



WEST ORANGE-COVE  
CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
P.O. Box 1107  
Orange, TX 77631-1107

(409) 882-5444  
(409) 882-5452 FAX

Melinda A. James

[mjam@woccisd.net](mailto:mjam@woccisd.net)

June 9, 2008

To: The Parents/Guardians of West Orange Cove CISD Students

Subject: Assignment of Accreditation Status to the West Orange Cove CISD

During the 79<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, Third Called Session, 2006, House Bill 1 (HB 1) was passed, which amended the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 39, Public School System Accountability. Some of the HB 1 changes addressed the assignment of accreditation status to school districts and related accreditation sanctions and interventions. As a result, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) adopted rules to implement these changes. These rules define the accreditation statuses of Accredited-Warned, Accredited-Probation, and Not Accredited-Revoked and state how accreditation statuses are determined and assigned to school districts. As a result of the statutory changes and the newly-adopted rules, an accreditation status has been assigned to Texas public school districts for the first time in 2007-2008.

A school district status of Accredited means that the TEA recognizes the district as a public school of this state that: (1) meets the standards determined by the commissioner under TEC, 39.071(b) and (c), and specified in commissioner rule at 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) 97.1059, and (2) that is not currently assigned an accreditation status of Accredited-Warned or Accredited-Probation. A status of Accredited –Warned means that a district exhibits deficiencies in performance, as specified in commissioner rule at 19 TAC 97.1055(b), that, if not addressed, will lead to probation or revocation of the district's accreditation status.

The status assigned to the West Orange Cove Consolidated Independent School District for 2007-2008 is Accredited-Warned. The West Orange Cove Consolidated Independent School District 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 West Orange Cove Consolidated Independent School District was assigned a 2006 Financial Accountability Rating of Substandard Achievement.

The district has taken steps to address the areas of identified deficiency and deficiencies have been corrected. 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 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. This is not the case for West Orange Cove Consolidated Independent School District.

For more information regarding the assignment of accreditation statuses to school districts, you may access the TEA website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/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 any additional questions regarding the assignment of an Accredited-Warned status to the West Orange Cove Consolidated Independent School District, or if you would like additional information about the district's ongoing improvement efforts, please contact Melinda James at 409-882-5444 or email at [mjam@woccisd.net](mailto:mjam@woccisd.net).

Sincerely,

Melinda James, CPA  
Director of Finance Operations