

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

July 31, 2024

SUBJECT: Private School New License

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the initial provisional license for a two-year period for:

- myStep Institute, Clark County

BACKGROUND: Private education institutions are covered by Chapter 394 in both the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Code. The Private Schools Education Program Professional verifies that the statutory and regulatory requirements are met. The Nevada State Board of Education approves the issuing of a private school license.

SUBMITTED BY:

Ann Marie Dickson, Deputy Superintendent
Student Achievement Division

Maria Sauter, Director
Office of Student and School Supports

Karl Wilson, Education Programs Supervisor
Office of Student and School Supports

Barbara Bidell, Education Programs Professional
Office of Student and School Supports

Private School Analysis

School Name: myStep Institute, Clark County (Online)

Background: MyStep Institute will provide each of its students with a customized education plan unique to each child's learning needs. The school will be online and use Accelerate Education, Apex Learning, and Accel Schools curricula for its online courses, which include a variety of classes such as Cybersecurity, Mandarin Chinese, Urban Planning and Design, and Africa in World Politics. The school will offer AP and honors courses and students will also be able to access online classes at College of Southern Nevada, Great Basic College, Nevada State College, University of Nevada, Reno, and University of Nevada, Las Vegas to provide online and dual credit courses.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve myStep Institute for an initial provisional license for two years from July 31, 2024, through July 31, 2026. MyStep Institute has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 112 South Water Street, Suite 106, Henderson, Nevada 89015

Ownership: John Hawk

Insurance: Hartford Underwriters Insurance liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 30 students, Grade 6 – Grade 12

Educational Staff: 2

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

SUBJECT: Private School Renewal License

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the licensing for a two-year period for:

- Grace Christian Academy, Clark County
- Legacy Christian Academy, Carson City
- Nevada School of Inquiry, Clark County
- St. Anthony of Padua, Clark County

Approve the licensing for a four-year period for:

- A Step Ahead, Lyon County
- J.O.Y. Academy of Southern Nevada, Clark County
- Mountain View Montessori School, Washoe County
- Montessori Visions Academy, Clark County
- New Song Christian Academy, Clark County
- Riverview Christian Academy, Washoe County
- The Goddard School. Somerset, Washoe County

BACKGROUND: Private education institutions are covered by Chapter 394 in both the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Code. The Private Schools Education Programs Professional verifies that the statutory and regulatory requirements are met. The Nevada State Board of Education approves the issuing of a private school license.

SUBMITTED BY:

Ann Marie Dickson, Deputy Superintendent
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Office of Student and School Supports

Private School Analysis

School Name: Grace Christian Academy, Clark County

Background: Grace Christian Academy has been in operation since 2000. The school’s mission is “to minister to our students academically, spiritually, emotionally and physically to reach their fullest potential, both as an individual and as a contributing member of society.” The school features small class sizes, a Christian Culture, and high standards of education. The school uses Abeka, Bob Jones and ACSI, Association of Christian Schools International, for its curriculum. Students and teachers utilize iPads and Apple TVs to enhance the learning environment. The small classroom environment allows teachers to meet each child’s learning needs.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve Grace Christian Academy for a license for two years from September 30, 2024, through September 30, 2026. Grace Christian Academy has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 512 California Avenue, Boulder City, Nevada 89005

Ownership: Grace Community Church

Insurance: Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 24 students, Kindergarten – Grade 8

Educational Staff: 5

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: Legacy Christian Academy, Carson City

Background: Legacy Christian Academy uses Bob Jones University curriculum for all its core subjects. The school incorporates hands-on learning, community discovery, and outreach field trips into its learning experiences. The school has an extensive enrichment program which includes classes in culinary arts, robotics, and musical theater. This is Legacy Christian Academy's first license renewal.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve Legacy Christian Academy for a license for two years from July 31, 2024, through July 31, 2026. Legacy Christian Academy has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 1600 Snyder Avenue, Building B, Carson City, Nevada 89701

Ownership: Legacy Christian Academy, Inc.

