

## What is Accreditation?

Accreditation isn't about passing a one-time inspection—it **helps education providers meet improvement goals and sustain commitments to better learner outcomes**. The accreditation process holds the school district accountable for improvement.

Accreditation is about embracing excellence in education. All non-charter public schools in SLPS are fully accredited by *Cognia* formerly known as *AdvancEd*. The accreditation process asks SLPS to critically and closely evaluate its mission and vision, strategies, priorities, leadership, programs, and resources. Accreditation is designed to help SLPS boost ongoing performance efforts to help all students on the path to graduation.

*Cognia* insists on a relentless pursuit of excellence – for itself and for the institutions it accredits. This ethic of excellence ensures that school districts 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.



## How Do We Benefit from Accreditation?

### For Students

Students benefit from the St. Lucie Public Schools' commitment to raising student performance and achievement. Students that attend an accredited school district and school gain greater access to federal loans, scholarships, postsecondary education and military programs.

### For Parents

This ethic of excellence ensures that parents can confidently make informed decisions about their child's education, knowing their child's school is accredited.

### For Teachers/Staff

The accreditation process leads educators to critically evaluate teaching and learning with a focus on four key areas: Growth of Learning, Culture of Learning, Leadership of Learning, and Engagement of Learning. District Accreditation validates St. Lucie Public Schools' outstanding accomplishments as well as recognizes the hard work of every district employee.

### For Communities and Businesses

Because our schools exhibit educational excellence, our community will be viewed as desirable for economic growth and business expansion.

Links:

Cognia Accreditation <https://www.cognia.org/services/accreditation-certification/#accreditation>

Cognia Performance Standards: <https://www.cognia.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Performance-Standards.pdf>