



Maine Charter School Commission

Monthly Commission Meeting

Published on May 9, 2025 at 9:33 AM EDT

Date and Time

Tuesday May 13, 2025 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.

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 4/8/25 Commission Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Norm Higgins
II. Comments from Commission Chair		
A. Comments	Discuss	Norm Higgins
• <i>Ad-Hoc Election of Commission Officers Committee</i>		
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
C. Executive Committee	FYI	Norm Higgins
D. Ad-Hoc New School Application Review Committee	FYI	Lana Ewing
V. Public Comment*		
A. Public Comment	Discuss	Norm Higgins
VI. Presentation(s)		
• <i>None</i>		
VII. Executive Director/Commission Staff Report		

	Purpose	Presenter
A. School Updates	Discuss	Lana Ewing
B. Organizational Updates	Discuss	Lana Ewing
C. Media Updates	FYI	Lana Ewing

- *Maine Connections Academy Hosts Statewide Academic Summit*

VIII. Monthly School Portfolio/Data Report

- *None*

IX. Unfinished Business

- *None*

X. New Business Requiring Approval and/or Acceptance

A. To Consider the Approval to Move MOXIE Public Schools to Contract/Charter Negotiations	Vote	Lana Ewing
B. To Consider the Approval of the Commission's FY26 Operating Budget	Vote	Norm Higgins

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

A. New Governing Board Members	FYI	Norm Higgins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Baxter Academy for Technology and Science (Vincent Giuseppe Aliquo)</i> 		
B. Board Member Resignations	FYI	Norm Higgins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None</i> 		
C. Board Member Term Outs	FYI	Norm Higgins

Purpose Presenter

- *None*

XII. Future Topics

A. Future Topics FYI Norm Higgins
June

- To Consider the Need to Hold a Commission Meeting in July
- To Consider Maine Arts Academy's Bylaw Amendment Request

July/August

- To Consider Community Regional Charter School's Request to Consolidate Into One Building and to Incur the Debt Required to Build the Building
- Election of Officers

XIII. Announcements

A. Important Dates FYI Norm Higgins

- 5/29/25 - Maine Charter School Hall of Flags beginning at 9 AM
- 10/22/25 - Maine Arts Academy Ribbon Cutting Ceremony from 5 PM - 7 PM

B. Upcoming Business Meetings FYI Norm Higgins

- **June 10, 2025** (*Cross Office Building, Room #103, Augusta*) or Zoom

C. 2025 Graduation Dates FYI Norm Higgins

- Baxter Academy for Technology and Science (May 31st at 11:00am/Merrill Auditorium-Portland)
- Community Regional Charter School (June 13th at 6:00pm/Skowhegan Municipal Building, Opera House-Skowhegan)
- Ecology Learning Center (June 5th at 5:00pm/MOFGA)

Purpose	Presenter
• Maine Academy of Natural Sciences - Campus Program (July 18th at 6:00pm/MeANS Campus-Hinckley)	
• Maine Academy of Natural Sciences - Threshold Program (July 11th at 6:00pm/MeANS Campus-Hinckley)	
• Maine Arts Academy (June 1st at 12:00pm/Augusta Civic Center)	
• Maine Connections Academy (June 6th at 2:00pm/Merrill Auditorium-Portland)	
• Maine Virtual Academy (June 6th ay 2:00pm/ZOOM)	

XIV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Norm Higgins
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* 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.

Coversheet

To Consider the Approval of the 4/8/25 Commission Meeting Minutes

Section:	I. Opening Items
Item:	C. To Consider the Approval of the 4/8/25 Commission Meeting Minutes
Purpose:	Approve Minutes
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	Minutes for Monthly Commission Meeting on April 8, 2025

APPROVED



Maine Charter School Commission

Minutes

Monthly Commission Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday April 8, 2025 at 1:00 PM

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."***

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Directors Present

Brian Langley (remote), James Ford (remote), Jim Handy, Norm Higgins, Tom Keller, Tori Kornfield

Directors Absent

Leigh Albert

Guests Present

Amy Allen (remote), Lana Ewing, Susan Whipkey

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Norm Higgins called a meeting of the board of directors of Maine Charter School Commission to order on Tuesday Apr 8, 2025 at 1:00 PM.

