



MeANS Board of Directors

Minutes

Thursday, 11/17/22

**At the Maine Academy of Natural Sciences School building
13 Easler Road, Hinckley, ME 04944**

Board of Directors Present: Chair Mike Muir, Sally Beaulieu, Erin Brown, Mary Callan, Bob Dodge, Dana Doran, Dianna Gram, Martha Harris, Whitney King, Kim Patnode, Anna Perkins, Jess Wechsler

Board of Directors Absent: Shannon Webber

Others in Attendance: Danni Best, Beth Christopher, Evan Coleman, Matt Newberg, Joyce Ryan, Christine Sullivan

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Muir called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm

2. Additions/Adjustments to the Agenda

None

3. Public Comment

None

4. Staff/Student Presentation

a. Threshold

Presentation from Threshold teacher Erica O'Toole, overview of student work, how they are tracked, outcomes, goals.

5. **Consent Agenda** (Action requested by Approval of Consent Agenda)
- a. **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2022**
 - b. **Head of School Report**
 - c. **Board Chair Report**
 - d. **10/17/22 Finance Committee Meeting**
to accept report as presented

Motion: Martha
Second: Jessee

Discussion: None

Vote: All in Favor (12-0)

6. **Action Items**
- a. Q1 Financials 22-23
to accept Q1 Financials as presented

Motion: Bob
Second: Martha

Discussion: Beth presented highlights from the report.
pg 10 column b, changes based on school days in the quarter, expenses; a few that have been looked at deeply.
Loss report for \$239,689 - Better than planned, on track

Vote: All in Favor (12-0)

Jesse noted that previous minutes were incorrect. He was not in attendance. Chair Muir asked for a motion to amend the minutes approved in **item 5 a**.

Motion: Jesse
Second: Kim

Discussion:

Vote: All in Favor (12-0)

7. **Discussion**
- a. **Board Goal:** Long Term Financial Stability - Development
Erin Brown gave update on Development Committee, 100 percent support from board members. Will be following up with all Board members. Networking, friends. Will be meeting with Matt, Mike, and others on how to move forward and make an impact. Alumni base is 10 years; solicitation to them. Solicitation letters should include why public school fundraises - re: no money from local tax roll. To invite in kind donations, so they can feel connected. Having an endowment.
 - b. **Harpwell Academy Opportunity**
Matt - Update on the closing of Harpswell Academy - drawing in or partnering with the Threshold program, maybe even a satellite program. Town of Harpswell would like to keep school there.

Questions: What were the issues: would they be inherited. Strategic change would be needed. Currently 5-12th grades. Vision is for 6th to 8th grade. Residential programs: struggle to find staffing. Re: there could be an emergency board meeting.

8. Information Sharing

Head of School - highlights from Head of School Report

Highlights: Matt shared his screen, 100% of student participation.

Current biggest struggle - attendance. Board participated in a lengthy discussion concerning absenteeism.

9. Other

10. Prep for next Meeting

- a. No meeting in December
- b. Next meeting: January 19, 2023

Committees to meet a few more times prior to next meeting.

Chair Muir asked for big topic ideas:

Attendance and Enrollment

Curriculum for board training prior to next meeting

11. Adjourn 6:30 pm

Motion: Kim

Second: Dana

Respectfully submitted

Joyce Ryan