

AGENCY OF EDUCATION  
Barre, Vermont

**TEAM:** School Finance

**ITEM:** Will the State Board of Education grant renewal of independent school approval to Green Mountain Valley School, Waitsfield, VT, to serve students in grades 7-12, 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 Green Mountain Valley School, Waitsfield, VT, to serve students in grades 7-12, 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, 2024; 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)

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. Green Mountain Valley School is a boarding and day school providing a full-time college preparatory program and a winter tutorial program for students in grades 7-12, who are involved in competitive skiing. Green Mountain Valley School also has a facility in Kossen, Austria in the Tyrolean Alps. This European base provides training opportunities with national team members and Olympic champions, and affords access to extensive educational and cultural opportunities.
2. Green Mountain Valley 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 routine annual reports, the next major responsibility regarding accreditation will be the decennial evaluation visit scheduled for 2024.

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. Green Mountain Valley 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:**

Cassandra Ryan, Fiscal and Regulatory Compliance Coordinator