C. To Consider the Approval of the 3/11/25 Commission Meeting Minutes

Jim Handy made a motion to approve the minutes from the Monthly Commission Meeting on 03-11-25.

Tori Kornfield seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Tom Keller	Aye
Jim Handy	Aye
Leigh Albert	Absent
Norm Higgins	Aye
Brian Langley	Aye
Tori Kornfield	Aye
James Ford	Abstain

II. Comments from Commission Chair

A. Comments

Norm expressed his appreciation for the work all are doing including:

- Mid-Year Reports
- The New School Application review
- Professional Development organized for the schools
- Public Relations and work with the Maine Charter School Alliance

Norm also reminded that in this challenging environment, it is important to stay focused on the Maine Charter School Commission's mission and vision statements. Jim read both statements.

Norm followed up with the Governor's office for a status on nominating Commission members and is waiting to receive an update. He also asked for volunteers to be on the officer nominating committee.

III. Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda

A. Additions/Adjustments

None

IV. Committee Reports

A. School Performance Committee

Tori reported the Committee reviewed the Moxie application and formulated interview questions for the in-person candidate interview.

Lana reviewed the next steps in the new school selection process.

Amy shared an update on two data projects that the Committee has found useful:

- Summary of School Unenrollment / Enrollment Statistics.
- Side by Side Comparison of Charter School vs Traditional Public-School Requirements.

Lana shared ideas for carryover spending in FY26 to discuss further next meeting.

B. Finance Committee

Brian Langley reported the Finance Committee:

Received updates from Travis Works on the Community Regional Charter School ("CRCS") facility planning project including efforts to secure a new site for a Fall 2027 opening.

Reviewed a draft FY26 budget proposal including a proposal under the existing structure and a proposal under a new Body Politic classification.

Reviewed carryover funds available for use in FY26. Lana provided spending options for discussion. These options will also be shared with the schools for feedback prior to a budget vote in May.

Discussed the creation of a reserve for any future legal expenses.

Reviewed School Finance Committee Reports.

C. Executive Committee

Norm reported the Committee reviewed the School Performance Committee and Finance Committee reports.

The Committee is watching for the proposed legislation of the change in Commission structure. This proposal is still at the revisors office, and it is pending.

D. Ad-Hoc New School Application Review Committee

Lana reported the team performed a detailed review of each application using a grading rubric and has held several meetings including an initial consensus meeting, capacity interviews with the applicants, and another consensus meeting based on all evidence available.

Based on this thorough review, the team is prepared to make a recommendation to advance a finalist. Lana clarified the recommendation is not an endorsement of the school at this time but is a recommendation to move the applicant forward to the next steps including a Commission interview and a public hearing.

Lana reported the Wabanaki Hybrid Charter High School applicant chose to withdraw and refine their application for future consideration. The vote to advance will apply to the Moxie School only.

Brian commented on the thoroughness of the process.

Tom spoke of the value of the consultants, David Hartman and Joe Drago, to the process.

V. Public Comment*

A. Public Comment

Elizabeth Frinkes from CRCS shared that the school held a Career Week where over 25 community members and family members representing a variety of careers spoke to students. This event is aligned with their new math program, Pathways to Careers.

Travis Works reported CRCS held a game night for families who don't normally have an opportunity to connect because of the school's geographic region.

VI. Presentation(s)

A. Anna Klein-Christie

Anna gave the Commission a presentation about her recent three-week trip to Kenya with Partners for World Health on their medical mission. The organization takes leftover medical supplies and distributes them in Africa, holds clinics and provides education. She participated in a research project while there and also gained insights around the Baxter student's wheelchair design project.

Teacher Sunny Stutzman and students Caleb Lyford and Lucas Parenteau also attended to research needs related to Baxter's wheelchair project. They visited a hospital, an orphanage and a school. The group set up clinics in a mining community and in a fishing village where Anna noted that wheelchairs are not common and necessary for disabled people to move about outside of their homes.

