



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148

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December 8, 2008

Bonnie K. Culhane, Program Director
James F. Farr Academy
71 Pearl Street
Cambridge MA 02139

Re: Mid-cycle Review

Dear Ms. Culhane:

Enclosed is the Mid-cycle Review for Farr Academy. This report contains the Department's findings based on the onsite activities conducted in your school to verify the implementation status and effectiveness of corrective steps taken in response to your Program Review Report issued on June 9, 2006. This report also includes a report on the status of implementation for new state or federal special education requirements enacted since your school's last Program Review.

We have determined that your school is in substantial compliance with any new state or federal special education requirements enacted since your last Program Review. **Please note that for criteria 11.6 although non-compliance was not found, the Department has determined that there are follow-up action steps that need to occur by January 30, 2009.** The findings of the Department are included in the attached Follow-up Monitoring Report. You and your entire staff are to be congratulated for your efforts in implementing all necessary criteria. Your private school will now receive an updated status of "Full Approval." This approval shall remain in effect for three (3) years from the date of this letter and attached approval certificate. This approval will be contingent upon continued compliance with all regulations contained within 603 CMR 28.00 "Special Education Regulations" and 603 CMR 18.00 "Program And Safety Standards For Approved Public Or Private Day And Residential Special Education School Programs." The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may change this approval status at any point during this three-year period if circumstances arise that warrant such a change.

The Department will notify you of your school's next regularly scheduled Program Review several months before it is to occur. At this time we anticipate the Department's next routine monitoring visit to occur sometime during the 2011-2012 school year, unless the Department

determines that there is some reason to schedule this visit earlier.

Your staff's cooperation throughout these follow-up monitoring activities is appreciated. Should you require additional clarification of information included in our report, please do not hesitate to contact the Onsite Team Chairperson at 781-338-3723.

Sincerely,

Mary Howard, Program Review Follow-up Chairperson
Program Quality Assurance Services

Darlene Lynch, Director
Program Quality Assurance Services

c: Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D., Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
Thomas F. Culhane, Chairperson, Board of Directors
Pam Davis-Edwards, Director, Farr Academy

Encl.: Follow-up Monitoring Report
Full Private School Approval Certificate, Expiration Date: **August 31, 2012**

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
PRIVATE SCHOOL MID-CYCLE PROGRAM REVIEW**

James F. Farr Academy

**ONSITE VERIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
AND/OR IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL FINDINGS REQUIRING CORRECTIVE ACTION**

**Action Plan Submitted: Not applicable
Progress Reports Submitted: Not applicable
Onsite Visit Conducted: December 3, 2008
Date of this Report: December 8, 2008**

Criterion Number and Topic	Implementation Status of Requirements or Corrective Action Plan Determined to be <u>Substantially Implemented</u> √	Method(s) of Verifica-tion	Comments Regarding Corrective Action Plan Implementation	Corrective Action Plan Determined to be <u>Not Fully Implemen- ted or Additional Issues Identified</u> √	Findings Regarding Incomplete Implementation of Approved Corrective Action Plan or Identification of Additional Issues of Noncompliance	Further Corrective Action Ordered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and Timelines for Implementation and Further Progress Reporting
Selected Approved Private School Mid-cycle Review Criteria						

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2.2 Approvals, Licenses, Certificates of Inspection 18.04(1); 28.09(2)(b)(5); 28.09(5) (b); 28.09(6) (b, c)	√ √	Documentation Review	Farr Academy has current approvals, licenses and certificates of inspection as required.	√		
2.3 EEC Licensure 102 CMR 3.00 (Residential Schools only)	Not applicable		Farr Academy is a day school and is therefore not required to have a license from EEC.			
8.4 Program Modifications and Support Services for Limited English Proficient Students M.G.L. c. 71A; Title VI	√	Documentation Review	Farr Academy has a written plan that details program modifications and support services that will be provided for limited English proficient students.			

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8.5 Current IEP & Student Roster 28.09(5)(a)	✓ ✓	Documentation Review; Student Records	Farr Academy has a current IEP on file for each Massachusetts student that has been issued by the responsible public school district and consented to and dated by the student's parent or guardian.	✓		
11.3 Educational Administrator Qualifications 28.09(5)(a); 28.09(7)(a); 603 CMR 44.00	✓	Documentation Review	Farr Academy has an Educational Administrator who is appropriately qualified to serve in this position.			

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11.4 Teachers (Special Education Teachers and Regular Education Teachers) 18.05(11)(f); 28.09(5)(a); 28.09(7)(b, c); 34 CFR 300.321	√ √	Documentatio n Review; Interviews	Farr Academy has teachers who are appropriately licensed or on ESE approved waivers.	√		
11.5 Related Services Staff 28.09(7)(d)	√	Documentatio n Review	Farr Academy has related service staff who are appropriately certified, licensed or registered in their professional area.			
11.6 Master Staff Roster 28.09(7)	√ PLEASE NOTE the follow-up action steps described	Documentatio n Review; Interviews	Farr Academy submitted a Master Staff Roster, however the Department was not able to verify appropriate positions were filled since Farr Academy's last program			

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	under “Comments Regarding Corrective Action Plan Implementation” that are needed in this regard.		<p>budget was approved over 20 years ago when the school first opened.</p> <p>Farr Academy must submit a program budget that reflects the current staffing patterns and includes the current program costs as paid by funding sources. The cost must be the same as what is currently being charged to funding sources. Once approved, Farr Academy will be held accountable to the positions of staff as indicated in the full time equivalents of each UFR position on the budget.</p> <p>Farr Academy must also submit an updated staff roster that includes all requirements as specified on the master staff roster form so that the Department can then verify the programmatic need of the</p>			

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			positions approved. The budget and master staff roster must be submitted to the Department no later than January 30, 2009.			