

**Recommendation for Change of Accreditation Status for  
San Diego Unified School District  
July 2010**

**Overview of this Report**

This agenda item presents a report on the responses of San Diego Unified School District to the stipulations noted in their March 2009 Site Visit. The item includes a recommendation for a change in San Diego Unified School District's accreditation status.

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the COA change the accreditation decision for San Diego Unified School District from *Accreditation with Stipulations* to *Accreditation*.

**Background**

In March 2009, a site visit team recommended that the COA grant Accreditation with Stipulations to San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD).

Based upon the findings, three stipulations were noted. Unit and program leadership at San Diego Unified School District addressed each of the three stipulations. Evidence was submitted and, following a staff review of the evidence, a phone conference was held to clarify and confirm the information.

The stipulations and responses to the stipulations are as follows:

1. That the institution submit evidence of a research-based vision linked to the California adopted standards and curriculum frameworks and that this is articulated across all program documents. (Common Standard 1)
2. That the institution submit evidence of an organizational structure that clearly documents collaboration and the decision making process integrated across all credentialing programs (General Education, Special Education, Designated Subjects: CTE) and with district entities. (Common Standard 1)
3. The program needs to expand their PACT assessor pool to include non-district PACT calibrated assessors. (Common Standard 9)

**Information provided by San Diego Unified School District related to the Stipulations:**

***Articulation of one research-based vision linked Across all programs***

During the site visit, the team noted that the published researched-based visions for The General Education, Special Education, and Bilingual Multiple Subject Programs were not the same. In the 2008-2009 school year, the three district intern programs were brought together under one manager, and the integration of the programs was not complete at the time of the site visit. The team encouraged the use of a strong Advisory Committee as well as other district resources to assist in the integration of the programs. The minutes of their October 21, 2009 demonstrate the participation of all programs, and documented the integration of the support and program development. A united vision was adopted for all the programs and the Common Standard 1 was

rewritten to reflect this new integration. This uniform vision reflects that all programs are researched-based and linked to the California adopted standards.

***Evidence of an organizational structure that clearly documents collaboration and the decision making process integrated across all credentialing programs.***

A new organization structure (Appendix) has been documented that demonstrates a collaboration between all district teacher preparation programs (general education, special education, and bilingual multiple subject district programs), and the Designated Subject and BTSA credential programs. The SDUSD has undergone extensive reorganization and has established an organizational chart with all teacher preparation programs in one unit, allowing for much stronger collaboration.

***The program needs to expand their PACT assessor pool to include non-district PACT calibrated assessors.***

The small size of the program made it possible for the same person to teach, supervise, and assess the same student. The team noted the need to look outside the program to allow the candidate the broader teaching experience.

SDUSD worked collaboratively with High Tech High during the 2009-2010 school year to establish a working partnership that would afford our program a PACT assessor pool of non-district employees. SDUSD selects assessors from High Tech High to assist in scoring our PACT Teaching Events, when needed and in return our programs offers the same level of support to the High Tech High intern program. In addition, during the 2009-2010 school year, SDUSD Intern program trained content specific personnel, employed within our school district, but not within our intern programs to further widen our assessor pool. SDUSD now has a list of trained assessors from the Visual and Performing Arts, Mathematics, Science, Language Acquisition, and Special Education Departments.

**Staff Finding**

After review of the documentation submitted by San Diego Unified School District and several phone conversations, staff has concluded that the San Diego Unified School District has addressed all standards which were not found to be met during the 2009 accreditation site visit and provided evidence that it has responded to the stipulations. Therefore, staff recommends that the COA take action to change the accreditation decision for San Diego Unified School District from ***Accreditation with Stipulations*** to ***Accreditation***.