Lucas & Caleb will have a testing version of the wheelchair prototype available soon.

The chair is designed with large front wheels and smaller back wheels. The goal is to make an inexpensive product that can be replicated easily with common, inexpensive materials. They noted the high need for wheelchairs in the hospital where they collaborated with local people to perfect the design.

Anna noted possible future collaborations on prosthetics and outreach to girls in STEM education.

VII. Executive Director/Commission Staff Report

A. School Updates

Lana gave the following school updates:

- Maine Arts Academy will be holding a "You Matter to ME" event in downtown Augusta on May 10th from 10 to 6. They will create displays and hold performances and invite other charter schools to participate.
- Maine Virtual Academy ("MeVA") has been named the #1 best charter school in Maine on the Niche Platform.
- MeVA is now National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA") approved. Their academic program meets the requirements which allow students to be eligible to participate in collegiate sports. Melinda Browne clarified that they have students who are athletes, and this approval streamlines the process for their eligibility.
- Fiddlehead School of Arts & Sciences 2nd grade teacher, Sarah Giuliano has been nominated for Cumberland County teacher of the year.

B. Organizational Updates

Lana provided a timeline of the next steps in the New School Application Process:

- April 8 - the Commission will vote to advance the candidate in the process.
- April 17 - Commission Interviews
- April 30 or May 1 - Public Hearing
- Prior to May 13 Commission Meeting - Application Review Team Consensus Meeting
- May 13 - Application Approval Vote at Commission Meeting

Lana shared a Best Practices Guide for use during the Commission interview.

Brian asked about the appropriate weight to give to the Public Hearing testimony on the decision to approve a school's application. Lana responded that the testimony will be part of the entire body of evidence on which to base the decision using the established rubric.

Norm asked if the applicant could move forward with recommendations and conditions for approval. Lana explained that any approved application has built-in conditions that must be met throughout the time leading up to opening, enrollment and financial targets, for example. The Commission can also approve the school with additional conditions if desired.

Lana reported on the following other items:

- The Panorama Surveys have launched. Lana expressed thanks to Amy and the schools for collaborating, so the survey information collected is meaningful.
- The MCSC has contracted with PLT Strategies a national organization specializing in providing messaging support to charter schools. They will help schools share knowledge during the Hall of Flags event in May by creating an informational one pager for each school. In addition, they will create three one-pagers for the Commission including one with State of Maine Charter School facts, one describing charter school accountability and one about funding. All will be ready to distribute during the Hall of Flags. Tom suggested Amy's side-by-side requirements chart could be shared as well.
- Hall of Flags on May 29th - Students from the schools will be participating and ideas are coming together towards making this a good day for them.
- LD550 to support outdoor education with the Agricultural Committee - Lana thanked Pat Henyan from Maine Academy of Natural Sciences and Leza Packard

from the Ecology Learning Center who each brought students to testify and advocate for the importance of outdoor education on behalf of Maine students.

- Professional Development - The MCSC is partnering with the MDOE Office of Federal Programs to provide three virtual sessions for the charter schools. The first to be held on April 28 is with the ESEA Federal Programs team. The next two will cover assessments and child nutrition.
- FY26 Commission Budget - Next month the FY26 budget will be presented for consideration with two options, the current structure and the reorganized structure. Committees are currently reviewing ideas on reinvesting available monies for the schools. Lana will reach out to the schools for their ideas on needs, too.

C. Media Updates

- Maine Academy of Natural Sciences - Maple Sugar Sunday

VIII. New Business Requiring Approval and/or Acceptance

A. To Consider the Approval of the Review Team's Recommendation for the MOXIE Public School to be a Finalist to Open a New Charter School in the State of Maine.

Brian Langley made a motion to approve the review team's recommendation for the MOXIE Public School to be a finalist to open a new charter school in the State of Maine. Jim Handy seconded the motion.

Lana reminded the Commission this vote is not an endorsement of the school, but a vote to recommend that the school be moved forward to the final stages of the process including a commission interview and public hearing. The final vote will be in May.

