



## MeANS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, 8/10/20 2:00 pm

Approved 9/18/2020

**Board members present:** Cheryl Bulmer, Shannon Webber, Jesse Wechsler (via zoom), Dana Doran (via zoom), Kim Patnode (via zoom), Cheryl Mercier (via zoom), Scott Byrd (via zoom), Troy Frost (via zoom), Scott Cyrway (via zoom),

**Staff members present:** Matt Newberg, Angela Hesketh(Good-Will Hinckley)

**Members of the public present:** Bob Kautz (Maine Charter Commission via zoom)

Cheryl Bulmer called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

### **Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda:**

No additions or adjustments were requested. Cheryl B. mentioned that our meetings can no longer be held remotely. We will have our meetings back at the school and ask that those who can attend in person do so wearing a mask.

Seating will be in the large room 6 feet apart as much as possible. A zoom option will continue to be available for those who are not comfortable attending in person or those who can not for some reason. The charter commission asked that we allow the zoom option as it helps some of their members to attend more often as well.

At this meeting the vote will continue to be taken as a roll call as so many members are joining remotely.

**Public comment to the Agenda Items:** None

**There was a motion by Jess W. to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Scott C.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Cheryl B.      Aye**  
**Scott B.        Aye**  
**Troy F.         Aye**  
**Cheryl M.      Aye**  
**Dana D.        Aye**  
**Shannon W.   Aye**  
**Scott C.        Aye**  
**Kim P.         Aye**  
**Jesse W.       Aye**

**Motion carried.**

### **Presentation and approval of the back to school plan:**

Matt presented Plan. The plan is divided up into three options that carry separate plans as follows:

- 1- Low/no spread or cases (green)
- 2- Minimal/Moderate Spread or Cases (yellow)
- 3- Substantial Spread and Cases (red)

MeANS will open school following the second plan (yellow). All plans follow guidance from the CDC and the MDOE. Matt shared that the teachers all feel comfortable with the masks and will be teaching at the school. The school nurse Brittany has a flow chart that will be used to assess the health of the school and handle any situations that arise. Troy asked if Face shields are acceptable. Yes. Troy asked if teachers are doing remote and other teachers doing in classroom. Matt said teachers will be doing both. The teachers in the building will also do remote from the classroom. Troy asked if someone in the pod tests positive are they all quarantined. Yes, and Nurse Brittany will clarify what to do in her flow chart. Scott B. asked if they thought about doing Monday and Tuesday, then Thursday and Friday. Matt said that does not work well with their current school calendar which already takes Monday off. Scott C. have we looked at the alcohol percent in some anti-bacteria products. He has heard that there has been a

recall on some sanitizers. Matt said all these requirements come from Nurse Brittany. Kim P. said she appreciated the block approach. Very clear. What is the protocol for when symptoms are presented? Matt said Nurse Brittany is working on this. Bob Kautz shared that masks are the requirement and shields only option when associated with a medical condition. Also please keep in mind that if using a misting disinfectant, the person doing this must be certified. Training is available. Kim P. asked if the remote learning plan is flushed out in an updated document. Matt said there has been a day added to the in-service days where the teachers will be paid to come and do curriculum development. Tish Carr, our instructional coach, is working very hard on this. Dana D. asked if masks are required for busing. Matt said yes, it is written in the plan under the middle(yellow) plan and he said people will need masks in the first plan (green) even though it says "allow" bus drivers and students to wear face coverings. That wording needs to be changed to say they are required in the plan. Shannon W. asked if students and parents get to choose what they do. Matt said we are not giving a choice. We have had students go to the threshold program. Scott C. mentioned that there are funds to help with costs. Angela H. mentioned that MeANS has been approved for \$193,000 under the Corona Relief Fund and she and Matt are working on the specifics. The money must be spent by Dec. 31, 2020.

