



JANET BARRESI  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Members of the State Board of Education

**FROM:** Janet Barresi

**DATE:** July 25, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship

Approval is requested for Paths To Independence, a North Central Association of Colleges and Schools accredited private school, that wishes to participate in the Lindsey Nicole Henry (LNH) Scholarship for Students with Disabilities program.

ae



4041 SE Sheridan  
Bartlesville, OK 74006  
(918) 914-9920  
Fax: (918) 333-4533  
[paths@newsguy.com](mailto:paths@newsguy.com)  
[www.pathstoindependence.org](http://www.pathstoindependence.org)

July 1, 2013

To: **Oklahoma State Board of Education**  
Oklahoma State Department of Education  
Special Education Services  
Attention: Anita Eccard  
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Board Members:

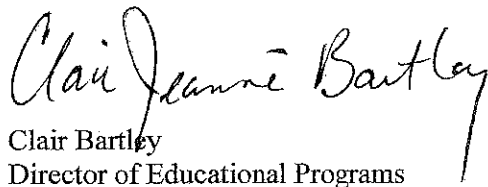
I am writing this letter to request that Paths to Independence be added to the list of approved private schools for the Lindsey Nicole Henry (LNH) Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program. We have recently been approved for accreditation through the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and would like our students' parents to have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship through the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship Program.

Our mission is to provide educational services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families in order to promote lifelong independence. We serve students from the age of 3 through 21 diagnosed with autism regardless of severity or functioning level. PTI is a year-round school. Our 2013-14 school year will begin on August 13, 2013 and end on June 27, 2014. The total number of days we will be in school for the 2013-14 school year is 206. We will then start our 2014-15 school year on July 7, 2014. School is in session every day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Paths to Independence was established to offer a different school focus for students with autism spectrum disorders. The focus for all students will be to improve their ability to function independently in the areas of academics, recreation, communication, daily living, and work readiness. We offer a structured educational setting, teaching all required academic subjects for each grade level. In addition, PTI offers music, physical education, therapeutic horseback riding, occupational therapy, and speech/language therapy. Parents and staff will meet yearly to develop an appropriate individualized education plan for each student. Progress determinations will be based on a student's level of independence while pursuing their educational goals.

We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Clair Bartley  
Director of Educational Programs

**AFFIDAVIT (Private School Compliance Statement)**  
**Required Annually**

I, Clair Bartley, swear and/or affirm under oath that:

1. I am the Educational Director (insert title) of Paths to Independence (private school), a Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship Act approved private school.

2. Paths to Independence has been an approved private school for receipt of Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship funds since July, 2013.

3. Paths to Independence (private school) is in compliance with state laws for the 2013-2014 school year, including but not limited to the following:

- Meets the accreditation requirement set by the State Board of Education or another accrediting association approved by the State Board of Education;
- Demonstrates fiscal soundness by having been in operation for (1) school year or providing the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) with a statement by a certified public accountant confirming that the private school desiring to participate is insured and the owner or owners have sufficient capital or credit to operate the school for the upcoming year by serving the number of students anticipated with expected revenues from tuition and other sources that may be reasonable expected;
- Complies with the antidiscrimination provisions of 42 U.S.C., Section 2000d;
- Meets state and local health and safety laws and codes;
- Will be academically accountable to the parent/legal guardian for meeting the educational needs of the student;
- Employs or contracts with teachers who hold baccalaureate or higher degrees, or have at least three (3) years of teaching experience in public or private schools, or have special skills, knowledge, or expertise that qualifies them to provide instruction in subjects taught;
- Complies with all state laws relating to general regulation of private schools; and
- Adheres to the tenet of its published disciplinary procedures prior to the expulsion of a scholarship student.

FURTHER, AFFIANT SAITH NOT.

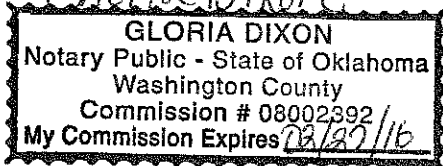
DATE: July 1, 2013

Clair Jeanne Bartley

Representative of Paths to Independence

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1 day of July, 2013 by

Gloria Dixon



Gloria Dixon

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission No.: 08002392

My Commission Expires: 02/27/2016