Lana noted the Moxie School plans to launch in the greater Portland area with 120 students, 60 in grade 6 and 60 in grade 9 and to expand by 2 grade levels each year to reach 420 students in grades 6-12 at full capacity. Their application states that the school model uses "intentional community-based partnerships and college and career workforce connections to reach Maine's aspirations that every Mainer has an unmatched quality of life and good paying job in a vibrant, sustainable, and environmentally responsible economy. To reach that goal every graduate will earn a workforce credential or an associate's degree."

Brian and Lana summarized the review team's findings and noted they identified four key strengths in the proposed school:

- Program design - The model was academically rigorous and supportive of a diverse, high need student population. Students could earn college or workforce credentials upon graduation.

- Operational detail - The application included comprehensive evidence of components required for the application.
- Team Capacity - The founding team includes well-respected people with expertise in educational, business, charter school and curriculum development communities.
- Potential Fundraising - The team is in the final stages of securing funding.

The team also identified three areas for the Commission to further explore during the Commission interview:

- Family and Community Engagement - Look for tangible evidence of engagement.
- Enrollment Analysis - Seek data on student demand in the Greater Portland and Greater Lewiston communities.
- Fundraising and Facilities - Are there contingency plans if expected funds are not available?

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

Roll Call

Tom Keller	Aye
Norm Higgins	Aye
Brian Langley	Aye
Tori Kornfield	Aye
Leigh Albert	Absent
James Ford	Aye
Jim Handy	Aye

IX. Future Topics

A. Future Topics

May

- New School Vote
- Consider the Approval of Commission's FY26 Budget
- Ad-Hoc Nominating Committee Selection for Election of Officers

June

- To Consider the Need to Hold a Commission Meeting in July

X. Announcements

A. Important Dates

- 5/29/25 - Maine Charter School Hall of Flags beginning at 9 AM
- 10/22/25 - Maine Arts Academy Ribbon Cutting Ceremony from 5 PM - 7 PM

B. Upcoming Business Meetings

- **May 13, 2025** (*Cross Office Building, Room #103, Augusta*) or Zoom
- **June 10, 2025** (*Cross Office Building, Room #103, Augusta*) or Zoom

C. 2025 Graduation Dates

- Ecology Learning Center (June 5th at 5:00pm/MOFGA)
- Maine Arts Academy (June 1st at 12:00pm/Augusta Civic Center)

XI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Norm Higgins

Documents used during the meeting

- Dashboard for FY25 03_31_25.pdf
- Commission Interview Training_20250326.pdf
- centralmaine.com-Maple sugaring part of education at Maine Academy of Natural Sciences.pdf
- MeAA New Governing Board Member (Rachel White).pdf

* 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.

Coversheet

Media Updates

Section:	VII. Executive Director/Commission Staff Report
Item:	C. Media Updates
Purpose:	FYI
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	MCA Hosts Academic Summit.pdf

Maine DOE Newsroom

Maine Connections Academy Hosts Statewide Academic Summit to Foster In-Person Learning and Community

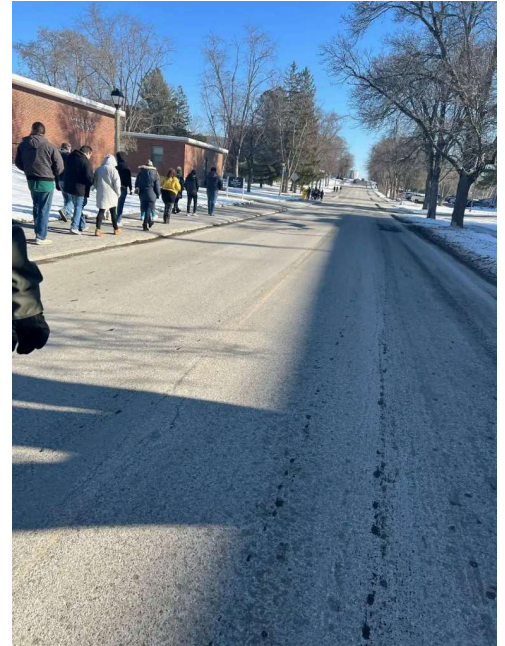




(Pictured: Maine Connections Academy students at the University of Maine at Farmington drawing)

On January 17, 2025, **Maine Connections Academy** (<http://www.MaineConnectionsAcademy.com>), a tuition-free, grades 7-12 online public charter school, brought students together for an in-person Academic Summit at several locations across the state. This summit provided students with valuable opportunities to engage in hands-on learning, interact with teachers, and connect with peers beyond the virtual classroom.

