DRAFT

Maine Charter School Commission

Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday January 4, 2024 at 1:00 PM

Location
Zoom

Committee Members Present
Leigh Albert (remote), Norm Higgins (remote), Tori Kornfield (remote)

Committee Members Absent
None

Guests Present
Amy Allen (remote), Lana Ewing (remote), Rachel Spell (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Norm Higgins called a meeting of the Executive Committee of Maine Charter School Commission to order on Thursday Jan 4, 2024 at 1:06 PM.

II. Agenda Items

A.

EDU Committee Presentation this month (date TBD)

- Norm and Lana invited to present after submission of the annual report.
- Charter School Commission will be reporting annually to the education committee starting this year.
- Key topics:
  - performance framework
  - school performance
  - beginning process of tenth school application
  - information on results summaries
  - focus on work done by committees and the commission
  - work with leadership of each of the charter schools
  - closure of HCA
  - school academic improvement data over last year
  - virtual school successes with mention of recent report
  - show demographics of students being all throughout Maine
  - discuss monthly work with financial consultant for each school to monitor finances
  - show data of reasons why students join virtual schools

B. New Charter School

- Will start discussing this as a topic monthly.
- Mid-January releasing draft new school RFP. 15 days after Letters of Intent are due so just releasing as public draft to gain interest from schools and inform.
- Official release in July.
- Plans to go over monthly timeline with commission at next meeting.
- Still searching and open to brainstorming new partners to connect with.
  -LLBean
  -Central Maine Medical Center
  -Bath Iron Works
  -Andover
- Native students in state being reached through a partner?

C. Maine Academy of Natural Sciences Charter Enrollment Amendment

- Submitted a charter amendment to be voted on at the next commission meeting.
- Wants to get rid of student growth plan, keep it at minimum.
- Could still go to 10% over or under on amendment.
- MeaNS is an agriculture focused school but is receiving students that are getting referred by districts to the school with the assumption it's just an alternative program.
- Plans to vote yes at meeting.

III. Closing Items

A. Next Meeting

February 8, 2024 @ 1pm-2pm via Zoom.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 2:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Norm Higgins

Documents used during the meeting

- 2023-24 Amendment for Decreased Enrollment .docx.pdf
- MeANS Org Chart 2023-24.pdf
- Enrollment and Attendance.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.