

## **Policy for a Governing Body for a Proprietary School**

It is the policy of the Commission on Independent Schools that each proprietary school granted accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. have a governing board.

Essential to the proper conduct and public trust of an accredited proprietary school is a governing body charged with these responsibilities:

- Collaborates in sustaining the mission of the school to assure a clear and commanding commitment to education;
- Assures continuity and provides evaluative feedback on leadership which may include appointment and evaluation of the head of school;
- Collaborates with the owner of the school in assuring the school's fiscal health;
- Reviews the policies by which the school is conducted;
- Reviews, assesses, and constructively comments on the school's effectiveness in accomplishing its mission and goals.

The governing board shall have as at least a third of its members people who represent the public interest, that is, who have no contractual, employment or personal financial interest in the institution (other than an enrollment contract in the case of a current parent). Public representatives should be free from present or potential conflict of interest.

Accreditation through the Commission on Independent Schools is granted expressly to a particular institution with clearly defined and identified ownership and/or control. A change in ownership or control automatically results in a self-executing, immediate discontinuance of accreditation unless the new owner or controlling authority provides adequate written assurance and evidence that the Standards of the Commission will be maintained. Such assurances will be validated by a Focused Review Committee appointed by the Commission to visit the institution at a time designated by the Commission.

Revised and Approved by the Commission on Independent Schools February 7, 2006