The Academic Summit featured a variety of immersive experiences at institutions across Maine, including the University of Maine at Farmington, the University of Maine at Orono, the Maine Maritime Museum, and the Portland Museum of Art.





Event highlights included:

- University of Maine at Farmington – Students visited the Field House, where they participated in basketball, swimming, or teacher-led activities, such as board games and crafts. Maine Connections Academy students also had a campus tour that introduced them to university life.
- University of Maine at Orono – Students experienced Cosmic Mashups, a planetarium show exploring black holes and star collisions, followed by a guided campus tour.
- Maine Maritime Museum – A hands-on program, How to Build a Wooden Vessel, immersed students in Maine’s rich shipbuilding history through interactive exhibits and demonstrations.
- Portland Museum of Art – Students engaged in Learning to Look with Visual Thinking Strategies, which was a guided tour designed to encourage deeper analysis and appreciation of visual art.

Maine Connections Academy’s Academic Summit underscores the importance of face-to-face interactions in an online learning environment, helping students to form lasting connections with their peers and educators and explore future academic and career pathways.

For more information about this event or Maine Connections Academy, [click here](http://www.maineconnectionsacademy.com/) (<http://www.maineconnectionsacademy.com/>).

This story was submitted by Maine Connections Academy. To submit a good news story to the Maine DOE, please fill out the [good news submission form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=q6g_QX0gYkubzeoajy-GTiGF60qzFrBEIcy-PhPoPLtUNUUwREtITjg0UURURjdNWURJWjNRUTNKUC4u) (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=q6g_QX0gYkubzeoajy-GTiGF60qzFrBEIcy-PhPoPLtUNUUwREtITjg0UURURjdNWURJWjNRUTNKUC4u).

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Coversheet

To Consider the Approval of the Commission's FY26 Operating Budget

Section:	X. New Business Requiring Approval and/or Acceptance
Item:	B. To Consider the Approval of the Commission's FY26 Operating Budget
Purpose:	Vote
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	FY26 Budget Draft 05_02_2025.pdf

