APPROVED

Maine Academy of Natural Sciences

Minutes

MeANS' Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday January 8, 2026 at 4:30 PM

Location
Maine Academy of Natural Sciences
13 Easler Road
Hinckley, ME 04944

Meeting ID
meet.google.com/ypk-ksmr-icz

Phone Numbers
(US)+1 984-212-6447

PIN: 590 407 538#

Directors Present
A. Perkins, D. Gram, E. Pariser, G. Bazakas, G. Lichterfeld, M. Callan, M. Harris, W. King

Directors Absent
M. Oben, N. Findlan

Guests Present
A. Boudreau, A. Hyde, Danni Best, Elise Gudde, P. Henyan, R. Anthony

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Callan called a meeting of the board of directors of Maine Academy of Natural Sciences to order on Thursday Jan 8, 2026 at 4:33 PM.

B. Record Attendance

1 minute of reflection time - New Year!

C. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda

None.

D. Public Comment

None.

E. Staff/Student Presentation - Can We? Cohort

-Josh Cochran (12) and Zachary Korbet (11) giving a presentation on the Can We? Project.
-An organization that we are partnered with that teaches us to communicate with our peers about political issues, other issues going on./Different schools and students.
-Having meaningful discussions instead of debates.
-Talked about Collaborative Retreat.
-Teachers also do it with each other.
-Talked about why the experience mattered to them - teaches our school values, teaches skills like open communication and respect that students will need in the real world.

II. Consent Agenda (Action requested by approval of Consent Agenda)

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 13th, 2025 Board Meeting

G. Lichterfeld made a motion to approve the minutes from MeANS' Board Meeting on 11-13-25.
E. Pariser seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Approval of Committee Reports

G. Lichterfeld made a motion to Accept.
E. Pariser seconded the motion.
-Dianna and Galen's visit - Amazed at the teamwork on their visit.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

III. Action Items

A. Vote to Approve Proposed 27-29 3-Year Budget

W. King made a motion to Accept.
A. Perkins seconded the motion.
-For the Charter Commission to use to forecast.
-Asking for Board Approval of the projected budget - in May we will vote on the actual budget.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Adhoc Board Governance Committee

-Lost two Board Members this year.
-Mary talked to our Board OnTrack Executive coach, and we need an AdHoc Committee to work on recruiting new Board Members for next year - focusing on specific skill sets for what we need vs. merely people we know.
-Galen, Mary, Danni, and Ryan to work on - if anyone has suggestions, we are open.
Mary is going to reach out to Cheryl Bulmer, former Board Chair.

C. Board OnTrack Profiles

-Work on updating your skills, info., etc.

D. Board Assessment

-Two assessments will inform Board where some of the skill gaps are.

E. Adhoc Strategic Goals Committee

-Goals from the Board need to be revised.
-Ryan to help recruit staff for this.
-Greg and Martha will help with this.

IV. Information Sharing

A. HOS Report

-It has been an action-packed fall.
-Focus on academics and mission-centered projects - Working together, restorative practices - school-wide and classroom.
-MFA Craft Night after school - hoping to take a more active role going forward.
-December Coffee House - Great chance to perform for kids and staff.
-Threshold Monday - Holiday Crafts/Swag making and soup kitchen visit.
-Two Threshold students graduated.
-Can We? Retreats - Two so far this year.
-Greenhouse sales - Danni and students.
-Ashley and Ryan brainstorming the 3-Year Budget we just approved.

-Working hard on enrollment - 5 or 6 school of choice visits coming up and our first Open House coming up this month.
-Hired a new IT Director.
-Mid. Year Charter Meeting on Monday - An informal conversation about how things are going for the school./Work for the renewal will start in May.
-Grant writing - Hoping to write a couple of grants this spring with the help of some staff.
-Hosting upcoming Open Houses and Shadow Days.
-We are in Winter Intensives right now - Survival, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Ice.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

D. Gram made a motion to Adjourn.
G. Lichterfeld seconded the motion.
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 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Callan