



# Accrediting Commission For Schools

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July 9, 2001

Mrs. Virginia Preciado  
Principal  
Thomas Jefferson High School  
1319 East 41st Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90011

Dear Mrs. Preciado:

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges announces the action taken by the Accrediting Commission for Schools granting Thomas Jefferson High School a three year term of accreditation, expiring on June 30, 2004. Under previous policy a term of three years meant that the school would complete a full self-study and a full visit by the third year. However, at the June 1999 meeting, the Accrediting Commission for Schools modified the follow-up procedure for schools receiving three year terms. The change is shown below:

[Schools may receive] a term of three years with a two-day visit by a two to five member committee during the third year, along with a Progress Report on critical areas of improvement and action plans, demonstrating that the school has:

- improved student achievement relative to the schoolwide learning expectations
- made substantial progress toward correcting the critical areas for improvement, and
- made appropriate progress on implementation of schoolwide action plans.
- The visiting committee shall recommend an extension of accreditation up to three years or denial.

While all schoolwide critical areas for follow-up need to be addressed, the Commission has identified from the visiting committee report the critical areas for follow-up that must be vigorously addressed as part of your schoolwide action plan. These are given on the following page.

WASC 28940

July 9, 2001

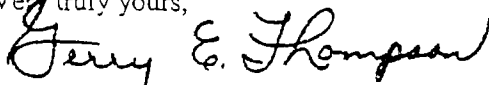
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1. The Leadership Team and the SSLC develop and implement an Action Plan strand that addresses professional development activities. The activities should include but not be limited to:
  - Acquiring knowledge and skills necessary to provide standards-based instruction that is designed to promote and support student achievement
  - Developing and implementing a series of ESLRs and standards-aligned benchmark assessments that will be used to measure student progress toward and accomplishment of the ESLRs and standards
  - Providing quality time for teachers' collaboration and reflection to promote student success as it relates to students' accomplishment of the ESLRs and standards
  - Establishing a process to assure the assessment of ESLRs and standards drives the school's program development, instructional decision, and resource allocations
  - Re-evaluating and modifying intervention strategies for all at-risk students to ensure student success
  - Institutionalizing instructional strategies schoolwide that will actively engage all students in the learning process
2. The administration and staff develop and implement a plan to increase communication and collaboration among programs and departments in the school, and with all stakeholders, especially parents and students, to support student achievement.
3. The administration and staff implement the Digital High School Grant to increase the use of technology as a tool for research, analysis, synthesis, and presentation of information.
4. The instructional and support staff thoroughly analyze student performance of African-Americans and other students that are perceived as disconnected from the instructional program, and adjust instructional content, delivery and assessment to better serve them.
5. The Leadership Team and the SSLC collaboratively revise the schoolwide Action Plan integrating all critical areas for follow-up that were generated by the Visiting Committee as well as develop and implement a process for monitoring the implementation and accomplishment of the Action Plan.

The Commission looks forward to your report of progress made in these areas as part of the two-day visit during the third year. Also, please note the enclosed information concerning the State of California Program Quality Review requirements.

An appropriate certificate of accreditation will be forwarded to you in the near future.

Very truly yours,



Gerry E. Thompson, Ed.D.  
Commission Chair

GET:cl

cc: Chairperson  
Superintendent

WASC 28941