

APPROVED



# Maine Academy of Natural Sciences

## Minutes

### MeANS' Board Meeting

---

#### Date and Time

Thursday May 15, 2025 at 4:30 PM

---

#### Directors Present

A. Perkins, D. Gram, G. Bazakas, K. Patnode (remote), L. Karter (remote), M. Harris, R. Dodge, W. King

#### Directors Absent

E. Brown, M. Callan

#### Guests Present

A. Boudreau, A. Hyde, E. Coleman, E. Pariser, Grace Hilmer, P. Henyan

---

### I. Opening Items

#### A. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Dodge called a meeting of the board of directors of Maine Academy of Natural Sciences to order on Thursday May 15, 2025 at 4:33 PM.

#### B. Record Attendance

#### C. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda

- Approve hiring the new HOS.
- Information Sharing - Change in Charter Schools.

**D. Public Comment**

None.

**E. HOS Search Committee Update**

- The Search Committee has a recommendation to the Board - **Ryan Anthony**.
- Formal vote later in the meeting.

**F. Welcome to New Prospective Board Members**

- Potential new board members attended tonight - Nancy Finland, Emanuel Pariser, Galen Lichterfield (Class of 2014), and Mackenzie (Class of 2014.)

**G. Staff Presentations - Student Participation on HOS Search Committee and College Visits**

- Evan and Julian Moreno (11th grade student).
- GEAR UP Maine Rise - Partners with us and other rural, low-income areas in the state.
- Work with kids about going to college, how to get Financial Aid/funds, college visits, etc.
- Julian talked about the College Road trip he went on a couple of weeks ago, and how beneficial it was and is for students to actually go to college campuses to see what they offer for themselves.
- MeANS was the most represented high school on the trip, even though we were the smallest.
- GEAR UP is up for potential cut by Federal Gov't - Call to action push to save it.

**II. Consent Agenda (action requested by Approval of Consent Agenda)**

**A. Approve Minutes from 03.13.25 Meeting**

- M. Harris made a motion to approve the minutes from MeANS' Board Meeting on 03-13-25.
- A. Perkins seconded the motion.
- None.
- The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**B. Committee Reports**

- Anna - Always a pleasure to visit.

**III. Action Items**

**A. Accept FY2024 Audit Reports from Berry Dunn**

- They gave MeANS a clean opinion.
- No difficulties working with MeANS staff.
- W. King made a motion to Accept.

G. Bazakas seconded the motion.

None.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**B. Approve FY2024 Q4 Financial Reports**

-Did well at the end of last year.

W. King made a motion to Approve.

G. Bazakas seconded the motion.

None.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**C. Approve FY2026 Operating Budget, as recommended by the Finance Committee**

-Cost of the building conversations with GWH - rent.

-First time we have taken a longer look at our financial future so we can get closer to a balanced budget.

-Change in federal rate a concern.

W. King made a motion to Approve.

G. Bazakas seconded the motion.

-Emanuel - Does it make sense to create a back-up budget?

-Other funding risks; (other than the Federal?)

-Out of district placement also a concern.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**D. Approve School Year 2025-26 Calendar**

-Evan - We have found a good rhythm with keeping things consistent with our calendar - intensives, breaks, etc.

-Next year is very similar to this year.

W. King made a motion to Approve.

A. Perkins seconded the motion.

None.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**E. Approve the Hiring of Ryan Anthony (Subject to the Acceptance of a Written Offer Letter)**

W. King made a motion to Approve.

K. Patnode seconded the motion.

None.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**IV. Information Sharing**

**A. Co-Leader (Head of School) Reports**

- Pat - Two new teachers have accepted Threshold Teacher positions.
- Still in the process of hiring a Social Studies teacher for Campus.
- New Custodian.
- We are on pace for a 185 Enrollment number. Things have slowed because we are in the process of going down the lottery list/waitlist.
- We are moving through Campus student interviews - things are going well there.
- No concerns about enrollment.

-Evan - HOS Search process was a positive one - strong candidates/strong ones in hiring other positions as well.

-We are very busy right now - spring assessments, SLC week, field trips, capstones, speeches, graduation, prom, summer intensives, summer celebration, etc.

## **B. IRS Form 990 Update**

- Ashley - The form was filed for this year.

## **C. Update on Status of LD 1571 (and possibly other bills) - re: Teacher Certification, etc.**

-LD 1571 - Any teacher hired by a charter school needs to have a current teacher certificate.

-MeANS has one teacher who will work on re-certification for the upcoming school year.

-LD 282 - Limit on number of charter schools in Maine to 9. (There are 9, and 1 more has been approved.)

-Community Regional Charter School to move to Waterville, possibly.

-Bill for Charter Schools to move within a radius of other Charter Schools?

-Thanked potential new Board Members for coming, and next month's Board Meeting (6/12) we will vote on their nominations.

## **V. Closing Items**

### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

A. Perkins made a motion to Adjourn.

D. Gram seconded the motion.

None.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Dodge