

AGENCY OF EDUCATION
Barre, Vermont

TEAM: School Finance

ITEM: Will the State Board acknowledge that on January 1, 2016, the Vermont Permanency Initiative dba Bennington School will be called the Vermont Permanency Initiative dba Vermont School for Girls?

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the State Board acknowledges that on January 1, 2016, the Vermont Permanency Initiative dba Bennington School will be called the Vermont Permanency Institute dba Vermont School for Girls.

Approval is subject to the condition that the school immediately report to the Agency of Education whenever any changes occur in enrollment, programs, policies, facilities, financial capacity, staffing, or administration, during the approval period.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Title 16 V.S.A., Section 166 (b)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Vermont Permanency Institute (VPI) dba Vermont School for Girls is a residential school designed to provide academic, social, behavioral, and therapeutic services to female students ages 8-18 with special needs, including learning disabilities, moderate intellectual and physical handicaps, and social and/or emotional disorders. All students, for different reasons, have been unable to develop and maintain the skills they need to succeed in traditional school and community-based settings. All students participate in 24-hour clinical, education, and residential programming. All Vermont students come to the school via a Department of Children & Families' (DCF) referral. Out-of-state students are welcomed and served at the school as well. The long-term goal of the program is for students to maximize their potential, to develop independent living skills, and then to return to a more traditional setting. The school is licensed by DCF as a Residential Treatment Program; and the school is accredited by the Commission of the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).
2. The Agency of Education was notified of the school's name change on December 10, 2015.

3. General and special education independent school approval was last granted by the State Board of Education to the school on May 15, 2012 through June 30, 2017.

COST IMPLICATIONS: none

STAFF AVAILABLE: Cassandra Ryan, Financial Analyst (802) 479-8545