



CITY OF MANCHESTER

Theodore L. Gatsas
Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: July 12, 2010

Contact: Mayor Ted Gatsas
Phone: (603) 624-6500

Contact: Dr. Thomas Brennan
Phone: (603) 624-6300 Ext.122

City Meets Public School “Minimum Standard” Requirements

MANCHESTER, NH - - This evening at the Board of School Committee meeting Mayor Ted Gatsas and Superintendent Dr. Thomas Brennan announced that all Manchester public schools met the *Minimum Standards for Public School Approval* as set forth by the New Hampshire Department of Education (NH DOE Administrative Rules for Education Ed 306).

Superintendent Dr. Thomas Brennan began, “I am proud to announce that the school district of the City of Manchester has met the minimum standards requirement by the New Hampshire Department of Education. This is more than a step in the right direction; this is a milestone for the school district and comes as the direct result of a true team effort.”

For the Manchester School District to meet the defined “minimum standards” changes needed to be made to facilities, staffing, health and life safety items. All of these changes were attended to and accomplished in coordination by school district personnel, the Manchester Fire Department, the Facilities Division and the Health Department. Mayor Gatsas added, “To move from where we were to where we are today was no small task. I am pleased to see the positive result of this collaboration. Dr. Brennan took a leadership role on this issue and he is to be commended for his efforts.”

The Manchester School District had failed to meet the *Minimum Standards for Public School Approval* for over ten years and was notified through the office of the Commissioner of Education Virginia Barry of its current approval (see attached letter). Minimum standards set forth in Ed306 include, but are not limited to: healthy and safe learning environments, school accessibility, appropriate instructional resources, food and nutritional requirements, air quality and staff qualifications. A complete listing of the *Minimum Standards for Public School Approval* can be found at:
http://www.education.nh.gov/legislation/documents/306_adopted.pdf.

“This is wonderful news for the city of Manchester, our school district, teachers, parents and students. We are no longer talking about a district in need rather we are talking about a district moving forward in a positive direction and educating our students in the best way possible to prepare them for their futures,” concluded Gatsas.

Virginia M. Barry, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education
Tel. 603-271-3144



Paul Leather
Deputy Commissioner of Education
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
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June 18, 2010

Dr. Thomas J. Brennan, Jr.
Superintendent
SAU 37
286 Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101-1128

Dear Dr. Brennan,

NH Administrative Rule Ed 306, Minimum Standards for Public School Approval, requires the NH Department of Education to notify the chairperson of the local school board and the superintendent of the respective district of each school's final approval designation. I am pleased to notify you that for the first time in a long time all of the Manchester public schools are approved. The attached list shows the approval expiration date for each school.

If you or your staff has any questions regarding this letter, please don't hesitate to contact myself, Leslie Higgins (271-3759) or Marie Morgan (271-4125) in the School Approval Office.

Thank you for all your hard work!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith D. Fillion".

Dr. Judith D. Fillion, Director
Division of Program Support

SAU 37: Manchester Schools & Approval Status (as of June 2010)

ID #	SauID	School Name	City/Town	App Status	Exp Date	SchAprLvl
21545	37	Bakersville School	Manchester	A	6/30/2013	E
21600	37	Beech Street School	Manchester	A	6/30/2013	E
21530	37	Gossler Park School	Manchester	A	6/30/2011	E
21610	37	Green Acres School	Manchester	A	6/30/2012	E
21625	37	Hallsville School	Manchester	A	6/30/2011	E
27595	37	Henry J. McLaughlin Middle School	Manchester	A	6/30/2012	M
21560	37	Highland-Goffs Falls School	Manchester	A	6/30/2014	E
21520	37	Hillside Middle School	Manchester	A	6/30/2014	M
21590	37	Jewett School	Manchester	A	6/30/2011	E
21510	37	Manchester Central High School	Manchester	A	6/30/2011	H
21505	37	Manchester Memorial High School	Manchester	A	6/30/2011	H
21555	37	Manchester West High School	Manchester	A	6/30/2012	H
21565	37	McDonough School	Manchester	A	6/30/2014	E
21525	37	Middle School At Parkside	Manchester	A	6/30/2011	M
26435	37	Northwest Elementary School	Manchester	A	6/30/2013	E
21540	37	Parker-Varney School	Manchester	A	6/30/2012	E
21605	37	Smyth Road School	Manchester	A	6/30/2012	E
21575	37	Southside Middle School	Manchester	A	6/30/2011	M
21635	37	Webster School	Manchester	A	6/30/2013	E
21515	37	Weston School	Manchester	A	6/30/2013	E
21640	37	Wilson School	Manchester	A	6/30/2015	E