Maine Charter School Commission

Draft as of 5/2/2025

	Projection FY25	Expected Actuals FY25	Current Structure Projection FY26	Organizational Savings FY26	Body Politic Projection FY26	Body Politic Projection FY27	Body Politic Projection FY28
Revenue							
Allotment - Legislatively Mandated (State Education Budget)	694,809	694,809	694,809		694,809	694,809	694,809
Additional State Subsidy Available	110,603	114,316	177,927		177,927	240,799	306,659
Total Allotment - ED279	805,412	809,125	872,736	-	872,736	935,608	1,001,468
Carryover Funds Utilization	38,285	4,286	82,761		35,876	9,498	-
Grants	-	-	-				
TOTAL Annual Revenue	843,697	813,411	955,496	-	908,612	945,106	1,001,468
Subsidy Rate	2.45%	2.45%	2.45%		2.45%	2.55%	2.65%
Expense							
MCSC Operations							
Personnel							
Staff Salaries	302,779	312,828	328,417		328,417	344,838	362,080
Atlantic Staffing Service Fee	67,669	67,953	76,141	(76,141)	-	-	-
Payroll Taxes (FICA and Maine Family Leave)				34,602	34,602	36,332	38,149
Benefits	63,000	63,000	96,150		96,150	100,958	106,005
Total Personnel	433,448	443,781	500,709	(41,539)	459,170	482,128	506,235
Contracted Services							
Financial Consultant	51,739	34,383	42,500		42,500	44,625	46,856
Project Based Support (Naomi & David)	45,000	29,600	45,000		45,000	47,250	49,613
Public Relations	25,000	18,500	40,000		40,000	42,000	44,100
Website Developer	5,000	-	5,287		5,287	5,551	5,829
Board on Track	5,775	5,495	-		-	-	-
Total Contracted Services	132,514	87,978	132,787	-	132,787	139,426	146,398
Other MCSC Operations							
Information Technology Costs - State	3,675	6,145	11,589	(11,589)	-	-	-
Information Technology Costs - Hardware			-	5,325	5,325	-	-
Information Technology Costs - Software		2,268	2,381	2,622	5,003	5,254	5,516
Information Technology Costs - Support			-	6,282	6,282	6,596	6,926
Legal and Professional Services	11,401	11,401	51,971		51,971	54,570	57,298
Insurance/Risk Management	893	893	938	1,562	2,500	2,625	2,756
Audit Services			-	7,000	7,000	7,350	7,718
Payroll Services		-	-	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,205
Cell Phone Services	2,730	1,661	2,244		2,244	2,356	2,474
Printing/Photocopying Services	1,000	1,500	1,500		1,500	1,575	1,654
Dues	7,203	4,368	4,424		4,424	4,645	4,878
Meeting Room Rental	1,050	1,050	1,103		1,103	1,158	1,216
Postage	315	315	331		331	347	365
Advertising	525	525	551		551	579	608
Office and Other Supplies	525	525	551		551	579	608
Food	420	565	1,000		1,000	1,050	1,103
General Government Service Center Fee	11,825	11,825	12,416	(12,416)	-	-	-
Sta-Cap (Indirect State Overhead)	10,264	5,839	6,131	(6,131)	-	-	-
Total Other MCSC Operations	51,826	48,880	97,130	(5,345)	91,785	90,783	95,322
Per Diem - Commission Members	15,400	12,500	15,400		15,400	15,400	15,400
Travel							
Staff	13,000	9,370	15,585		15,585	16,365	17,183
Commission Members	8,400	4,252	7,500		7,500	7,875	8,269
Total Travel	21,400	13,622	23,085	-	23,085	24,240	25,452
Total MCSC Operations	654,588	606,762	769,111	(46,884)	722,227	751,977	788,806
MCSC - School Provided Services							
Contracted Services							
NWEA Map Test	14,400	7,871	20,730		20,730	21,767	22,855
Panorama Education	11,500	11,500	11,500		11,500	11,500	11,500
Infinite Campus	21,789	22,024	23,126		23,126	24,282	25,496
Document Submission Requirements	40,646	34,210	20,000		20,000	21,000	22,050
Board on Track	35,000	27,495	30,000		30,000	31,500	33,075
Count Me In	1,500	1,500	1,575		1,575	1,654	1,736
Total Contracted Services	124,835	104,600	106,931	-	106,931	111,702	116,712
Other School Provided Services							
Charter School Innovation Fund	40,000	31,042	40,000		40,000	40,000	40,000
Lotterease	2,625	7,614	7,994		7,994	8,394	8,814
College Readiness Diagnostics	4,725	2,040	4,710		4,710	4,946	5,193
Boards & Schools Meetings & Events (Food)	1,700	3,517	4,700		4,700	4,935	5,182
Total Other School Provided Services	49,050	44,212	57,404	-	57,404	58,275	59,188
Total MCSC- School Provided Services	173,885	148,812	164,335	-	164,335	169,977	175,901
Contingency	21,000	21,000	22,050	-	22,050	23,153	24,310
Total Annual Expenses	849,473	776,574	955,496	(46,884)	908,612	945,106	989,017
Net (Subsidy plus Carryforward less Expenses)	(5,776)	36,837	-		-	-	12,451
Carryover Funds Start of Year							
State Subsidy Available - Current Year		424,896	429,246		429,246	393,370	383,872
Expenses - Current Year - Estimate		809,125	872,736		872,736	935,608	1,001,468
Prior Year Enc Funds paid in Current Year		(776,574)	(955,496)		(908,612)	(945,106)	(989,017)
		(28,201)	0				
Carryover Funds End of Year		429,246	346,486		393,370	383,872	396,323
Carryover Increase (Decrease)			(82,761)		(35,876)	(9,498)	12,451
Financial Order Request Amount		118,602	260,687		213,803	250,297	306,659

