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NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES, INC.
COMMISSION ON PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Director

PAMELA GRAY-BENNETT, Ed.D.
direct line (781) 541-5425
pgraybennett@neasc.org

Deputy Director

JANET D. ALLISON
direct line (781) 541-5418
jallison@neasc.org

Associate Director

CHARLES J. MC CARTHY, JR.
direct line (781) 541-5417
cmccarthy@neasc.org

Associate Director

ANN L. ASHWORTH
direct line (781) 541-5441
ashworth@neasc.org

Assistant to the Director

DONNA M. SPENCER-WILSON
direct line (781) 541-5419
dswilson@neasc.org

February 27, 2007

Daniel Smith
Principal
South Hadley High School
153 Newton Street
South Hadley, MA 01075

Dear Mr. Smith

The Commission on Public Secondary Schools, at its January 21-22, 2007 meeting, reviewed the Two-Year Progress Report of South Hadley High School and continued the school's accreditation.

While the report featured many positive aspects of the school, the Commission was particularly pleased to learn of the changes made to the school schedule that positively impact instructional practices, student learning and the opportunity for students to take more classes. In addition, the Commission wishes to commend the following

- the thoughtful approach to providing a focus for the faculty meetings and workshop days that will improve instruction
- the identification of performance indicators for civic and social expectations and the inclusion of comments in the report cards for parents and students to see their progress
- the revision of the evaluation and supervision system that will result in improved instruction
- the clarification of the responsibility for curriculum improvement by designating the department chairs and directors as the leaders in this work
- formation of a district-wide professional development committee to oversee the district work on professional development
- the addition of fine arts/applied arts director and the facilities director
- the use of \$10,000 to fund technology upgrades in the building
- the active support of the School Committee and the superintendent for initiatives based on the school's mission
- the inclusion of the entire faculty and School Council in the development of the school's report to the Commission

