DRAFT

Maine Charter School Commission

Minutes

School Performance Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday January 4, 2024 at 3:30 PM

Location
Zoom

Committee Members Present
Jim Handy (remote), Tom Keller (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

Tori Kornfield called a meeting of the School Performance Committee of Maine Charter School Commission to order on Thursday Jan 4, 2024 at 3:33 PM.

II. Agenda Items

A.

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools New Data Analysis of Public School Enrollment

- Charter school enrollment increased 30% in Maine while regular schools have dropped 4% and shows that this is a trend across the country.

B. Maine Connections Academy: Revised Remote Proposal

- Would allow staff to work from home.
- Plan to move to a smaller facility in general Scarborough area and continue to be dedicated to the school with full time staff. Professional development be one full day a month.
- Require in person presence but if you're a staff member with performance concerns there will be a requirement to come in person more often.
- Testimonials from staff about benefits of working from home.
- Discussion of the question on how someone would be considered as under-performing.
- Policies around re-imbursement based on distance.
- Flexibility for requirements based on distance.

C. Maine Academy of Natural Sciences Charter Enrollment Amendment

- Lower growth of students. Keep at 200.
- This would help with budget of staffing.
- Plans to vote yes at commission meeting.
- MEaNS has a specialty with agriculture and is hoping for more students who are specifically there for those interests.
- Discussion on re-wording proposal.
- Planning to vote yes, noted that there are concerns about chronic absenteeism and enrollment.

III. 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 4:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tori Kornfield

Documents used during the meeting

- NAC_2023-Enrollment-Report_Option-B.pdf

- 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.