APPROVED

Maine Academy of Natural Sciences

Minutes

MeANS' Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday March 12, 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, E. Pariser, G. Bazakas, G. Lichterfeld (remote), M. Callan, M. Harris, M. Oben, N. Findlan, W. King

Directors Absent
D. Gram

Guests Present
A. Boudreau, A. Hyde (remote), Danni Best, E. Coleman, 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 Mar 12, 2026 at 4:31 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda

Action Items:
B. New Investment Account that will require two signatures.

D. Public Comment

None.

E. Staff/Student Presentation - Intensives

Three students talking about our Intensives = Maeve Coughlin, Avah Lombard, and Bella Pinnette.

-What are Intensives?
*Two weeks where each grade has a topic related to the natural sciences that ends with a final project. All grades come together to share what they learned at the end; (two weeks for each season.)

-What has been your favorite so far and why?
*Bella - Survival Intensive in 9th grade/learned a lot/overnight trip.
*Avah - Aquaculture/learned new things about seaweed and kelp.
*Maeve - Apple Intensive in 10th grade/apple pie cooking competition/studying different orchards.

-Hardest part?
*Not knowing your schedule - how long each field trip will be, etc.
*Younger kids going out into the community - can be difficult at first.
*Finding your place within your grade.

-Something you will take with you from Intensives?
*New hobby = Beekeeping.
*All of the opportunities you learn about; (College of the Atlantic.)
*How to sustainably raise animals.

-Intensives expose you to career opportunities/more education opportunities/possible job shadowing and internships.

-They make you interested in a topic as opposed to just learning it.
-Hands-on learning - There are some things you cannot learn from a textbook.
-Getting to talk to people who know things is a unique opportunity.
-During Intensives the teachers are learning with the students.
-Learned about ourselves over the years.

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

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 8th, 2026 Board Meeting

M. Harris made a motion to approve the minutes from MeANS' Board Meeting on 01-08-26.
M. Oben seconded the motion.
Anna - Other ways we can support teachers, in addition to school visits.
-Showing kids how things like math, etc. are used on a daily basis.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Approval of Committee Reports

M. Harris made a motion to Accept.
M. Oben seconded the motion.
Anna - Other ways we can support teachers, in addition to school visits.
-Showing kids how things like math, etc. are used on a daily basis.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Action Items

A. Vote to Accept the Final Audit Results

Ashley - Received a clean result.
A. Perkins made a motion to Accept.
E. Pariser seconded the motion.
None.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. New Investment Account

-We were given a donation that requires us to have a separate account; (two signatures required.)
-We need to vote to change the signers on the old account; (Admin. and Board Member.)
W. King made a motion to 1. To change the people who sign for the current account and 2. Give those people the authority to set up a second account.
M. Harris seconded the motion.
Mary, Greg, Ashley, and Ryan as signers.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Information Sharing

A. Governance Ad Hoc Committee Update

-Have been working with Board OnTrack to create a timeline for us to bring on new board members; (school finance or nonprofit backgrounds preferable, as well as development background.)
-Packet of information to give to prospective board members.
-Framing the way we talk about who we are as a school.

B. Q2 Finance Report

-Expenses are below budget.
-Good position for our financial goal, but still running a tight ship.

C. HOS Update

More than half way through the school year already!
-Last two months have a lot to celebrate
*Carpenter's Boat Shop Trip - 3 day/2 night hand-tool workshop on creating Mason Bee Hives.
-In the spring the Montessori school are going to come here and learn from our kids how to make them/amazing experience for our kids.
*Can We? Project at our last In-Service/Teachers are leading workshops during our In-Services this year as well.
*Enrollment - Open Houses, Shadow Days, and scheduled a handful of interviews/have 4 new students for next year already./Campus and Threshold programs have switched several students as well.
*Fundraising - "Adopt-A-Tree" Fundraiser to raise money to fund the oil for the sugarhouse./Surpassed our 40-tree goal!
*Project Showcase for Q2 was a success.
*Faculty Meetings are on Tuesdays now, not Fridays, Department Meetings are added as well.
*Hiring two new Threshold teachers for next year/going up to 70-ish Threshold students.
*Finalizing next year's budget.
*Grant-writing.

D. Development Committee Annual Appeal Update

-We received the Microsoft stock and the tree adoption funds/doubled the By All MeANS campaign funds from a couple of months ago.
-Focusing on some grant possibilities.

E. Charter Renewal Update- Timeline

-5-year renewal beginning late May going through October.
-Report due 9/4.
-Public hearing in the fall.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

N. Findlan made a motion to Adjourn.
M. Oben seconded the motion.
None.
The board **VOTED** unanimously 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