



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education  
School Quality and Support Division

Rob Sanders, Superintendent  
Michael Murphy, Board President  
BUFFALO RE-4J  
PO Box 198  
Merino, CO 80741-0198

November 12, 2018

Dear Board President Murphy and Superintendent Sanders,

Thank you for submitting a request for reconsideration for the 2018 preliminary district accreditation rating for BUFFALO RE-4J. We believe that the request to reconsider process is important to ensure the most accurate description of student performance outcomes within a school district. Based on the considerations presented in the district's request and the department's current policies, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) does approve the district's request to be Accredited: Low Participation, per the following explanation.

The district submitted supplemental K-2 achievement and growth data for the aimsweb plus assessment in reading and math and the NWEA MAP assessment in reading, language usage, and math to show achievement and growth for students in the district not included in the district performance framework.

CDE reviewed the local aimsweb plus and NWEA MAP data submitted and the achievement and growth results for the all students group are more reflective of a "meets" rating rather than the preliminary "approaching" rating on the framework. With those ratings adjusted, the district would earn an accreditation rating of Accredited: Low Participation. Therefore, CDE does approve the district's request for reconsideration.

CDE appreciates the time and effort that the district put into the request to reconsider process. Additionally, we are looking forward to continue working with you to find the best supports and resources for your district and schools. Please feel free to contact Ashley Piche via [piche\\_a@cde.state.co.us](mailto:piche_a@cde.state.co.us) with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Katy Anthes, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

cc: Alan Dillon, Associate Commissioner, School Quality and Support, CDE  
Ashley Piche, Director, Accountability & Data Analysis, CDE  
Jessica Watson, Accountability & Policy Manager, Accountability & Data Analysis, CDE

