



NEWS RELEASE

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School District of DeSoto Awarded District Accreditation

(Arcadia, Florida February 19, 2010) Superintendent Adrian H. Cline announced today that the School District of DeSoto was granted District Accreditation from the AdvancED Accreditation Commission, the national commission that confers the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI) accreditation seal. This means that the district and all of its schools are accredited, and that the School District of DeSoto is recognized across the nation as a quality school system.

The accreditation process involves three ongoing components: 1) meeting high quality standards; 2) implementing a continuous process of improvement; and 3) engaging in quality assurance through internal and external review. The district's accreditation is for a five year term with regular monitoring of progress and reporting occurring during the term.

District Accreditation as conferred by the AdvancED Accreditation Commission provides the School District of DeSoto a nationally-recognized mark of quality for our district and all the schools within our district, shared Superintendent Cline. It demonstrates to our community our commitment to excellence, our openness to external review and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on behalf of the students we serve.

Dr. Mark Elgart, President/CEO of AdvancED, stated, *District Accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school system on the primary goal of creating lifelong learners. The School District of DeSoto is to be commended for engaging in this process and demonstrating a commitment to continuous improvement.*

Parents and interested community members can learn more about the District Accreditation Process at www.advanc-ed.org.

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