Coversheet

New Governing Board Members

Section: XI. New Business Requiring Notification to the Commission (No formal action to be taken by Commission)
Item: A. New Governing Board Members
Purpose: FYI
Submitted by:
Related Material: Baxter - New Governing Board Member (Vincent Giuseppe Aliquo).pdf

Public Charter School Governing Board Member Information Sheet

Name of Public Charter School Baxter Academy for

Technology and Science

Name of Board Member Vincent Giuseppe Aliquo

Email Address vincentaliquo@gmail.com

Occupation Vice President of Engineering,

Haiku Inc.

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Why do you wish to serve on the governing board?
2. What is your understanding of the educational needs of students in the catchment area?
3. Please list any previous or present educational involvement; such as board member, budget committee, citizens committees, etc. List school(s) or district(s).
4. What special qualifications do you have that will help you to be a board member?
5. What is your understanding of the role you will play as a public charter school board member?

Sign



Date 04/28/2025

For your convenience this sheet is located on our website under Resources for Authorized Schools (<http://www.maine.gov/csc/>).

Please see the Maine Charter School Commission's Policy on Public Records.

Updated 1.9.17

Why do you wish to serve on the governing board?

As a member of Baxter Academy's first graduating class, I helped define what it meant to be a Baxter student. My educational foundation from Baxter has defined the way I approach my work, and helped shape my perspective on the world. I learned how to fail, to challenge myself, become independent, and I fully believe that a lot of my professional success stemmed from Baxter nurturing the best parts of me.

Now, I want to bring that full circle. To give back, and to help Baxter remain a platform for preparing students to tackle current and future challenges at home and abroad. As I speak about the philosophy of the school to an international audience, I realize what Baxter has done and continues to do is unique, but shouldn't be so, as the school should be a roadmap for other schools to follow. Having an opportunity to be a part of the board is both an honor, deeply meaningful, and in the current climate, of extreme importance.

What is your understanding of the educational needs of students in the catchment area?

Students need more than just access to education, they need access to opportunity. They need learning experiences that are immersive, hands-on, and aligned with the real world. They need to understand not just the "what" of education, but the "why," and how it connects to their future careers. Baxter is already ahead of the curve, and I want to help ensure its students are prepared not just to graduate, but to lead with drive and passion.

Please list any previous or present educational involvement...

Though I haven't served on a traditional school board, I've built educational platforms that reach thousands of learners. At Haiku, I've led the development of game-based training tools that support both formal and informal education environments, including simulations used by the Air Force.

I've worked closely with educators, curriculum designers, and compliance to ensure these tools align with learning standards. I know the student experience, and I now work professionally at the intersection of learning and technology.

What special qualifications do you have that will help you to be a board member?

I bring a unique blend of leadership, innovation, and firsthand experience with project-based education. I've served as Chief Engineer, Director, and now VP of Engineering, leading global teams and securing major partnerships. I've been recognized by DARPA, the Air Force, and Fast Company, and helped win awards for product design and cybersecurity innovation.

Beyond the technical, I've worked in media and communications managing SCAD's student news sites, crafting high-engagement outreach campaigns, and contributing to discussions around education and policy. I know how to bridge the technical with the human. I'm a builder, a mentor, and someone who believes deeply in giving students the tools to think critically and solve real problems.

What is your understanding of the role you will play as a public charter school board member?

A board member's job is to lead with integrity, act with strategy, and always advocate for students. It's not about micromanaging the classroom, it's about shaping the systems that let teachers and students thrive. I understand the responsibilities of policy oversight, budget review, ethical governance, and long-term planning. I'm also fully aligned with the Baxter Code of Ethics, especially the emphasis on collaboration, discretion, and decision-making rooted in what's best for students.

My role would be to bring insight from the tech world, the startup world, and the education world, grounded in a deep, personal understanding of Baxter's mission. I'll be there to ask the hard questions, support visionary goals, and make sure Baxter continues to lead the way in innovation, equity, and impact.