

AGENCY OF EDUCATION
Montpelier, Vermont

TEAM: School Finance

ITEM: Will the State Board of Education acknowledge that an approved independent school operating under the name Meadows Educational Center closed on September 17, 2021?

SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the State Board of Education acknowledges that an approved independent school operating under the name Meadows Educational Center closed on September 17, 2021.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Title 16 V.S.A. § 166 (b)
State Board Rule 2228 et. seq.

BACKGROUND:

1. Meadows Educational Center was an approved independent school located at The Brattleboro Retreat that provided general and special education services, to students ages 6-21 in grades K-12, in the disability categories of Emotional Disabilities, Intellectual Impairment, Specific Learning Disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Developmental Delay, and Other Health Impairment. The school provided educational services to children in the following programs: (1) Abigail Rockwell Children's Center for children in grades K-6, (2) Linden Street Program for children/youth in grades 7-12, and (3) BRIDGES, which was a day program for children/youth in grades K-12. Abigail Rockwell Children's Center and Linden Street Program were licensed as a Residential Treatment Program by the Department for Children and Families (DCF). Admission into the programs at the Meadows Educational Center was through referrals from physicians, school personnel, the Case Review Committee Team, and families.
2. In January of 2021, the Agency was told the Linden Street Program and BRIDGES were closed, and that the only operational program was Abigail Rockwell Children's Center. A subsequent email from The Retreat reported that Abigail Rockwell Children's Center was also closing.
3. Meadows Educational Center was last approved by the State Board of Education on June 8, 2018 through June 30, 2020.

4. The Brattleboro Retreat will maintain the student educational records in its Health Information Management Department Office.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: none

STAFF AVAILABLE:

Patrick Halladay, Director of Educator Quality Division

Cassandra Ryan, Director of Regulatory Compliance and Risk Management