



Primrose News

The Leader in Educational Child Care®

Edition 1 - 2012

SINCE 1982

primroseschools.com

Primrose Schools Selected to Pilot NEW AdvancED Standards for Quality Early Learning Schools

Primrose Schools has been selected to be the first early childhood education company internationally to pilot the new **AdvancED Standards for Quality Early Learning Schools**. Dr. Mary Zurn, Primrose Schools' VP of Education and Professional Development, served on the AdvancED committee that developed these new standards. The standards align with the overall AdvancED standards for schools, districts and corporations, but include educational best practices for young children:

- Developmentally appropriate practices for the care and education of young children
- Focus on the learning, growth, and development of young children
- Focus on cognitive, emotional, social, and creative physical growth and development of young children
- Relationships between young children, staff and parents
- Preservation of the child's dignity in care routines
- Safety in facilities and spaces
- Continuous improvement
- Respect for self and others

The pilot began November 2011 and will continue through May 2012.



AdvancED, the parent organization for NCA CASI, SACS CASI and NWAC, is dedicated to advancing excellence in education worldwide. They provide accreditation to more than 30,000 public and private schools across the United States and in 70 countries world-wide, touching more than 15 million students each year.

Parents of students who attend a school accredited by one of these accrediting bodies can rest assured that the school is committed to raising student performance and held accountable for improving student learning on a continual basis. Accreditation means that students have qualified, trained teachers who are continually working to improve their practices and teaching methods in order to increase student performance, access to a rich, diverse and sound curriculum and access to a range of student activities. For more information about AdvancED, visit www.advanc-ed.org.



How Do Schools Earn Accreditation?

To earn accreditation from NCA CASI, SACS CASI or NWAC, the school/corporation must:

1. Meet the AdvancED standards. This includes having a clear purpose and direction; effective and responsive leadership; a rigorous curriculum taught through sound, research-based methods; adequate resources and support; and a commitment to continuous improvement.
2. Demonstrate quality assurance through internal and external review. This involves parents, the school, the corporation and experienced educators outside the school.

Primrose has a rigorous internal quality assurance program, providing the foundation for the AdvancED Corporate Systems Accreditation. All Primrose schools are visited and reviewed at least three times a year by Primrose consultants to support their implementation of the Balanced Learning Curriculum and to ensure and that the school is providing a safe and enriching learning environment and maintaining an efficient and effective operation. We have opened our doors to national experts in the field to verify we always deliver the best, and most trusted educational experience for our families.

What Is Accreditation?

Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago to demonstrate educational quality and is used by educational providers of all types serving students of all ages, from infants to adults.

Accreditation engages the school community in meeting high quality standards, implementing a continuous improvement process and engaging in quality assurance through internal and external review.



Why Does Accreditation Matter?

Accreditation is designed to help educational institutions boost their ongoing performance efforts for the benefit of their students. AdvancED insists on a relentless pursuit of excellence – for itself and for the institutions it accredits. This ethic of excellence ensures that institutions will find rich benefits from accreditation and that parents can confidently make informed decisions about their children's education, knowing their child's school is accredited. Accreditation matters because our students deserve the highest level of educational excellence possible.