



# Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Association of Schools and Colleges

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Public Member, Hawaii

April 28, 2023

Cindy Garcia, Executive Director  
The Cottonwood School  
3921 Sandstone Drive, Suite 100  
El Dorado Hills, California 95762

Dear Cindy Garcia:

The Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC) announces the action taken at the Spring 2023 Commission Meeting. The ACS WASC Commissioners have determined The Cottonwood School (TK-12) meets the ACS WASC criteria for accreditation. This accreditation status is based on all of the information provided by the school, including the school's report, and the satisfactory completion of the accreditation visit.

It is the decision of the Commission to grant six-year accreditation status through June 30, 2029 with a mid-cycle visit during the 2025-2026 school year.

The Cottonwood School is required to prepare an in-depth progress report for the mid-cycle visit. The report and visit should demonstrate that the school has: 1) addressed the growth areas for continuous improvement through the schoolwide action plan; 2) made appropriate progress on the implementation of the schoolwide action plan; and 3) improved student achievement relative to the schoolwide learner outcomes and the academic standards.

Accreditation status is conditioned upon The Cottonwood School's continued adherence with the ACS WASC policies, procedures, and criteria for accreditation. This includes a requirement that an accredited school annually contribute members to participate on visiting committees. Failure to maintain compliance with said policies, procedures, and standards is grounds for modification and/or withdrawal of the accreditation.

The Commission looks forward to The Cottonwood School's anticipated success and continuing improvement in keeping with ACS WASC's pursuit of excellence in elementary, secondary, and adult education.

Sincerely,

R. David Gaudi Jr., Ed.D.  
Commission Chairperson

cc: Visiting Committee Chairperson  
Superintendent