

Maine Charter School Commission

January 2, 2018 Business Meeting Minutes Accepted by Commission Vote on February 6, 2018

The Maine Charter School Commission held a regular Business Meeting at the **Burton M. Cross Office Building**, Room #103B, on **Tuesday, January 2, 2018**.

1. Call to Order and Declare a Quorum

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair, Laurie Pendleton at 9:36am and a quorum was declared.

Commission Members present were: Laurie Pendleton, Chair; Dr. Mike Wilhelm, Vice Chair; John Bird; Nichi Farnham; Shelley Reed and Jana Lapoint

Commission Members absent were: Jim Rier

Also present were Bob Kautz, Gina Post and Amy Allen.

2. Members of the Public Are Asked to Sign In

Laurie Pendleton reminded those present to sign-in if they had not already done so.

Members of the public present included Roger Brainerd (MACS); Judith Jones (MACS); Fadia Afaneh (Maine Virtual Academy); Dr. Melinda Browne (Maine Virtual Academy); Ande Cashman (9:42am); Lisa Packard (10:06am); Cheryl Clukey; Sarah Forster (11:05am).

3. Reminders

Laurie Pendleton shared the following reminders with those present:

- ✓ This meeting is being recorded. MACS is video recording and the Charter Commission is audio recording.
- ✓ Please turn your cellphones to silent or vibrate.
- ✓ Private conversations should be held in the hallway and not during the meeting.

4. To Consider Action Relative to Additions or Adjustments to the Agenda

No changes noted.

5. To Act Relative to Accepting as Printed the Minutes of the December 5, 2017 Business Meeting

Judith Jones from MACS indicated that the date for the MACS Hall of Flags Event is incorrect in the meeting minutes. The date should be January 22, 2018 not January 21, 2018.

Moved by Shelley Reed; seconded by John Bird and voted unanimously by those present to accept the December 5, 2017 Business Meeting minutes with the date change indicated above.

6. To Accept FY18 Budget vs. Actual – December 1 Report

A copy of the report was distributed for review and approval. Bob Kautz suggested that a meeting with the Finance Committee be set up to review the budget and to determine if there are operating funds that can be returned to schools.

Moved by John Bird; seconded by Shelley Reed and voted unanimously by those present to accept the FY18 Budget vs. Actual – January 1 Report.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7a. To Consider and Approve ACADIA Academy's Updated Performance Framework

A copy of ACADIA's proposed changes were distributed for review and approval. Gina Post shared that she and Laurie Pendleton had worked with the school to refine before submitting to the full Commission for consideration.

Moved by Dr. Mike Wilhelm; seconded by Nichi Farnham and voted unanimously by those present to approve ACADIA Academy's Updated Performance Framework.

7b. To Consider Issuing an RFP for Schools to Open in September 2019

The Charter Commission has recently received recommendations from two separate outside evaluations which, if implemented, could have an impact on the RFP. After much discussion, it was determined that the Commission should take the time to thoughtfully consider the recommendations before issuing an RFP for a 10th public charter school.

Motion that the Maine Charter School Commission not issue an RFP for a public charter school opening in September 2019.

Moved by Shelley Reed; seconded by John Bird and voted unanimously by those present to not issue an RFP for a public charter school opening in September 2019.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8a. To Consider and Approve Maine Virtual Academy's Request for an Allowance of 10% Variance in Approved Enrollment

Commission members have several follow-up questions for Maine Virtual Academy. These questions will be sent to the school who will prepare a report in response which will be shared with the Commission for their review.

Motion to table this agenda item until additional NWEA results are available in the spring.

Moved by Dr. Mike Wilhelm; seconded by Jana Lapoint and voted unanimously by those present to table this agenda item until spring.

8b. To Consider and Approve ACADIA Academy's Request to Increase Enrollment and Grade Span.

Gina Post shared that ACADIA Academy submitted preliminary information prior to the meeting but there are more questions that need to be answered before it's ready to present for consideration. Gina will continue to work with the school with the hope that this can be included with the next agenda.

8c. To Consider and Approve 90 Day Visit Report for Cornville High School and Preschool Program.

A copy of the draft 90 Day Visit Report was distributed for review and approval.

Moved by John Bird; seconded by Jana Lapoint and voted unanimously by those present to approve 90 Day Visit Report for Cornville High School and Preschool program.

8d. To Consider and Approve 90 Day Visit Report for MeANS Threshold Program

A copy of the draft 90 Day Visit Report was distributed for review and approval.

Moved by John Bird; seconded by Shelley Reed and voted unanimously by those present to approve 90 Day Visit Report for MeANS Threshold Program

8e. To Consider and Approve 90 Day Visit Report for Snow Pond Year Two Restart

A copy of the draft 90 Day Visit Report was distributed for review and approval.

Moved by John Bird; seconded by Shelley Reed and voted unanimously by those present to approve 90 Day Visit Report for Snow Pond Year Two Restart

9. REPORTS

9a. Chair – Laurie Pendleton

No report given.

9b. Vice Chair – Dr. Mike Wilhelm

No report given.

9c. Executive Director – Bob Kautz

Bob distributed hard copies of the Education Maine 2017 Report.

He also shared that there are several new bills that have been submitted to the legislature to begin the second session and that the volume would indicate that the agenda for this session will be heavier than a typical second session.

9d. Director of Program Management – Gina Post

Gina shared that, using a Google Form, she will send questions to the Commission for them to consider and answer. These questions pertain to the recent recommendations that have been received from the recent outside evaluations. Once all

Commission members have submitted their responses she will compile a list of common themes to discuss at the February Business Meeting.

Gina also shared that staff is considering options for improving the sound quality in Room #103. We've opened both sides of #103 for the Business Meetings so it's a bit harder for everyone attending to hear what the Commission is saying. We will bring a proposal back to the Commission at a later date.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 10a. Turn in Expense Account Vouchers at the End of the Meeting
- 10b. Next Business Meeting Date – February 6, 2018

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Roger Brainerd from MACS expressed his interest in learning more about what the Commission will be exploring for audio and video capabilities. MACS has purchased video conferencing equipment with funds from a grant but technical difficulties often interfere with its use.

12. ADJOURN - Meeting was adjourned at 11:54am.

Moved by Shelley Reed; seconded by Jana Lapoint and voted unanimously by those present to adjourn.