



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

PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

Stephen L. Bowen  
COMMISSIONER

**EXHIBIT: #VI.C.**

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

**FROM:** Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner\*

**DATE:** December 14, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Receipt of the Interim Report from the Thomas College Teacher Education Program

**BACKGROUND:** A program approval visit to Thomas College was conducted November 1 - 4, 2009 for the purpose of reviewing the Elementary Education preparation program: Following the on-site visit, a report was prepared which included findings, commendations, and program recommendations as well as a recommendation for State program approval status. In the Review Team's report it was stated that Chapter 114 Standards 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 were met and that Standard 4, Diversity was conditionally met.

During the Board's February 10, 2010 meeting State program approval was granted to the Thomas College teacher education program through December 31, 2011 and the unit was required to develop and submit an interim report to the Department of Education prior to December 31, 2011. The interim report was to be limited to the unit's responses to the team's recommendations associated with Standards 4 – *Diversity*. The required Interim Report has been received from Thomas College program administration and is hereby submitted to the State Board of Education for consideration. Following review of the interim report a recommendation will be made to the Board as to whether the unit's approval should be extended through the fall of 2014.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the State Board of Education receive for review the Thomas College Interim Report. Consideration of the report will appear as an agenda item during the Board's January 11, 2012 meeting.

\* Prepared by Harry Osgood,  
Higher Education Specialist