



**TO:** The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** David M. Frank 

**SUBJECT:** Registration of a Religious and Independent High School  
Visited in the Spring of 2023

**DATE:** April 25, 2024

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

**SUMMARY**

**Issue for Decision (Consent)**

Should the Board of Regents approve the registration of a religious and independent high school, which is changing its status from pending to full registration?

**Reason(s) for Consideration**

Required by State statute.

**Proposed Handling**

This issue will come before the Full Board for action at its May 2024 meeting.

**Procedural History**

Prior to the national COVID-19 pandemic crisis, the Board of Regents had acted on the registration of religious and independent high schools each year. There were no high school registration visits in 2020 or 2021, and the Office of Religious and Independent School Support (ORISS) is now in the process of completing status updates and registration visits to those with pending registration status prior to the pandemic and the latest requests from 2024.

**Background Information**

Religious and independent high schools that have a graduating class for the first time submit the Application for Independent and Religious Secondary School Registration and are visited by staff from ORISS. Schools that received pending registration status during the COVID-19 pandemic were not able to be visited at that time but did receive a desk review. These schools are now completing the process to become fully registered.

Approved registration of this religious and independent high school will allow it to issue valid New York State diplomas and administer State examinations on-site, and the school will become a member of the University of the State of New York.

**Related Regents Items**

Not applicable.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the following school, which had requested high school registration in the spring of 2023, has now been visited, and shall now be registered:

<b>School</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Recommended Status</b>
UNIVERSAL SCHOOL	ERIE	REGISTERED

**Timetable for Implementation**

This religious and independent high school will become registered upon approval of the Board of Regents. The school already has pending registration, and if approved, will move to full registration.