Insurance: Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 64 students, Kindergarten – Grade 8

Educational Staff: 7

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: Nevada School of Inquiry, Clark County

Background: Nevada School of Inquiry focuses on all aspects of intellectual and character growth. Teaching and learning are inquiry-based and cross-curricular. Students use what they have learned to solve real-world problems. The school only enrolls a maximum of 28 students so teachers can give students the attention they need. Students connect with the community through service and exploration of the world around them. Regular field trips are key components of student learning. This is the school's first license renewal.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve Nevada School of Inquiry for a license for two years from August 1, 2024, through August 1, 2026. Nevada School of Inquiry has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 7375 South Pecos Road, #104, Las Vegas, Nevada 89120

Ownership: Nevada School of Inquiry

Insurance: Great American Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 28 students, Grade 6 – Grade 8

Educational Staff: 2

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic School at St. Francis of Assisi, Clark County

Background: St. Anthony of Padua provides for a STREAM Education: Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art and Math. The mission of St. Anthony's of Padua is to educate the whole child, so the school has taken the principles of STEM and has infused Religion across all its subjects and immersed the arts and creative thinking into its educational routine. The school believes STREAM prepares students to thrive in real life situations and prepares them for a world beyond the classroom. It incorporates seven standards of practice: students learn and apply content, integrate content, interpret and communicate information, engage in inquiry and logical reasoning, collaborate as a team, and apply technology effectively.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic School at St. Francis of Assisi for a license for two years from August 31, 2024, through August 31, 2026. St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic School at St. Francis of Assisi has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 2300 Sunridge Heights Parkway, Henderson, Nevada 89052

Ownership: St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

Insurance: The Catholic Mutual Relief Society of America Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 400 students, Kindergarten – Grade 8

Educational Staff: 20

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: A Step Ahead, Lyon County

Background: A Step Ahead adheres to the Nevada Academic Content Standards. It uses Singapore Math and a variety of curricula for Reading and Writing including Sundance, Celebration Press Developmental Reading Assessments, and Scholastic for leveled reading groups to meet each of its students needs. The school offers Spanish for all its young learners. The school library has over 800 titles and its kindergarten classroom is equipped with at least 100 books.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve A Step Ahead for a license for four years from July 31, 2024, through July 31, 2028. A Step Ahead has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 945 North Clover Lane, Fernley, Nevada 89408

Ownership: Stepping Stones of Fernley, LLC

Insurance: Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 15 students, Kindergarten

Educational Staff: 1

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: J.O.Y. Academy of Southern Nevada, Clark County

Background: The goal at J.O.Y. Academy of Las Vegas is to “empower students to become lifelong, self-directed learners.” The school uses a Waldorf-inspired curriculum with a focus on experiential, hands-on learning. It follows the Waldorf values among which are family and community life, joy in the learning process, intellectual excellence, imagination, strong memory and problem-solving skills, and training of ethical and moral judgment.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve J.O.Y. Academy of Southern Nevada for a license for four years from August 30, 2024, through August 30, 2028. J.O.Y. Academy of Southern Nevada has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 3883 East Mesa Vista Way, Las Vegas, Nevada 89120

Ownership: J.O.Y. Academy of Southern Nevada

Insurance: Nautilus Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 75 students, Kindergarten – Grade 12

Educational Staff: 9

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: Mountain View Montessori School, Washoe County

Background: Mountain View Montessori School has been in operation since 1998. Its predecessor, Trinity Montessori, was founded in 1970 as an outreach program for Trinity Episcopal Church in downtown Reno. The school's mission is "to provide an environment that guides and nurtures the self-construction of individuals who will be able to think objectively, make independent decisions, and live an inspired life." Its programs provide a variety of learning activities that foster each child's intellectual, emotional, and physical development. Students engage in activities that develop intellectual reasoning, teach students to work collaboratively, utilize their imagination, effectively communicate, construct a code of mortality, and develop to reach their full potential.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve Mountain View Montessori School for a license for four years from September 11, 2024, through September 11, 2028. Mountain View Montessori School has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 565 Zolezzi Lane, Reno, Nevada 89511

Ownership: Sierra Nevada Montessori

Insurance: Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 223 students, Kindergarten – Grade 9

Educational Staff: 14

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: Montessori Visions Academy, Clark County

