2%	0-12	41	9.2%	0-84	27	6.0%	0-88
Total Students	428			445			447		
Mean Composite Score	46		26	159		122	164		119

16-17 1st Grade DIBELS Next Composite: Minority Students									
	Fall		Fall	Winter		Winter	Spring		Spring
Level	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points	# Students	% Students	Cut Points
Above Benchmark	220	50.1%	129+	253	57.8%	177+	223	52.0%	208+
At Benchmark	76	17.3%	113-128	78	17.8%	130-176	90	21.0%	155-207
At & Above Benchmark	296	67.4%	113	331	75.6%	130	313	73.0%	155
Below Benchmark	58	13.2%	97-112	37	8.4%	100-129	57	13.3%	111-154
Well Below Benchmark	85	19.4%	0-96	70	16.0%	0-99	59	13.8%	0-110
Total Students	439			438			429		
Mean Composite Score	138		113	216		130	206		155

6. Community Support and Participation Rates

The Academy District 20 community continues to grow in their support of the State assessments. Participation rates grew from 2016 to 2017. This highlights the communities' efforts to support the work of our students and school district. The additional participation provides the district,

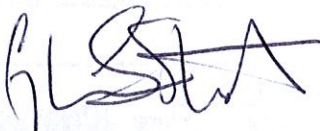
schools and teachers with data, which in turn is used to change instruction in our classrooms ensuring the needs of individual students are met.

	2016	2017
Academic Achievement	84.8%	86.9%
Academic Growth	84.8%	86.9%

Sincerely,



Mark Hatchell
Superintendent
Academy District 20



Glenn Strebe
Board of Education
Academy District 20