

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: I.

Date: October 28, 2010

Topic: Final Review of Multidivision Online Providers Approval Process: List of Accreditation Agencies

Presenter: Mr. Lan Neugent, Assistant Superintendent for Technology, Career & Adult Education

Telephone Number: 804-225-2757

E-Mail Address: lan.neugent@doe.virginia.gov

Origin:

Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

Board review required by
 State or federal law or regulation
 Board of Education regulation
 Other: _____

Action requested at this meeting

Action requested at future meeting: _____ (date)

Previous Review/Action:

No previous board review/action

Previous review/action: First Review of List of Accreditation Agencies
date September 23, 2010
action Received list for first review

Background Information:

As specified in § 22.1-212.24.A & B, the Superintendent of Public Instruction will develop, and the Board of Education will approve, the criteria for approving multidivision online providers. In developing the criteria for approval, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall (i) require multidivision online providers to be accredited by a national, regional, or state accreditation program approved by the Board.

Summary of Major Elements:

After careful research, the attached list of agencies have been chosen as those which are most highly qualified to provide accreditation to entities which provide online courses and programs for K-12 students in Virginia's public schools. No comments were received during the 30-day posting period after the list was received for first review.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the attached list of accreditation agencies for multidivision online providers.

Impact on Resources:

N/A

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

N/A

Accreditation Programs Pending Approval by the Virginia Board Of Education

AdvancEd (formerly Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation [CITA], North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement [NCA CASI], and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement [SACS CASI])

Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Elementary Schools and Commission on Secondary Schools

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC) (formerly Northwest Association of Accredited Schools)

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

Virginia Council for Private Education (VCPE)

School divisions operating as multidivision online providers may be deemed as meeting accreditation requirements if a majority of its schools are fully accredited by the Virginia Board of Education.