Background: Montessori Visions Academy encompasses the Montessori vision and recognizes the differences in learning among grade levels. Academics for all students are presented and designed to “ignite the innate and life-long joy of learning.” The curriculum for Kindergarten students is heavily sensory. The material learned in the elementary classroom is based upon experimentation and independent discovery as children in the lower grade levels seek to understand the world through their mind, making intellectual connections between what they learn and what they already understand. The mission of the program in the upper grades is "to provide opportunities for teenagers to be self-motivated, self-confident, and gain self-knowledge, belong to a community, learn to be adaptable and to build academic competence." The school also empowers each student to create a vision for his or her own personal future. Montessori Visions is accredited through Cognia.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve Montessori Visions Academy for a license for four years from August 31, 2024, through August 31, 2028. Montessori Visions Academy has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 1905 East Warm Spring Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Ownership: Montessori World

Insurance: Philadelphia Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 131 students, Kindergarten – Grade 12

Educational Staff: 9

Complaint Status: No verified complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: New Song Christian Academy, Clark County

Background: New Song Christian Academy features small class sizes that allow for teachers to individualize lessons to make each child's education unique. It uses Harcourt for all its grades and classes. Music, art, physical education, health, science, social studies along with math and ELA are taught to even its youngest learners. New Song started as a kindergarten as an extension of its preschool and will add second grade to its school this upcoming school year and expand to fifth grade in the subsequent three years.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve New Song Christian Academy for a license for four years from August 31, 2024, through August 31, 2028. New Song Christian Academy has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 1291 Cornet Street, Henderson, Nevada 89052

Ownership: New Song Lutheran Church

Insurance: Lexington Insurance Company liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 55 students, Kindergarten – Grade 5

Educational Staff: 6

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: Riverview Christian Academy, Washoe County

Background: Riverview Christian Academy uses Accelerated Christian Education for its base curriculum in all grade levels. Educators lead students in their learning by utilizing engaging instructional techniques, varied formative assessments, personalized support programs, and various resources. The school follows the Adventist Education's Journey to Excellence which promotes balanced development and ongoing improvement in all aspects of students' lives.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve Riverview Christian Academy for a license for four years from August 31, 2024, through August 31, 2028. Riverview Christian Academy has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 7125 West Fourth Street, Reno, Nevada 89523

Ownership: Nevada-Utah Conference of the Seventh Day Adventists

Insurance: Gencon Insurance Company of Vermont liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 75 students, Kindergarten – Grade 8

Educational Staff: 6

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Analysis

School Name: The Goddard School, Somerset, Washoe County

Background: The Goddard School, Somerset affords a variety of learning opportunities. It incorporates social-emotional learning into its teaching day. The school uses Eureka Math that focuses on “the why, not just the how behind the math.” It utilizes Foundations and Reading A-Z for reading, phonics, spelling, and handwriting. The Goddard School also starts science with their young learners. It uses Foss for its science classes to engage students in hands-on learning. The school also provides art, music, P.E., which includes swimming, and technology into its specials programs.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve The Goddard School Somerset for a license for four years from August 15, 2024, through August 15, 2028. The Goddard School, Somerset has complied with all statutory and regulatory requirements.

Address: 6330 Mae Anne Avenue, Reno, Nevada 89523

Ownership: Denise Cross

Insurance: Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company of Vermont liability for death, personal injury, or property damage is at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence

Enrollment: 40 students, Kindergarten – Grade 2

Educational Staff: 2

Complaint Status: No complaints on file

Private School Agent Permits

SUBJECT: Private School Agent Permit

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the permit for the applicant listed who has submitted a complete application along with three recent letters of recommendation for this position, a copy of the private school's surety bond or CD and required payment. The applicant has also indicated whether he has a child support obligation and if so, whether it is current or in arrears. The Agent Permit will be valid from July 31, 2024 - January 1, 2025.

BACKGROUND: Private education institutions are covered by Chapter 394 in both the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Code. The Private Schools Education Program Professional verifies that the Agent Application is complete, and the Nevada State Board of Education approves the issuing of each private school's agent permit.

SUBMITTED BY:

Ann Marie Dickson, Deputy Superintendent
Student Achievement Division

Maria Sauter, Interim Director
Office of Student and School Supports

Karl Wilson, Education Programs Supervisor
Office of Student and School Supports

Barbara Bidell, Education Programs Professional
Office of Student and School Supports

Agent Permit Application Requestor

Private School

myStep Institute

Agent Name

John Hawk