

AGENCY OF EDUCATION
Barre, Vermont

TEAM: School Finance

ITEM: Will the State Board of Education grant renewal of general independent school approval to Brownell Mountain School, Williston, VT, to serve students in grades 1-8, based upon the review of the Agency of Education and notification of continued Northern New England Conference (NNEC) of Seventh-day Adventists accreditation?

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the State Board of Education grants renewal of general independent school approval to Brownell Mountain School, Williston, VT, to serve students in grades 1-8, based upon the review of the Agency of Education and notification of continued Northern New England Conference (NNEC) of Seventh-day Adventists accreditation. This approval is for five years, through June 30, 2021, to coincide with the School's NNEC accreditation period.

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. §166(b)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Brownell Mountain School is a Seventh-day Adventist day school, which serves students in grades 1-8.
2. The school is accredited by the Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The Northern New England Conference (NNEC) is an accrediting body recognized by the State Board of Education, pursuant to rule #7320. Other than routine annual reports, Brownell Mountain School will undergo an on-campus Interim Review visit at mid-term in 2018.
3. The State Board of Education granted renewal of general independent school approval on May 18, 2010 through June 30, 2015.
4. NNEC, as part of its accreditation review, conducted an assessment of financial capacity. The applicant has satisfied NNEC's requirements, and the Agency recommends that the Board support NNEC's findings of adequate financial capacity, for the purposes of State Board approval.

5. Brownell Mountain School has a policy on prevention/reporting of harassment, hazing, and bullying that is as stringent as the Agency's model policy.

COST IMPLICATIONS: none

STAFF AVAILABLE:

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