

CALHOUN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO HOST ACCREDITATION PEER REVIEW TEAM IN OCTOBER -

The CISD is looking to be the fourth Intermediate School District in the Nation to receive formal accreditation in October. AdvancEd Accreditation, formally known as North Central Accreditation or NCA, has just recently included a process for Intermediates.

Over the past several months, the CISD's School Improvement Teams have been diligently preparing for our Peer Review which will take place in late October.

The benefits of Accreditation include:

- A distinctive mark of quality that affords external recognition of our organization's commitment to quality based on specific Standards
- Using standards based research on factors that impact student learning
- A framework and support system to help meet local, state, and national, requirements

An integral part of the Peer Review Process in October will include involvement of our 13 constituent school districts and other members of the community. They will be asked to provide insight on the following:

- What are the strengths of the CISD?
- What challenges will the CISD face in the next five-years?
- What is the vision or mission of the CISD, and do you have commendations or recommendations for helping achieve its goals towards continuous improvement
- What impact have the CISD's programs and services made on improving student achievement and teaching?

Our successful outcome to this process does not come without a great deal of time and a genuine commitment to the School Improvement process by staff and community members.

EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE WELL UNDERWAY -

The Calhoun Intermediate School District along with its partners county-wide are in the process of strategically coordinating early childhood initiatives. This group, now known as the Great Start Collaborative, is scheduled to meet at least four times over the course of this school year.

The goal of each of the last meetings has been to:

- All be together in one spot, at one time, meeting and learning about each other and the programs we offer
- To complete an Asset Map of early childhood services in Calhoun County which would help determine:
 - What early childhood services are currently offered
 - What is the capacity of those services offered
 - Identify gaps and duplication in those services

CISD has recently received notice of an \$80,000 grant from the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) to help in the planning stage of the Great Start Collaborative.

The ECIC will be using the Calhoun Intermediate School District as a conduit for future State Funding for early childhood initiatives. Another positive outcome of bringing all early childhood stakeholders together will be the sharing of the outcomes of this process to all local funders so as to help them with the allocation of requested grant funding for local early childhood initiatives.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions at 789-2450 or lungert@calhounisd.org

Respectfully,



***Terance Lungert
CISD Superintendent***