



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

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GOVERNOR

THOMAS A. DESJARDIN  
ACTING COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT #VI.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas A. Desjardin, Acting Commissioner\*

DATE: May 13, 2015

SUBJECT: Consideration of the Review Team Report of Findings for the Valparaiso University application seeking State Board authority to offer a three credit residency course in Maine.

**BACKGROUND:** A State Board of Education approved video conference meeting with representatives from Valparaiso University was conducted on March 11<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of reviewing the three credit residency component of their M.A. /M.Ed. in Humane Education in Maine to be offered in Maine.

The Master's programs in Humane Education consist of 33 credit hours and are delivered primarily online with the exception of the three-credit residency course offered in Maine at the Institute for Humane Education. Students complete a core set of 15 credits, the experiential component, credits toward thesis preparation and project, and electives.

The course offered in Maine is fully owned and administered by Valparaiso University within the current standing structure of university governance. The residency course in Maine falls under the supervision of a full-time program director at Valparaiso University in Indiana who reports to the Chair of the Education Department, a unit of the College of Arts and Sciences, with additional oversight afforded by the Dean of the Graduate School since the program had a graduate designation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the State Board of Education vote to grant authority to the Valparaiso University to offer a three credit residency course in Maine.

\* Presented by Ángel Martínez Loredó, Higher Education Specialist  
Maine Department of Education