

AGENCY OF EDUCATION  
Barre, Vermont

**TEAM:** School Finance

**ITEM:** Will the State Board of Education grant renewal of independent school approval to Good Shepherd Catholic School, St. Johnsbury, 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 grant renewal of independent school approval to Good Shepherd Catholic School, St. Johnsbury, 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. This approval is for five years through June 30, 2023.**

**The school must 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. Good Shepherd Catholic School is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Vermont. Good Shepherd Catholic School serves students in grades K-8.
2. Good Shepherd Catholic School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC). NEASC is a State Board of Education recognized accrediting agency, and listed in Rule 7320 of the State Board's Manual of Rules and Practices. The school will be required to provide regular written reports to NEASC throughout the accreditation period.
3. NEASC, as part of its accreditation review determined the school has appropriate procedures for accounting and for auditing the accounts of the school and that the school has adequate financial resources for the needs of the school.
4. Good Shepherd School has a policy on prevention and reporting of harassment, hazing, and bullying which is as stringent as the Agency's model policy.

**COST IMPLICATIONS:** none

**STAFF AVAILABLE:**

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