



<i>The Classical Academy</i>	<i>Policies and Procedures</i>
Policy Name:	School Accountability for Enhanced Student Performance
Policy Number:	AE-TCA
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Author:	Special Assistant to the Executive Director
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## INTRODUCTION

Definition and purpose of accountability: Accountability is the acceptance of responsibility. The state is responsible for providing a free and uniform system of publicly funded education. Colorado delegates responsibility for local school operation to local boards of education and to charter schools through their role as chartering authority and a charter contract. With respect to student performance, the TCA Board adopts standards that identify what students should know and be able to do. The Classical Academy bears responsibility for educating students so they are prepared to succeed on these standards. This includes creating conditions that enable all students to make adequate yearly progress. Schools are further expected to accomplish this in a safe and nurturing environment. In sum, the TCA Board sets direction and defines boundaries (i.e., policy, curriculum, budget) while schools work within these limits to accomplish these aims.

## RATIONALE FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Pursuant to law, The Classical Academy shall establish a system of accountability with accreditation as the focus. School accreditation is the means The Classical Academy uses to achieve accountability for enhanced student performance. The TCA Board shall see that administration implements accreditation procedures. These define the:

- ❖ Process by which schools are accredited;
- ❖ Reporting responsibilities schools have to the public;
- ❖ Authority schools have to make autonomous decisions with respect to accreditation; and
- ❖ Boundaries that mark limits to the autonomy schools have concerning accreditation.

## FOUNDATION FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

One principle is central; schools that are accountable are responsive. Accountable schools:

- ❖ Behave in accordance with rules and laws (bureaucratic accountability);
- ❖ Provide goods or services that address the needs of students, parents and community who are the customers (market accountability);
- ❖ Measure up to generally agreed-upon expectations (performance and process accountability);
- ❖ Act in the best interest of the students who are the clients and exercise judgment in ways that are consistent with the best research in the field (professional accountability).

## **PROCESS OF ACCOUNTABILITY**

The TCA Board charges administration with establishing a system of accountability that has school accreditation at its center. The chief purpose of this system is to support the academic success and progress of all students and to measure the adequacy and efficiency of educational program.

Critical elements support this system. The state accredits ASD20 and The Classical Academy chartering authority. ASD20 accredits its schools including The Classical Academy. Mission sets The Classical Academy direction. The TCA Board establishes student achievement objectives and schools implement educational plans to express what they seek to accomplish. Annually, schools develop procedures to account for required student performance.

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Consistent with law, the TCA Board shall create a process leading to the appointment of a TCA Senate that will make recommendations to the TCA Board relative to the School Accountability Committee (SAC) Process. Pursuant to law, each TCA school shall create a process leading to the appointment of the School Advisory Council that will make recommendations to the building principal concerning school objectives, budget priorities, and safety plans. Roles are further identified in the attached table.

Legal Refs:

C.R.S. 22-11-101 and 104

No Child Left Behind Act of 2002 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.).

1 C.C.R. 301

Cross Ref:

BDE-TCA: Board Committee Policy | TCA Senate Subcommittee

This TCA Policy Replaces ASD20 Policy AE.

### **Policy Revision History**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Revision Details</b>	<b>Revised By</b>
4/1/2013	Reformatted policy into new template. Completed annual review.	Special Assistant to the Executive Director

## TCA Accountability Roles

TCA Board	TCA Executive Director	School Principal	School Accountability Committee	Professional Staff	Student/Parent	State BOE	Colorado Dept. of Education	District Accreditation
Set mission and direction for TCA via policy (especially vision and performance targets)	Take steps to see that planning is synchronized and supports single accountability system	Promote enhanced student achievement and safety (to this end, marshal resources and plans)	Make recommendations to the principal on CDE required school plans	Focus on enhancing student performance in a safe nurturing environment	Ensure child gets to school on time	Enter into accreditation contract with ASD20	Verify yearly through ASD20, TCA compliance with accreditation contract	Work with ASD20 and TCA staff to mesh with accreditation requirements
Review planning system inputs for accreditation and site planning	Monitor program of accountability	Advocate for all students (and be attentive to their varied needs)	Conduct internal school & community surveys if necessary	Develop/act upon plans for students (ILP, IEP, 504)	Help child come ready to learn			
Enter into an accreditation contract through the ASD20 BOE to the State BOE	Ensure evaluation takes place showing impact programs have on student achievement	Establish, prep, and monitor a School Accountability Committee (includes establishing by- laws)	Make recommendation to principal yearly regarding student/school safety	Provide input to school plans	Advocate for student needs			
Charge Executive Director to work on accountability matters (safety, policy, facilities)	Approve support plans (or intervention plans) for schools on academic watch	Be an active participant on the ASD20 District Accountability Committee (TCA Rep)	Make budget recommendations to principals and TCA Executive Director yearly	Support activity flowing out of plans	Participate as appropriate (homework, conferences, respond to survey)			
	Approve initial schedule of external review (for purpose of school accreditation)	Annually self-assess school against standards and scoring criteria from ASD20 accreditation absolutes		Assume responsibility for own professional growth	Be informed about matters related to school and student			
	Review and approve list of members of external review teams	Conduct site planning on regular schedule (at least once every 3-5 years)		Provide assistance needed so that community opinion is surveyed (and reported to public)				
	See that TCA School Accountability Committees are established and function smoothly	Review and revise school objectives and tactics (annually if needed)						
	Review members of the individual School Accountability Committees	Revise action plans as needed; allow School Accountability Committee to review						
	Annually review school objectives and improvement plans (pursuant to law)	Annually give school objectives and plans to School Accountability Committee						
	Co-Chair TCA Senate							