***Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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Jeffrey C. Riley

*Commissioner*

March 23, 2021

Andrew Linkenhoker, Superintendent

Northampton-Smith Vocational Agricultural School District

80 Locust Street

Northampton, MA 01060

Re: Continuous Improvement and Monitoring Plan

Dear Superintendent Linkenhoker:

The Office of Public School Monitoring recently conducted a Tier 2 Tiered Focused Monitoring Review in your district. The Monitoring Chairperson, Alaena Podmore, has been working with your district in the development of a Continuous Improvement & Monitoring Plan (CIMP). The approved CIMP, which is attached, includes the Department’s detailed findings for any Special Education and Civil Rights criteria receiving a rating of *Partially Implemented*, *Not Implemented* or *Implementation in Progress*. It also includes the steps and completion timeframe the district has identified to bring the criteria into compliance with the controlling statute or regulation. To access the CIMP on the Department’s website, please visit <http://www.doe.mass.edu> and select *Security Portal* then *PQA WebMonitoring*. Continue by selecting *PSM Tier Review > Feedback/CIMP > View TFM Report*.

Please upload into WBMS a signed statement of assurance indicating the district’s commitment to implementing the requirements set forth in the CIMP. This statement should contain:

1. a description of the steps the district is taking to make the CIMP available to staff, parent advisory groups and the general public; and
2. an assurance that the CIMP will be implemented by the approved dates of completion.

Please note that school districts and charter schools must demonstrate resolution of noncompliance identified by the Department as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from the issuance of the Department’s Feedback Report. The Feedback Report for Northampton-Smith Vocational Agricultural School District was issued on February 25, 2021.

In closing, we would again like to thank the administration and staff who shared their time and thoughts so generously during the preparation and onsite phases of the review. Special thanks are given to Rebecca Wanczyk for coordinating this visit for the district. Should you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Alaena Podmore at (781) 338-6706.

Sincerely,

Alaena Podmore

Alaena Podmore

Tiered Focused Monitoring Review Chairperson

Office of Public School Monitoring

Timothy Gallagher

Timothy Gallagher, Assistant Director

Office of Public School Monitoring

cc: Michael T. Cahillane, Board of Trustees Chairperson

Rebecca Wanczyk, Local Monitoring Review Coordinator

Encl.: Continuous Improvement & Monitoring Plan