

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Community Care Licensing Division
Statewide Children's Residential Program
Out-of-State Certification Unit
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 - MS 19-50



September 8, 2008

Karen Bishop, Director
Walden School (Learning Center for the Deaf)
848 Central Street
Framingham, MA 01701

**SUBJECT: CERTIFICATION RENEWAL
WALDEN SCHOOL (LEARNING CENTER FOR THE DEAF)**

Dear Ms. Bishop:

Pursuant to California Family Code, Section 7911 et al., this is official notification that Walden's certification with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is continued.

Enclosed is this year's evaluation report. Please read and sign the bottom of each page where indicated; make a copy for your records; and return the original to the CDSS in the self-addressed envelope provided.

Certification will continue to be reviewed annually. The Out-of-State Certification Unit will be following the Department's policy, having the authority to inspect with or without appointment.

I thank you and your staff for your cooperation during this year's visit. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the report further, please contact me at (916) 327-8763.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Lancaster for".

MEE YUK KUNG, Program Manager

Enclosure

c: CDSS-CFSD, Deputy Compact Administrator, ICPC/Out-of-State
Placement and Policy Unit

FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT

FACILITY NAME: WALDEN SCHOOL	FACILITY NUMBER: 602300041
ADMINISTRATOR: JUDITH VREELAND <i>Karen Bishop</i>	FACILITY TYPE: 731
ADDRESS: 848 CENTRAL STREET	TELEPHONE: (508) 626-8581
CITY: FRAMINGHAM	STATE: MA
CAPACITY: 40	ZIP CODE: 01701
TYPE OF VISIT: Case Management - <i>Re-Cert.</i>	CENSUS: 27
MET WITH: Karen Bishop, Director	DATE: 06/12/2008
	UNANNOUNCED
	TIME BEGAN: 09:15 AM
	TIME COMPLETED: 03:30 PM

NARRATIVE

1 The Walden School (Learning Center for the Deaf) was first certified by the California Department of Social
2 Services (CDSS) March 6, 2007, after successfully undergoing a lengthy application process and initial site
3 visit and evaluation conducted June 29, 2006. As mandated by California law, this visit was performed by the
4 undersigned analyst for the purpose of annual re-certification through assessing and determining that the
5 facility:
6 1. Continues to be in substantial compliance with California's Title 22 licensing regulations which govern the
7 operation of California's children's group homes; and
8 2. Remains in good licensing standing with applicable laws and standards of the Commonwealth of
9 Massachusetts which is where the facility is located.

10
11 The Walden School continues to operate as both a residential facility and educational program which offers
12 comprehensive treatment and educational services to deaf children and adolescents who are challenged by
13 severe social and emotional difficulties resulting from childhood trauma, mental illness and/or organic
14 dysfunction. Whether enrolled only in school (day treatment) or living on grounds in 24 hour care and
15 treatment, students learn new behaviors, build self-esteem and maximize their individual potential in a
16 structured, supportive and non-punitive environment.

17
18 Total Massachusetts licensing capacity (and California certification capacity) remains at 40. At the time of
19 visit, the census was 27 - - none being California placements. (The California dependent formerly placed
20 there was discharged in April of 2008.) Aside from Massachusetts children, seven other states had social
21 service youths placed at the facility.

22
23 Walden School's residential program is licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of
24 Early Education and Care. The following four separate residences on campus grounds were last issued their
25 license to operate as a Group Care Program on July 11, 2007 (expiring July 10, 2009):

- Walden School (Main Building) located at 80 Kellogg Street - - Capacity: 24
- Green House located on campus at 830 Central Street - - Capacity 6
- Brown House located on campus at 320 Prospect Street - - Capacity 5
- Prospect House located on campus at 300 Prospect Street - - Capacity 5

SUPERVISOR'S NAME: Mei Yuk Kung

TELEPHONE: (916) 327-8763

LICENSING EVALUATOR NAME: Carol Lancaster

TELEPHONE: (916) 838-5751

LICENSING EVALUATOR SIGNATURE:

DATE: 09/05/2008



I acknowledge receipt of this form and understand my licensing appeal rights as explained and received.

FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:



DATE:

10/2/08

FACILITY EVALUATION REPORT (Cont)Out of State Cert, 1700 9Th Street, 2Nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

FACILITY NAME: WALDEN SCHOOL

FACILITY NUMBER: 602300041

VISIT DATE: 06/12/2008

NARRATIVE

- 1 The educational program is licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Education as a private special
2 education school and operates twelve months of the year. Approval to operate under that entity is good
3 through August 31, 2010.
4
- 5 The facility is also routinely inspected and under the authority and purview of the following other oversight
6 agencies:
- 7 • Framingham, Massachusetts Office for Children/Board of Health (evidence of last inspection dated March
8 28, 2007.)
 - 9 • Town of Framingham, state building code inspection (issued March 26, 2007; good through March 26,
10 2008)
 - 11 • Town of Framingham Fire Inspector - - inspected annually since initial certification / most recent
12 inspection conducted March 14, 2008. (Pass/No violations.)
13
- 14 There have been no programmatic or physical plant changes since last year's visit. There has been a change
15 of director however. Former assistant director Karen Bishop has succeeded and replaced Judith Vreland who
16 has assumed another position in the parent corporation. Ms. Bishop started with the Walden School 17 years
17 earlier, originally as a teacher. She has a Bachelor's degree in deaf studies and a Masters in Special Needs
18 (Deaf Education) from Boston University. Needless to say, she is well qualified for the position and was
19 helpful and accomodating during this analyst's visit.
20
- 21 SCOPE OF RE-CERTIFICATION REVIEW:
- 22
 - 23 • Collection of updated and current organization and program information and material.
 - 24 • Entrance interview, tour and consultation with new facility director Karen Bishop.
 - 25 • Tour/Physical Inspection of the campus and on-grounds structures and amenities; assessment of
26 residential quarters and accommodations - - furniture/bedding, food, kitchen/cooking/eating essentials,
27 toiletries, cleaning supplies and safe storage of same; first aid kit and medication supplies and safe
28 storage of same; adequate laundry facilities, verification of posted license.
 - 29 • Assessment of emergency procedures and preparedness- - i.e., posted floorplan/diagram illustrating exit
30 and evacuation routes; fire/smoke alarms being in working order; fire drill procedures/log.
 - 31 • Staff file and training records review.
 - 32 • Exit interview.

FINDINGS: AREAS OF CONCERN AND/OR THOSE REQUIRING CORRECTION:

Re-Certify: No areas of non-compliance or substandard conditions were identified during this year's visit.

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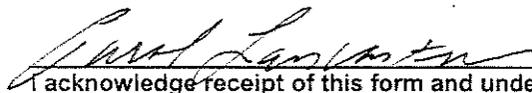
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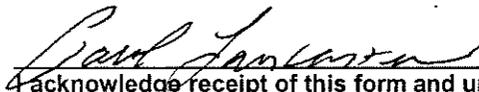
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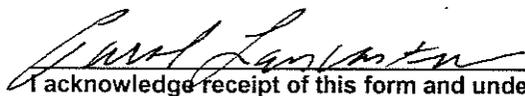
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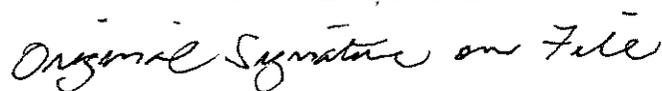
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DATE: 10-7-2008