

**AGENCY OF EDUCATION  
Montpelier, Vermont**

**TEAM:** School Finance

**ITEM:** Will the State Board of Education grant renewal of independent school approval to Mater Christi School, Burlington, 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 Mater Christi School, Burlington, 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, 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. Mater Christi School is a Catholic school, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, educating students of all faiths in grades K through 8.
2. Mater Christi 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 decennial evaluation visit scheduled for 2021.
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. Mater Christi 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