

**\*\*This policy is effective at the beginning of the 2014-15 school year.\*\***

The Idaho State Board of Education requires all public secondary schools serving grades nine (9) through twelve (12) to be accredited. Accreditation is voluntary for elementary and middle schools serving grades kindergarten (K) through eight (8).

**The board must choose one of the following options:**

**OPTION A**

All elementary, middle, and high schools in this district will be accredited.

**OPTION B**

All middle and high schools in this district will be accredited. *The elementary schools in this district will not be accredited.*

**OPTION C**

All high schools in this district will be accredited. *The elementary and middle schools in this district will not be accredited.*

All accredited schools will meet the accreditation standards of the Northwest Accreditation Commission.

**ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS**

An alternative school serving grades nine (9) through twelve (12) that meets any three (3) of the follow criteria is required to be accredited:

1. Average daily attendance is greater than or equal to thirty-six (36) students based on the previous year's enrollment.
2. Students are enrolled full-time for the school year once eligibility determination is made rather than enrolling students for "make-up" or short periods of time.
3. An instructional model is offered that is different than that provided by the traditional high school for the majority of the coursework including, but not limited to, online-virtual curriculum.
4. The alternative school administers the diploma rather than the traditional high school.
5. An accountability rating is provided to the alternative school for federal reporting purposes.

An alternative school that does not meet any three (3) of the criteria listed above will be considered an alternative program and will be included in the accreditation process and reporting of another secondary school within the district.

**CONTINUOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS**

As required by the Idaho State Board of Education, the principal or designee of each school in this district will chair a committee to develop, and annually review and amend, a continuous school improvement plan that focuses on the improvement of student performance.

**ANNUAL ACCREDITATION REPORT**

The superintendent or designee will submit an annual accreditation report to the Idaho State Board of Education within the required timeframe.



**LEGAL REFERENCE:**

IDAPA 08.02.02.140 - Accreditation

**ADOPTED:**

**AMENDED:**

**FIRST READING: February 5, 2014**

*\*Language in text set forth in italics is optional.*

**Note:** Each school district *must* select one or more of the accreditation methods set forth in Policy No: 602, Accreditation, and Policy No: 604, Personnel Standards. School districts that have one or more schools accredited by the Northwest Accreditation Commission must use the corresponding option for personnel assignments in those schools. A school district is not precluded from using different methods of accreditation among its schools.