

Charter

Northern Maine Educational Collaborative

ARTICLE 1 NAME, PURPOSE, OUTCOMES

Section 1. Name. The name of the organization is the Northern Maine Educational Collaborative (NMEC).

Section 2. Purpose. The Northern Maine Educational Collaborative is a coalition of school systems, organizations, and individuals committed to supporting learner-centered proficiency-based education in Northern Maine school systems. The official mission of the NMEC is “to lead the development, implementation and promotion of learner-centered proficiency based education.”

Section 3. Outcomes. The intended outcomes of the organization’s work are the following:

1. A well developed and refined Proficiency Based model of education to include:

- Clear definition of what learners need to know and be able to do, including dispositions for learning / Habits of Mind;
- A system that supports learner goal setting and monitoring of his/her progress to proficiency;
- A system that facilitates fluid movement of students among multiple learning opportunities;
- A comprehensive, user friendly, transparent recording and reporting system;
- A model of successful integration of technology that effectively supports student progress toward proficiency; and
- Continuous improvement practices embedded in the system .

2. Collaborative systems/structures to support the work of the organization

- Shared resources;
- Shared planning for professional development;
- Shared networking with post secondary and other education organizations;
- Shared understanding and communication of proficiency based learning including students, staff, parents, community; and
- Shared successes and challenges.

3. Overall Outcomes:

- Improvement of student achievement through effective and efficient use of human, fiscal, and technological resources.
- Development of independent learners who participate in their own paths to proficiency.

ARTICLE 2 MEMBERSHIP

Each member must commit to sharing the mission of the organization which is “to lead the development, implementation and promotion of proficiency based learning.” Members must also commit to sharing development and implementation costs (including payment of annual dues), and access to previous development work. Members are expected to participate in monthly Northern Maine Educational Collaborative meetings, and to partner in the planning of future development and implementation work. All additional members will be selected and approved by consensus/majority vote of the membership.

Initial members include the following:

AOS 48 - changing in July to Hodgdon (MSAD 27) and Danforth and Weston

Madawaska School Dept.

MSAD 24-Van Buren, Hamlin, Cyr Plantation

MSAD 27- Fort Kent, Eagle Lake, New Canada, St. Francis, St. John Plantation, Wallagrass, Winterville Plantation

MSAD 29 - Houlton, Littleton, Monticello, Hammond

MSAD 33-St. Agatha, Frenchville

MSAD 1 - Presque Isle, Mapleton, Chapman, Castle Hill, Westfield

Easton School Dept.

MSAD 32- Ashland, Masardis, Garfield Plantation, Oxbow Plantation

MSAD 42 - Mars Hill, Blaine

MSAD 45- Perham, Washburn, Wade

RSU 39 - Caribou, Limestone, Stockholm

University of Maine Presque Isle

ARTICLE 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Northern Maine Educational Collaborative. The Board of Directors shall elect the officers of the organization and make decisions that guide the direction of NMEC. Up to two individuals may represent their school district/ University on the Board. Each member school district is allocated one vote.

ARTICLE 4 DECISION MAKING

Section 1. Decision Making Protocol, Voting Apportionment Decisions generally shall be made by consensus. Failing to achieve consensus, the fall back process for making decisions will be by majority vote of the member school districts. Each member school district is allocated one vote.

Section 2. Quorum A majority of members shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business. Members may participate in meetings via phone connection, Tandberg or similar communication connections, or proxy voting.

Section 3. Resignation, Vacancies Any member may withdraw from the organization upon written notice to the Chair/ Co-Chair(s). That withdrawal and resignation will take place at the time specified in the notice or, if no time is specified, upon delivery. Annual dues and fees will remain with the organization.

ARTICLE 5 LEADERSHIP

Section 1. Officers The officers of the organization shall include Co- Chairs, a secretary, and a treasurer.

Section 2. Elections and terms of office The officers of the organization and The Leadership Team shall be elected biennially at the Annual meeting of the organization. Each officer shall hold office for a term of two years and may serve an unlimited number of consecutive terms.

Section 3. Co-chairs The Co-chairs shall be the principal executive officers of the organization. The Co-chairs shall preside over all meetings and shall execute on behalf of the organization any official documents or actions required of the organization.

Section 4. Secretary The secretary shall keep, or cause to be kept, the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings and other committees in order to document the history of decisions made and other proceedings of the organization.

Section 5. Treasurer The Treasurer shall work with the Executive Director of CACE and be responsible for all funds of the organization, receive, and give receipts for money due and payable to the organization from any source. The Treasurer will take the lead on developing an annual revenue and expenditure budget to guide the finances of the organization, such budget subject to the approval of the membership. The Treasurer shall keep detailed and accurate records of financial transactions required of the organization. The treasurer will prepare or cause to be prepared a full report concerning the finances of the organization to be presented annually

at the annual meeting. The Treasurer will also report on the finances of the organization monthly to the membership.

Section 6. Leadership Team The purpose of the Leadership Team for NMEC is to further the work of the organization by helping to plan agendas, guide initiatives, and other on-going work on behalf of the collaborative. The Leadership Team shall consist of the Co-Chairs, three other members of NMEC not represented by the Co-Chairs regions or roles, the Executive Director of CACE (ex officio), and other consultant(s) (ex officio) as appropriate.

ARTICLE 6 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Fiscal Year, annual budget development, and cost sharing

1. The fiscal year of the organization shall begin on /July 1st and end on June 30. The membership shall approve an annual budget each year under which the organization shall operate.
2. The annual expense of running the NMEC organization will be shared by the School District Members based on most recent October 1st enrolled students. Per student costs will be determined by the membership at the annual meeting.

Section 2. Annual meeting An annual meeting of all members of the organization shall be held in the month of June.

Section 3. Dissolution In the event of dissolution of the NMEC organization, any and all assets will be distributed to the current School District members based upon their percentage of students as compared to the total School District Member student count.

ARTICLE 7 AMENDMENTS

This charter may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new charter language may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the membership. The text of any such proposed amendment(s) is required to be sent to each member fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting at which such changes may be submitted for vote.

Approved by unanimous vote (with suggested edits) by The Northern Maine Educational Collaborative: May 20, 2013