



Licensed Child Caring Agency Unannounced Site Visit Report

Licensee: St. Mary's Academy

Executive Director: Frank Phillips

Program Director(s): Jim Meyer

Date of Unannounced: 10-6-20

Licensing Coordinator: Irvin Minten

Other Regulatory or Accrediting Agencies: NW Accreditation, NW Association of Independent Schools, and NW Accreditation Commission

Purpose: Per OAR 413-215-0101 (1) (b) Children's Care Licensing is required to perform at least one unannounced site visit a year where children in care reside.

Previous Findings	Repeat Findings Further Action Needed	Comments
The most recent site review at the program was an unannounced review and this took place on October 29, 2019. At that time, there were no corrective actions, and all previous corrective actions noted at the March 3, 2019 review had been completed.	Yes ☐ No ☒	

New Findings from Site Visit	Comments
There were no new findings from this unannounced site review.	

Interview Summary
During the unannounced site review, a great deal of conversation took place with Jim Meyer, Principal and Nick Phillips, legal counsel of the school. I also interviewed two youth telephonically, as I was not able to interview youth in person on the day of the site review since youth were not available. During conversation with Mr. Meyer and Mr. Phillips we discussed how COVID-19 has affected the school's enrollment and how the school is consulting with both Oregon Department of Education and Jackson County Public Health in ensuring that all safety measures are being taken to maintain the youth's safety. During conversation with the youth, they both reported they were seniors at the school and had been enrolled at the school in the boarding program for three years. The youth reported they enjoyed being at the school and that they felt safe. They also felt the staff were well trained. They stated the only thing they would change is not having the 2-hour mandatory study hall 6 days a week. One of the youth also stated they wished Medford was a larger city.

Observations
The international boarding school's dorms, cafeteria and classrooms are well maintained, and the environment is well furnished and decorated. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, all classes were offered only on-line. Currently, there are a total of about 505 students enrolled in the school, with about 340 students enrolled in the high school. Of the high school students, about 35 of them are in the international boarding school program which, due to the COVID Pandemic, is about half the number of boarding students from the previous two years. In previous years, the program had 54 boarding students who lived at the dorm and about 20 who lived off campus with hosting families, all of whom were faculty or previous faculty from the school. The boarding students all attend their on-line classes while sitting in the cafeteria. All students were also appropriately socially distanced and were wearing masks.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please feel free to contact Irvin Minten at Irvin.minten@dhsosha.state.or.us or by phone at 503/428-1355.

Licensing Coordinator's Signature: Irvin Minten Date: 10/14/2020
Manager Review: H. Gilre Date: 10-14-2020