



February Board Meeting Minutes  
Approved March 12, 2025

**Date and Time:** Wednesday February 12, 2025 at 12:00 PM

**Location:** Board meeting

Wednesday, February 12 · 12:00 – 1:00pm

Time zone: America/New\_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ehx-veph-wsn>

Or dial: (US) +1 513-818-3679 PIN: 525 454 010#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/ehx-veph-wsn>

**Directors Present**

A. Hughes (remote), J. Townsend (remote), L. Warner, M. Thomas (remote), S. Gilbert, T. Rector, H. King (remote)

**Directors Absent**

A. Landry

**Guests Present**

J. Murray (remote), R. Merrill, Rachel White (remote)

**I. Opening Items**

A. Record Attendance

## B. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Warner called a meeting of the board of directors of Maine Arts Academy to order on Wednesday Feb 12, 2025 at 12:00 PM.

## C. Approve Minutes from January 8, 2025 Board Meeting

T. Rector made a **motion** to approve the minutes from January Board of Directors Meeting on 01-08-25.

S. Gilbert seconded the **motion**.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the **motion**.

## II. Administrative Report/Facilities Report/Board President Report

A. Sherry Gilbert inquired about the strings program and strings ensemble performances.

Rachel stated that a strings performance which may include a second ensemble is scheduled for the week after February vacation and that the strings ensemble is scheduled to perform at the art walk on May 10 in downtown Augusta.

B. Sherry Gilbert inquired about the location for the upcoming music recital. Rachel stated that the music area in E-wing is the tentative location for the music recital due to ongoing construction of the performance space.

C. Sherry Gilbert inquired about a qualified substitute for teacher while he is out. Rachel stated that another teacher will be covering classes.

D. Sherry Gilbert inquired about a workshop a teacher is attending, its potential benefit to MeAA students, and the length of the workshop. Rachel stated that MeAA students will benefit from this professional development opportunity. Rachel estimated that the workshop is 3 or 4 days long.

E. Sherry Gilbert inquired about the current status of the school's chorus program. Rachel stated that there are currently 14 students enrolled in the chorus class.

F. Sherry Gilbert inquired about KV and All State festivals. Rachel stated that two students attended the KV music festival. She said she would look into the number of students who will be participating in the All State festival and share her findings with the Board.

## III. Committee Reports

### A. Academic Excellence Committee

Janna Townsend, Academic Excellence Committee Chair, reported on work being done by the committee.

#### B. Development Committee

Linda Warner, Development Committee Chair, reported that the committee will meet on March 3 at 9:00am.

#### C. Finance Committee

Tim Rector, Finance Committee Chair, reported on work being done by the committee.

#### D. Governance Committee

Linda Warner, Board Chair, reported on work being done by the committee.

### **IV. Additions and Adjustments**

#### A. Steinway Player Piano

Tim Rector offered the potential donation of a 1917 Steinway player piano to the school. Mitchell Thomas suggested the idea that with the donor's permission, the school could accept the donation and potentially utilize it as an auction item in the future. Heather King stated that in the past, donated pianos have been difficult to keep in tune. Sherry Gilbert volunteered to go look at the piano if someone else could accompany her.

#### B. Construction Financing Update

Heather King stated that she spoke with Kennebec Savings Bank and that completing auditorium construction with the current contractor has been agreed upon. Heather stated the dance studio will be completed in another fashion and that KSB has offered to reimburse the school for submitted receipts showing improvements to the school from the remaining finances in the loan. Heather and Jenna will create a timeline of improvements and submit corresponding receipts to Kennebec Savings Bank for reimbursement.

### **V. New Business**

#### A. Board Meeting Times/Committee Representatives

Board members agreed to move the meeting time to the second Wednesday of each month at 5:00pm.

Linda Warner shared updated committee representatives.

Governance Chair: Drew Landry. Governance Members: April Hughes, Janna Townsend

Development Chair: Linda Warner. Development Members: Tim Rector, Mitchell Thomas

Academic Excellence Chair: Janna Townsend. Academic Excellence Members: Linda Warner, April Hughes

Finance Chair: Tim Rector. Finance Members: Sherry Gilbert, Drew Landry

#### B. Board on Track Discussion

Board members discussed the pros and cons regarding continued utilization of the Board on Track platform. Linda Warner requested input from any Board member who would like to provide feedback to share with the Charter Commission.

### **VI. Other Business**

#### A. Head of School Evaluation

Sherry Gilbert stated that the Board usually evaluates the Head of School in December or January and inquired about this year's evaluation. Linda Warner stated that the evaluation will take place this month.

#### B. Suzuki Contract

Sherry Gilbert inquired about the renewal of the Suzuki contract. Heather King stated that the contract has not been renewed yet.

#### C. Maine Charter School Commission Meeting

Linda Warner shared that Heather King delivered a wonderful presentation to the Charter Commission about grants applied for and received by the school. Linda stated that there are several bills coming up through the legislation that will likely affect charter schools in Maine. Linda stated that on May 29 the charter schools will be at the Hall of Flags and that there are two days left for new charter school applications. Sherry Gilbert added that there is another bill coming up that could possibly expand the number of charter schools, one at a time. Janna Townsend stated the importance of the upcoming bills and looks forward to providing testimony.

### **VII. Closing Items**

#### A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Merrill

## B. Upcoming Dates

February 14, 2025, Julia Gagnon performance at Waterville Opera House

February 26, 2025 Finance Committee, 4:00pm

March 3, 2025 Development Committee, 9:00am

March 12, 2025 Board Meeting, 5:00 pm

March 18, 2025 Academic Excellence Committee, 12:00pm

October 22, 2025 Business After Hours/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

TBA Governance Committee