

Tamassee DAR School

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

NSDAR Decision to Remove Tamassee as a DAR School



What happened? On October 10, 2020, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) Board of Management voted to remove Tamassee as an approved DAR School due to the closure of Tamassee's residential and academy programs.

Why did Tamassee make program changes? State and federal legislation changes in the child welfare system greatly reduced the number of children placed in children's homes and the funding for children's homes. The Tamassee Board took this painful step to ensure the agency's financial sustainability.

Was NSDAR involved in Tamassee's program changes? Yes, NSDAR representatives were involved in the consulting process which recommended the Tamassee Board make these changes. The Tamassee Board of Trustees, which included NSDAR National Officers and the President General's Appointees, voted in February 2020 to close the residential and academy programs and focus on supportive education programming, including Early Childhood Learning and Afterschool Programs.

Is Tamassee an education facility? Yes! Tamassee's Early Childhood Learning Program and Afterschool Program are education programs (not merely daycare or childcare programs). Both programs use evidence-based, nationally recognized curriculum and are nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation. Overwhelming research shows the tremendous importance of early learning programs for kindergarten readiness and long-term academic success and of afterschool programs to increase elementary and middle school students' academic progress and high school graduation rates.

Are the children Tamassee serves underprivileged? Yes! 31% of the children in Tamassee's Early Childhood Learning and Afterschool Programs are on SC Vouchers – meaning their families are living below the poverty line and/or receive public assistance. Academically, 64% of the students in the Afterschool program are reading below grade level, and 50% are below grade level in math. In the county where Tamassee is located, 23% of children live in poverty, and 12% live in a home where no caregiver has a high school diploma.

What does the NSDAR decision mean for Tamassee? Sadly, our 100 year partnership with NSDAR has come to an end, and Tamassee will no longer receive funding from NSDAR. The loss represents a significant reduction to Tamassee's annual budget. However, the Tamassee Board and Staff are committed to continue serving the educational needs of underprivileged children.

May DAR State Societies, Chapters, and individual Daughters continue supporting Tamassee? Yes! Tamassee encourages all its friends and supporters, including Daughters, Chapters, and State Societies, to give directly to Tamassee to support the at-risk children our outstanding programs serve.