

AGENCY OF EDUCATION
Barre, Vermont

TEAM: School Finance

ITEM: Will the State Board of Education grant renewal of independent school approval to The Grammar School, Putney, VT, to serve students in grades K-8, based upon the review by the Agency of Education and notification of continued New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation?

SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the State Board of Education grants renewal of independent school approval to The Grammar School, Putney, VT, to serve students in grades K-8, based upon the review by the Agency of Education and notification of continued New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation. The term of this approval is through October 1, 2023, to coincide with the school's accreditation period.

That the school must report with five days 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. The Grammar School is a co-educational day school for students in grades K-8. The Grammar School integrates high expectations for achievement, creativity, self-discipline, and social responsibility.
2. The Grammar School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC), which is recognized by the Vermont State Board of Education for accrediting purposes per State Board of Education Rule #7320. Other than annual reports, the next major responsibility regarding accreditation will be the decennial evaluation visit scheduled for 2023.
3. NEASC, as part of its accreditation review, assessed financial capacity. The applicant has satisfied NEASC's requirements, and the Agency recommends that the State Board support NEASC's findings of adequate financial capacity for the purposes of State Board approval.

4. The Grammar School has a policy on the prevention and reporting of harassment, hazing, and bullying which is as stringent as the Agency's model policy.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: None

STAFF AVAILABLE:

Cassandra Ryan, Fiscal and Regulatory Compliance Coordinator