

Valley View School

(Therapeutic Boarding School)



Member Since: 2002

Phone: (508) 867-6505

Executive Contact: Philip G. Spiva, Ph.D.

Admission Contact: Rick Bulger, M.S.W.

Gender: Males Only
 Ages: 10 to 15 (at admission)
 Grades: 6 to 12
 Enrollment: 56
 Duration: 2 to 3 years
 Founded: 1970
 Email: valview@aol.com
 Fax: (508) 867-3300



Address: P.O. Box 338
 91 Oakham Road
 North Brookfield, MA 01535
 Airport: Boston, Logan

Website: www.valleyviewschool.org

Valley View School is a highly structured therapeutic milieu that offers a professional interdisciplinary approach. Stress is placed on success-oriented experiences ranging from drama and organized sports to overseas travel.

Valley View is a private residential school providing a therapeutic educational environment for 56 boys between the ages of 11 and 17 who are having difficulty getting along with their families, the world around them and themselves. Typical Valley View students may be boys who challenge authority to the point of psychologically intimidating their parents; others have difficulty in channeling their physical energy in meaningful ways; and a few may appear overly lethargic, bored or depressed. The majority have difficulty in traditional schools and although bright, often have a history of attention deficit disorder, may be oppositional, and are a source of frustration to their families. Traditional classroom methods and practices have generally frustrated rather than encouraged students who go to Valley View. These boys have been characterized as “learning disabled”, “unmotivated”, “hyperactive”, or “disruptive” in the classroom setting. With a maximum of 56 students in the School and an average of 6 in each class, Valley View School can provide intensive remedial instruction. Classes focus on the development and strengthening of skills in basic subjects, including language arts, mathematics, social and physical education, history, and art. An extensive computer facility integrates current technology into the entire academic curriculum.

Valley View offers a twelve-month program, and boys are accepted only on that basis. There are 11 full-time academic teachers, all with appropriate degrees in their subject matter, offering a college preparatory curriculum. Seventeen counselors, supervise the program on evenings and weekends. This includes a wide range of physical and recreational activities. In addition, three clinical psychologists spend a number of days at the School to see boys in individual therapy sessions. A board-certified psychiatrist also makes regularly scheduled consultation visits to monitor psychopharmacological issues where appropriate. The typical period of enrollment at the School is two or three years. A student can earn a recognized high school diploma from Valley View School; however, diplomas are infrequently conferred since most students continue their education in a standard public or private secondary school.

Individual Psychotherapy Available: Yes

Accreditation, Licensure: Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Early Education and Child Care; Approved by SEVIS

Professional Affiliations: NATSAP-Full Member