

Priority Charter Schools

275 FM 2483
Belton, Texas 76513



IMPORTANT ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Attention: Priority Charter Schools Community Members and Parents

Subject: Assignment of Accreditation Status to Priority Charter Schools

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the 2018-2019 accreditation status of the Priority Charter Schools charter school district is **Accredited-Warned**. Under state law, the accreditation statuses that may be assigned to charter schools include Accredited, Accredited-Warned, Accredited-Probation, and Not Accredited-Revoked. A status of **Accredited-Warned** means that a charter school exhibits deficiencies in performance that, if not addressed, will lead to probation or revocation of the charter school's accreditation status.

Priority Charter Schools has been assigned an **Accredited-Warned** status due to the ratings assigned to the charter school in the state's academic accountability rating system. Specifically, Priority Charter Schools was assigned an academic accountability rating of *Improvement Required* for 2017 and an academic accountability rating of *F* for 2018.

The charter school is taking the following steps to address the areas of identified deficiency: implementing new teaching and learning tools and strategies, utilizing new and upgraded technology hardware and software, providing additional comprehensive training for directors and teachers, and collaborating with contracted service and support providers to meet academic accountability standards. Priority Charter Schools and certain campuses have also been preliminarily selected to receive awards for the **2018–2020 School Transformation Fund - Implementation ("STF") grant program**, the **2018–2019 Pathways in Technology Early College High School ("P-TECH") and Industry Cluster Innovative Academies ("ICIA") Planning grant program**, and the **2019–2020 Teacher Leadership Grant Program**. These grants will allow Priority Charter Schools to better serve its students and community.

Under law, if the current accreditation concerns for the charter school are not addressed, the charter school 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 charter school as a Texas public school. Charter schools with an accreditation status below Accredited also may be subject to additional accreditation sanctions as referenced in statute and rule.

Furthermore, charters that fail to meet academic accountability, financial accountability or any combination thereof for three of the preceding school years meet the default closure provisions under Texas Education Code 12.115(c) and are subject to closure.

For more information regarding the assignment of accreditation statuses to charter schools, 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 Priority Charter Schools charter school district, or if you would like additional information about the charter's ongoing improvement efforts, please contact Lula Turnipseed at prioritycharterschools.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lula Turnipseed". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lula Turnipseed

District Superintendent