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NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES, INC.
COMMISSION ON PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Director

PAMELA GRAY-BENNETT, Ed.D.
direct line (781) 541-5425
pgraybenneff@neasc.org

Deputy Director

JANET D. ALLISON
direct line (781) 541-5418
jallison@neasc.org

Associate Director

CHARLES J. MC CARTHY, JR.
direct line (781) 541-5417
cmccarthy@neasc.org

Associate Director

ANN L. ASHWORTH
direct line (781) 541-5441
aashworth@neasc.org

Assistant to the Director

DONNA M. SPENCER-WILSON
direct line (781) 541-5419
dswilson@neasc.org

July 8, 2008

Laura Chesson
Principal
Maynard High School
1 Tiger Drive
Maynard, MA 01754

Dear Ms. Chesson:

The Commission on Public Secondary Schools, at its June 22-23, 2008 meeting, reviewed the Special Progress Report of Maynard High School and continued the school's accreditation. While the Commission acknowledges that progress has been made as noted below, until all cited concerns have been satisfactorily resolved the school will remain on probation for the Standards for Accreditation on Curriculum, School Resources for Learning, and Community Resources for Learning.

The Commission was pleased to commend the following:

- the steps taken to update the existing library, including additional shelving, furniture, new laptops, and the addition of over 2000 volumes or a forty percent increase
- the submission of an analysis of progress by the superintendent of health/safety and infrastructure issues related to the Commissions' original concerns
- the provision of internet access to all classrooms
- the plans to complete the disposal of inappropriate of outdated chemicals by August 2008
- the repair of all plumbing in science classrooms and the installed of updated equipment, including electric safety switches through labs
- the provision of funding and the plans to install a video security system
- the plans to thoroughly clean the locker rooms and to develop a plan to maintain their cleanliness throughout the year
- the replacement of one of the original boilers with a gas-fired sectional boiler
- the provision of a facilities study conducted by the Merrimack Education Center which will move the school to an 8-12 configuration

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The Commission requests that school officials submit a Special Progress Report by April 1, 2009 which provides detailed responses to the following highlighted recommendations:

- provide an update on the status of the school's work with MSBA to help fully resolve outstanding facilities concerns at the school, including a current timeline for the project
- report steps the school will take to transition eighth grade students and staff to the existing high school
- report additional short-term steps the school will take to address outstanding facilities issues

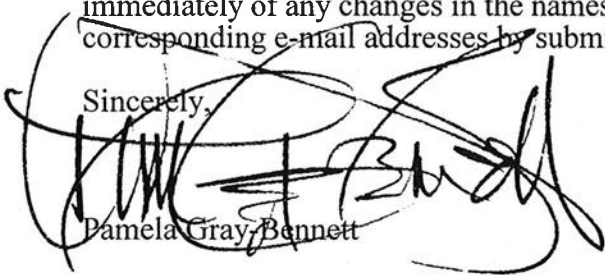
As well, the school should respond to the following:

- describe the process used to review and, if appropriate, revise the school's mission and expectations for student learning to ensure that the documents meet the requirements of the Standard on Mission and Expectations for Student Learning and submit the updated document
- based on a review of the Commission's Standards rating guides, available at <http://cpss.neasc.org> by clicking on "Getting Started", identify specific indicators in the Standards on which the school needs to take action in preparation for the 2012 decennial evaluation

To assist schools in writing their statement of mission and expectations and in increasing their understanding of the concepts contained within each of the seven Standards, the professional staff is encouraged to avail themselves of the following information which can be found on the Commission's website at <http://cpss.neasc.org> under the tab "Getting Started": the Standards for Accreditation effective in January 2005; an Explanation of the Standards; and a guide to Developing Your Mission.

The school's probationary status will be reviewed when the Commission considers the Special Progress Report. Consistent with the Commission's follow-up procedures, the Report should be signed by the principal and chair of the Follow-Up Committee and sent to the Commission office in duplicate by certified mail, return receipt requested. The Commission requests that it be kept apprised of any substantive changes in the school before that date. For your convenience, we have enclosed a copy of the Substantive Change Policy. As well, please notify the Commission office immediately of any changes in the names of the principal and/or superintendent along with their corresponding e-mail addresses by submitting this information electronically to cpss-air@neasc.org

Sincerely,



Pamela Gray-Bennett

PGB/mms
Enclosure

cc: Mark Masterson, Superintendent, Maynard Public Schools
William Kohlman, Chair, Maynard School Committee
Thomas R. Moore, Chair, Commission on Public Secondary Schools