

**WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE**

KEN HECHLER

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

Form #2

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

NOTICE OF A COMMENT PERIOD ON A PROPOSED RULE

AGENCY: West Virginia Board of Education TITLE NUMBER: 126

RULE TYPE: Legislative; CITE AUTHORITY WV Code 18-3-11, 18-2E-5 and 18-2-6(d)

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES NO

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: _____

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF NEW RULE BEING PROPOSED: 63 (Policy 2330)

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Nonpublic School Accreditation

IN LIEU OF A PUBLIC HEARING, A COMMENT PERIOD HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED DURING WHICH ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY SEND COMMENTS CONCERNING THESE PROPOSED RULES. THIS COMMENT PERIOD WILL END ON July 16, 1990 AT 9:00 a.m. ONLY WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AND ARE TO BE MAILED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS.

Bureau of General, Special and Professional
Education
Room B-318, Bldg. #6
Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

THE ISSUES TO BE HEARD SHALL BE LIMITED TO THIS PROPOSED RULE.

Barbara K. Lutz
June 1, 1990

ATTACH A **BRIEF** SUMMARY OF YOUR PROPOSAL

TITLE
LEGISLATIVE RULE
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION
CHAPTER 18-3-11, 18-5-18, 18-2E-5 and 18-2-6(d)
SERIES 63
Policy 2330

TITLE: Nonpublic School Accreditation

Section 1.0 General

- 1.1 Scope - This legislative rule establishes the procedure and regulations for the accreditation of nonpublic schools.
- 1.2 Authority - West Virginia Code 18-3-11, 18-5-18, 18-2E-5 and 18-2-6(d)
- 1.3 Filing Date -
- 1.4 Effective Date -
- 1.5 Repeal of Former Rule - None. This is a new rule.

Section 2.0 Applicability

West Virginia Code 18-3-11 (Classification of all schools), 18-5-18 (Kindergarten programs), 18-2E-5 (School accreditation) and 18-2-6(d) (Accreditation, classification, and standardization of all schools) requires the state superintendent to classify all elementary and secondary schools and the West Virginia Board of Education to approve kindergarten programs and regulate the accreditation of all schools.

This document, Nonpublic School Accreditation, prescribes the state requirements for a nonpublic school to be state accredited. The requirements are in accordance with West Virginia Department of Education Policy 2320, Performance Based Accreditation System, which specifies the accreditation procedure, annual improvement plan, high quality standards and annual performance measures required for the accreditation of public schools. The West Virginia Board of Education hereby establishes commensurate criteria for the accreditation of nonpublic schools.

Section 3.0 Administration

Nonpublic School Accreditation shall be administered by state department of education staff in the Accreditation Office and school district staff. Accreditation activities which are based at the school or school district level are directed and coordinated by the school principal and by school district staff appointed by the school district superintendent.

Section 4.0 Application

To establish an accredited nonpublic school, the authorities in charge shall obtain the necessary application materials from the school district superintendent's office or the state superintendent's office. Upon completing the in-school procedure, the application and required documentation shall be submitted to the school district superintendent's office for transmittal to the state board of education.

Section 5.0 Accreditation Procedure

The procedure leading to accreditation shall consist of five steps: 1) the self-assessment, 2) the written plan for improvement, 3) an external team's verification of the self-assessment, 4) the transmittal of the application and the required documentation and 5) the assignment of the accreditation status.

Section 6.0 Timeline

A nonpublic school submitting applications for state accreditation shall comply with the scheduled date of transmittal of the accreditation document (March 16 through April 15).

Section 7.0 Accreditation Status

A nonpublic school seeking state accreditation shall be accredited once every four years. A school may be reviewed in fewer than four years if conditions change.

The accreditation of a nonpublic school shall be based upon the criteria and procedure as set forth in the document, Nonpublic School Accreditation. The final accreditation of a nonpublic school shall be determined through a systematic self assessment of a school's programs and services.

The information submitted for each school will be reviewed by the department of education staff and every school issued one of the following statuses: (1) full accreditation status, (2) probationary accreditation status or (3) serious impairment.

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