



Maine Charter School Commission

Monthly Commission Meeting

Published on August 13, 2024 at 11:07 AM EDT

Date and Time

Tuesday August 13, 2024 at 1:00 PM EDT

Location

Room # 103, Cross Office Building, 111 Sewall Street, Augusta or via Zoom

The **Vision** of the Maine Charter School Commission is that *"Innovative public charter schools will provide Maine students with an equitable opportunity for an excellent education where students are valued, supported and challenged."*

The **Mission** of the Maine Charter School Commission is *"To authorize, monitor and support innovative public charter schools that provide a dynamic, high-quality education for every student."*

Reminders:

- This meeting is being recorded via Zoom.
 - We ask members of the public to hold comments until public comments are heard.
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Any person seeking special accommodation for the public meeting should contact Sue Whipkey at (207)816-2187 or susan.whipkey@maine.gov.

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter
I. Opening Items		
A. Record Attendance		Susan Whipkey
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Norm Higgins
C. To Consider the Approval of the 6/11/24 Commission Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Norm Higgins
II. Comments from Commission Chair		
A. Comments	Discuss	Norm Higgins
III. Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda		
A. Additions/Adjustments	Discuss	Norm Higgins
IV. Committee Reports		
A. School Performance Committee	FYI	Tori Kornfield
B. Finance Committee	FYI	Leigh Albert
• <i>FY24 Year End Reconciled Financials</i>		
C. Executive Committee	FYI	Norm Higgins
V. Public Comment*		
A. Public Comment	Discuss	Norm Higgins
VI. Presentations		
<i>None</i>		

Purpose Presenter

VII. Executive Director/Commission Staff Report

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|------------|
| A. School Updates | Discuss | Lana Ewing |
| B. Organizational Updates | Discuss | Lana Ewing |
| C. Media Updates | FYI | Lana Ewing |

- 2025 Maine Teacher of the Year Semifinalists Announced

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|------------------------------|-----|------------|
| D. New Charter School | FYI | Lana Ewing |
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- *Letters of Intent*

VIII. Monthly School Portfolio/Data Report

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|---|---------|------------|
| A. Spring 2023 Panorama Survey Results | Discuss | Lana Ewing |
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IX. Unfinished Business

None

X. New Business Requiring Approval and/or Acceptance

- | | | |
|---|------|---------------|
| A. To Consider the Appointment of Norm Higgins as Chair of the Maine Charter School Commission | Vote | Brian Langley |
| B. To Consider the Appointment of Leigh Weisenburger Albert as Vice Chair of the Maine Charter School Commission | Vote | Brian Langley |
| C. To Consider the Approval of the Proposed Changes to Internal MCSC Policies and Procedures | Vote | Norm Higgins |

XI. New Business Requiring Notification to the Commission (No formal action to be taken by Commission)

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| A. New Governing Board Members | FYI | Norm Higgins |
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- *Baxter Academy for Technology and Science (Daniel Strader)*

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| B. Board Member Resignations | FYI | Norm Higgins |
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Purpose

Presenter

- *Community Regional Charter School (Tonya Arnold)*
- *Ecology Learning Center (Michael Shell)*

C. Board Member Term Outs

FYI

Norm Higgins

- *Baxter Academy for Technology and Science (Thorn Dickinson)*
- *Ecology Learning Center (Laura Graham)*
- *Fiddlehead School of Arts & Sciences (Kimberly Allen)*
- *Fiddlehead School of Arts & Sciences (Ben Kramer)*
- *Maine Academy of Natural Sciences (Dana Doran)*
- *Maine Academy of Natural Sciences (Mike Muir)*

XII. Executive Session

Title 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS, Chapter 13: PUBLIC RECORDS AND PROCEEDINGS, Subchapter 1: FREEDOM OF ACCESS; 405. Executive Sessions

(A) Discussion or consideration of the employment, appointment, assignment, duties, promotion, demotion, compensation, evaluation, disciplining, resignation or dismissal of an individual or group of officials, appointees or employees of the body or agency or the investigation or hearing of charges or complaints against a person or persons subject to the following conditions:

1) An executive session may be held only if the public discussion could be reasonably expected to cause damage to the individual's reputation or the individual's right to privacy would be violated.

XIII. Next Month's Topics

A. Next Month's Topics

FYI

Norm Higgins

September

- SY2022-23 Annual Monitoring Reports Addendum
- SY2023-24 End of Year Unenrollment Data
- To Consider the Approval of Maine Arts Academy's Request to Expand Grade Levels to Include Grade 7 and Grade 8

October

- To Consider the Approval of Ecology Learning Center's Renewal Application

- To Consider the Approval of Maine Virtual Academy's Renewal Application

November

- To Receive and Place on File SY2023-24 Annual Monitoring Reports
- To Consider the Approval of the SY2023-24 Annual Report to the Commissioner

XIV. Announcements

A. Important Dates FYI Norm Higgins

- 9/17/24 Public Hearing for Renewal - Ecology Learning Center (2:30-4:00pm/42 Depot Street, Unity)
- 9/26/24 Public Hearing for Renewal - Maine Virtual Academy (1:00-2:30pm/ZOOM)
- 12/9/24 Governing Board Strategic Planning PD Session (10:00-12:00pm)
- 12/10/24 Commission Strategic Planning PD Session (10:00-12:00pm)

B. Upcoming Business Meetings FYI Norm Higgins

- **September 10, 2024** (*Maine Arts Academy, 310 Cony Road, Augusta*) or Zoom
- **October 8, 2024** (*Cross Office Building, Room #103, Augusta*) or Zoom
- **November 12, 2024** (*Fiddlehead School of Arts & Sciences, 25 Shaker Road, Gray*) or Zoom

XV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting Vote Norm Higgins

* The Charter School Commission does not allow airing of complaints in public meetings regarding Commission and charter school employees or school employment matters, in order to protect employee privacy, to comply with Maine law and pursuant to our contractual relation with the schools. To the extent that the Commission receives complaints and concerns relating to school employees in writing, those concerns will be reviewed and addressed by the Commission and its staff outside of a public meeting. This meeting is not the appropriate forum for such comments. You are free to direct your concerns in writing to the Commission's Executive Director, if you have not done so already.