**There was a motion by Scott Cyrway to approve the back to school plan with the one change under transportation in the green plan to require masks of the bus driver and students. Seconded by Troy Frost.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Cheryl B.      Aye**  
**Scott B.        Aye**  
**Troy F.         Aye**  
**Cheryl M.      Aye**  
**Dana D.        Aye**  
**Shannon W.    Aye**  
**Scott C.        Aye**  
**Kim P.         Aye**  
**Jesse W.       Aye**

**Motion carried.**

Troy Frost told Matt the plan was very well done. We don't want to lose students and it is easier to relax the plan than to have to go to higher restrictions. Scott B. said he agrees. It is a delicate balance. He mentioned the concern about liability issues and suggested we be extra diligent with our documentation.

Troy Frost asked what the plan is if we need to go to the Red plan. What process should Matt follow with the board and decisions. Troy suggested Matt reach out to the executive committee within 24 hours. Scott B. felt there was not a need to consult but to inform the full board. Kim P. felt liability wise it would help Matt if the executive committee was helping with the decision. Shannon felt that made sense if we were looking to go to red but not needed to go to green. Matt actually felt going to green could be more liability. Jesse agreed. Scott asked where does the trigger come from as we have students from different areas. It was agreed that would be a difficult decision.

**There was a motion by Troy Frost that if the school needs to make a change from yellow to either green or red Matt will consult with the executive committee of the board within 24 hours. Seconded by Scott C.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Cheryl B.      Aye**  
**Scott B.        Aye**  
**Troy F.         Aye**  
**Cheryl M.      Aye**  
**Dana D.        Aye**  
**Shannon W.    Aye**  
**Scott C.        Aye**  
**Kim P.         Aye**  
**Jesse W.       Aye**

**Motion carried.**

Matt mentioned that we have a student who was not able to graduate who is currently 20 years old. According to Maine statute §5201 the student is no longer eligible for enrollment unless with the approval of the Board. The student wants to join the Threshold program to finish by December. Troy Frost asked if this is pro-bono. Scott C. asked if this was due to the Corona virus and could this tuition be covered. This might be possible. Troy asked if there were any risks to the school. None are known of. Scott B. asked if they thought about getting a GED? Matt said the student had been there for 3 years and was very invested in having a MeANS diploma.

**A motion was made by Scott C. to accept the student until December so that they can finish their course work and receive their diploma. Seconded by Cheryl M.**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Cheryl B.      Aye**  
**Scott B.        Aye**  
**Troy F.         Aye**  
**Cheryl M.      Aye**  
**Dana D.        Aye**  
**Shannon W.   Aye**  
**Scott C.        Aye**  
**Kim P.         Aye**  
**Jesse W.       Aye**

**Motion carried.**

**Information sharing:**

**Matt reported that:**

- They have had 17 student/parent interviews of which 12 were for on campus and 5 for Threshold. Numbers are still lower than budget but we will continue to accept students through the end of September.

**Scott B. reported on the strategic planning process:**

- Members of the board who could meet did meet in July. The next step is to reconnect with the working group. Work plans need to be developed with the help of our consultant.

**Scott B. reported that the development committee met and set goals and objectives for the new year. Will fine tune these to present to the board in September.**

**Other:**

Cheryl B. reminded the board that we need the conflict of interest forms signed. She also asked that committees to meet prior to the September board meeting to discuss committee goals and how they can contribute to the strategic plan areas in order to be prepared for the September board meeting which will focus on goal setting for the year. The question was raised about whether our committee meetings need to be public? Bob Kautz responded that if the committee consists of the number of board members that would constitute a quorum of the board of directors it is required to be public. If not, it is not necessary for it to be public. Cheryl B. shared that we would currently need 7 board members at a committee meeting and there is no committee with that many board members on it. Troy Frost asked if the number of days in a school year have been changed. Bob Kautz said he has not heard about any changes for next year.

The next meeting will be September 18th and will focus primarily on goals and strategic planning.

**A Motion to adjourn was made by Scott B. Seconded by Cheryl B.:**

**The roll call vote was as follows:**

**Cheryl B.      Aye**  
**Scott B.        Aye**  
**Troy F.         Aye**  
**Cheryl M.      Aye**  
**Dana D.        Aye**  
**Shannon W.   Aye**  
**Scott C.        Aye**  
**Kim P.         Aye**  
**Jesse W.       Aye**  
**Motion carried.**

Adjournment unanimous; 3:19 pm.