



## THE MAINE EDUCATIONAL CENTER FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

GOVERNOR BAXTER SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
One Mackworth Island, Falmouth, ME 04105

### Board of Directors Meeting November 6, 2025 Minutes

5:31pm I. **Call to Order and Roll Call of Board Members** – Tommy Minch, *Chair*, Anna Perna, *Vice Chair*, Roxanne Baker, Lisette Belanger, Jason Bubier, Beth Campbell, Claire Jeffers, Barbara Millios, Mike Pulsifer, Dawna Thorpe, Sandra Wood

**Excused:** Janet May

**Also Present:** Steve Connolly, Dean Flanagin, Kim Matthews-Hermans, Cathy Lushman, Grace Cooney, Evah Hellewell, Amy Richardson, David Hillier, Emily Blachly, Christy LoCicero, Matt Webster, Cathy Glover, Anna Hollrock, Donna Casavant, Taylor Markie, Kim Spencer, Bobby Follansbee, Linda Follansbee

5:33pm II. **Adjustments to the Agenda**

Approved with this change: Add Article XII: Motion to Approve MOUs

Mike **motioned**; Barbara **seconded**  
**11 in favor. 0 opposed. 0 abstained**

5:36pm III. **Motion to Approve the October 2, 2025 Board Minutes**

Approved without changes (no motion necessary)

**11 in favor. 0 opposed. 0 abstained**

5:38pm IV. **Public Comments** (see "[Public Participation at Board Meetings](#)" policy)

5:39pm V. **Executive Director's Report** Steve Connolly, *Executive Director*

- Great turnout for Gateway/Time Capsule event
- New wayfare sign will be corrected
- Roxanne honored at MSMA conference
- Steve read a book in ASL to the preschoolers for Halloween
- Recent presentations at MSMA and MADSEC conferences
- Steve & Lori will be presenting to a USM special ed graduate classes

5:52pm VI. **Facilities & Budget Report** Dean Flanagin, *Director of Operations*

- Still no word on when RKO will be finished with last year's audit
- OT swing will soon be installed in Greenlaw classroom
- Submitted a reimbursement request through FEMA for \$80,000 worth of improvements we've had done
- New grass looking good

6:16pm VII. **Northern Region Coordinator & ASL Instructional Strategist Reports** Donna Casavant, *Northern Region Coordinator* & Emily Blachly, *ASL Instructional Strategist*

### New Business

7:04pm VIII. **Staff Nomination**

Daniel Belozovsky, ASL Trainer/Deaf Mentor, effective December 15, 2025.

Dawna **motioned**; Anna **seconded**  
**11 in favor. 0 opposed. 0 abstained**



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7:06pm IX. **Staff Resignation**

Glen Rudd, Teacher of the Deaf, *without notice*, effective October 10, 2025.

Anna **motioned**; Lisette **seconded**  
10 **in favor**. 0 **opposed**. 1 **abstained**

7:07pm X. **Recent Hires**

#### **Nico Bagramian, Ed Tech**

Nico was previously an Education Technician III at Portland High School and a Camp Director through City of Bath Parks and Recreation Department. They hold a Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology.

#### **Somphat Xai Phongsavath, Ed Tech**

Xai was previously a Certified Educational Technician III/Certified Behavioral Health Professional at Androscoggin Learning and Transition Center in Auburn, ME. He is also a licensed massage therapist. Xai holds a Doctor of Chiropractic degree and a Bachelor of Science degree.

7:08pm XI. **Executive Session**

*"I move to enter executive session to discuss compensation, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A) and the Executive Director's evaluation, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(B)."*

8:00pm XII. **Motion to approve the 3 MOUs discussed in Executive Session: Advisory Committees, Behavioral Health Professionals Daily Rate, Longevity Pay Increase**

Mike **motioned**; Roxanne **seconded**  
9 **in favor**. 0 **opposed**. 0 **abstained**

Barbara and Tommy left prior to this vote

8:04pm XIII. **Announcements**

Deaf Film Festival November 7 - 8

8:08pm XIV. **Adjournment**

Dawna **motioned**; Lisette **seconded**  
9 **in favor**. 0 **opposed**. 1 **abstained**