

USD110 Receives State Recognition

USD 110-Thunder Ridge Schools is proud to announce that we have been recognized by the State Board of Education and the State Education Commissioner for exceeding standards! The State Board of Education recently designed a program to recognize districts — both public school districts and private school groups — for aligning with the Kansans Can goals of improving graduation rates, post-secondary success, kindergarten readiness and social and emotional growth. State Board of Education Chair Kathy Busch said the new plan was “exciting” because it factored in several measures of student success.

The KSDE Kansans Can Star Recognition Program awards districts stars in four areas. USD110 Thunder Ridge was 1 of only 37 out of the 286 districts in the state to receive stars in all four quantitative areas assessed for 2019-2020.

- High School Graduation rate - recognizes districts with graduation rates above the state average. USD 110 received a Gold Star - well above the state average in the 95% and above range.
- Postsecondary effectiveness - A district must perform at or above its predicted postsecondary effectiveness rates (allowing a variance of .4). This rating looks at the percentage of graduates who either earned an industry -recognized certification, a higher education degree or continued their education two years after graduation. USD 110 received a Bronze Star for 50-59.9%.
- Commissioner's Award : recognizes those districts that outperform their predicted postsecondary effectiveness above a .40 standard deviation. USD110 received Commissioner's award with honors (1-1.99 standard deviations.)
- Academically prepared for Postsecondary Success - This award recognizes those districts whose students are scoring above the state average on state assessments. Districts are recognized annually for the percentage of all students, across all grade levels scoring at levels 3 & 4 on Kansas state assessments in math, English language arts and science. USD 110 received a Copper Star (State Average-49.9%)

Beginning in 2020, districts will have the opportunity to apply for recognition in the following qualitative categories:

- Social-emotional growth
- Kindergarten readiness
- IPS
- Civic engagement

Commissioner Watson says the recognition program will allow districts to compare themselves with similar districts and determine if they are doing a good job or if there are areas they need to improve.

We are proud of Thunder Ridge students, teachers and staff!