



MEMO

TO: Superintendent Gina Butters, Board President Paul Widdison, WSD Board Members

FROM: Dr. Bryan Becherini

DATE: September 2, 2026

SUBJECT: Purchase Request

Overview & Purpose

In collaboration with the Superintendency and the Secondary and Elementary Education Departments, we are developing a process for Systems Wide Accreditation for Weber School District. This would replace school level accreditation which occurs every six years for our secondary schools and begins a focus on the district as a whole verse each individual secondary school. Additionally, systems accreditation would provide official accreditation for each of our elementary schools.

Accreditation provides educational institutions with critical feedback that is designed for continual improvement. Cognia serves as the accreditation company for the Utah State Board of Education, and is a sole source for systems accreditation.

Process & Structure

The district would participate in an initial accreditation which would start in the Fall of 2026. Upon submission of the essential requirements, we would receive a two year accreditation back dated to July 1, 2026. We would then go through a rigorous systems evaluation during the 2027-2028 school year that would be tied to the 31 standards for K-12 institutions. Upon successful completion of that accreditation we would be accredited for six years and the process would begin again, similar to how our current secondary schools go through accreditation every six years.

Associated Costs

Currently each secondary school must maintain accreditation through membership fees which are \$1,400 per year. In years of review there are additional costs associated with accreditation which can vary based on travel costs. Moving to a systems accreditation will be \$1,400 per school plus \$1,400 for the district. In years of accreditation there is an additional cost of \$39,000 for institutions with 50 - 99 schools, which we currently fall into. Should Weber fall below 50 schools or exceed 99 schools the associated cost will change. On average, this process will cost \$80,000 annually. We will be credited \$23,800 for this year because the secondary schools have already paid their membership fees. We plan to utilize TSSA funding to cover the cost of accreditation for our LEA moving forward.

Request

We formally request Board Approval for the ongoing purchase of Cognia services for Systems Accreditation.

Respectfully,

Dr. Bryan Becherini
Director of Assessment, School Improvement & Research