

OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Item
March 17-18, 2011

OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION

19. Approval of an Accredited Status for St. Anthony Catholic School

The Nonpublic School Accreditation Process is authorized by MS Code 37-17-7 which states that any nonpublic school may, through its governing body, request that the State Board of Education approve such institution. Accreditation shall be based upon a process promulgated by the State Board of Education; provided, however, that in no event shall the State Board of Education adopt more stringent standards for approval of nonpublic schools than the accreditation standards applied to public schools.

St. Anthony Catholic School is a Catholic school in Madison sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and is under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Jackson. The school has been in operation since 2009. It provides a religious education for Pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade and focuses on each child's individual strengths, needs, and gifts.

An application for accreditation was received in the Office of Accreditation on September 30, 2010. A site visit was conducted on January 6, 2011, and a follow-up visit on January 24, 2011. At the time of the on-site evaluation, the school had 244 students enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade. The school is staffed with a full-time principal, 22 classroom teachers, 11 assistant teachers, and other staff. The elementary curriculum includes reading, language arts, math, science, social studies, Spanish, visual art, music, technology, and physical education.

St. Anthony Catholic School has verified compliance with all applicable Nonpublic School Accreditation Standards for programs in grades Pre-Kindergarten through 6th.

Recommendation: Approval