

Baxter Academy for Technology and Science
Pre-Opening Visit – 185 Lancaster Street, Portland
September, 2017

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Maine Charter School Commission (MCSC): Jana Lapoint, Bob Kautz, Gina Post

On September 14, 2017, the MCSC Review Team chair for BA and MCSC staff met at the school's new facility at 185 Lancaster Street to review the school's preparation to open the new location. Below is a summary of updates regarding the first phase of the move to Lancaster Street.

Organization:

- A certificate of occupancy has been issued for phase 1 of BA's 185 Lancaster Street Location. Work on the remainder of the facility is expected to be completed in late 2017.
- Beginning on September 18, 2017, the new Lancaster facility will open for Engineer Track students and Summit students, with some other students attending classes there in the afternoon. The other students will remain at the York Street facility until January. (Leases at other locations end in June and July of 2018).
- Teachers and staff will be at both the Lancaster and York campuses and there are designated leaders at both locations (Head of School and Dean of Students).
- There are a total of 10 local restaurants/shops with lunch plans for BA students. This includes 5 of the former providers and 5 new providers.
- Students will have specific streets and routes allowed for open campus. The Head of School and a Portland Police outreach specialist presented at a school wide assembly regarding student safety and expectations. Education around this will continue and BA teachers and staff will be out in the community during open campus while students adjust to the new neighborhood.
- Bussing will continue with 3 busses and public transportation (Zoom, So. Po. Transit, Lakes Region Bus, etc.).
- Students and staff are encouraged to bike and carpool to school. New bike racks have been installed by the school parking lot.
- There are designated drop off and pick up locations at the school and a new flashing light was installed in the school area.
- As a condition of the Certification of Occupancy BA must lease an additional student parking lot of 45 spaces.
- Some new furniture had been purchased for the school. Most furniture will be moved in from the Salt and York campuses.
- Technology equipment has been purchased and is being installed as it arrives. Some items were delayed due to recent hurricanes.

Business and Financial:

- BA provided the MCSC with a revised budget based on increased renovation costs and increased revenue.

The Maine Charter School Commission visiting team was satisfied with the documentation and information presented at the site visit. Baxter Academy for Technology and Science has planned thoughtfully and thoroughly for its transition and relocation.