AGENCY OF EDUCATION Montpelier, Vermont

TEAM: School Finance

ITEM: Will the State Board of Education grant renewal of independent school approval

to Killington Mountain School, Killington, VT, to serve students in grades 6-12, 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 Killington Mountain School, Killington, VT, to serve students in grades 6-12, based upon the review by the Agency of Education and notification of continued New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation, for a term through June 30, 2025; and

This approval is conditional on the requirement that the school reports to the Agency of Education within five business days 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)

SBE rules 2200

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 1. Killington Mountain School (KMS) is a boarding and day school providing a full-time program and a winter term program for students in grades 6-12, who are involved in competitive skiing and/or riding. Ski and Snowboard training and all the related athletic activities are provided by Killington Competitions Program working in conjunction with Killington Mountain School.
- 2. Killington Mountain School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC), which is an accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education pursuant to State Board rule #7320. Other than route annual reports, the next major responsibility regarding accreditation will be the Five-Year Report due in 2020.

- 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. Killington Mountain School has a policy on prevention and reporting of harassment, hazing, and bullying which is as stringent as the Agency's model policy.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: none

STAFF AVAILABLE:

J. Deborah Ormsbee, Independent School Review Coordinator

