

the Ecology Learning Center

Board Agenda

June 27, 2026

8:10 a.m.-8:53 a.m. / 12:13pm- 12:20pm

In attendance: Josh Kercksmar, Tia Poulin, Leza Packard, Randy Fox, Jennifer Albee, Lauren Giroux, Margaret Micolichuk, Beth Arnold

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes: [5.20.26 Board Meeting Minutes](#)
- Executive Director's Report [6.27.26 Board Meeting Director's Report](#)
- Governance Committee [5.11.2026 Governance Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
- June Treasury Report [Finance Committee Report to the Board 26.06.26](#)

Motion to accept the consent agenda by Randy Fox, seconded by Lauren Giroux; Unanimous.

Financial Strategies & Discussion:

- Reviewed the report
 - All metrics were acceptable
- EOY Audit is scheduled in a few weeks
- Grants will not need as much monitoring next year, due to the great job the reports were submitted this year
- Maine Arts commission awarded grant for \$7,000 for a community theater program
- Alec starts as Cliff Manager in August
- Mythic Heart Theater- Finance will not be a fiscal sponsor for them, but we are exploring other partnerships
- Cliff Rental Costs- Updated Rental Agreement approved by Governance Committee
- Hannaford Helps Schools- Raised \$6,000 for ELC. If we are the highest amount raised we get an extra \$1000 award.
 - Discussed letting people know next year before so they can participate.
- Board approved Budget has been submitted to Charter Commission
- 3 year financial plan is in the works
 - Max enrollment is 132
 - Grants and State funding will be flat w/o the 3% increase
 - Teacher payscale is fixed for the next couple of years
 - Transportation- exploring lease vs purchase
 - Admin wage adjustment needs to be assessed (head of school and ops director). Currently under market value.
 - Increase in Maintenance due to the aging facilities
 - There is a lack of historical success reaching grant, Cliff and fundraising goals. These are built into the 3 year financial plan, which is a risk.
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- ***The 3 year financial plan is due to the Charter Commission 6.30.26. Lauren will email the board and we will vote via remote vote.***

ED Report:

- 6 New faculty coming in this year.
 - ½ Registrar background in Data analysis which is a new skill set for ELC
 - 2 new Special Education teachers
 - 1 new math teacher. First time we are adequately staffed in math. Will add agroecology to the curriculum as well.
 - 1 Spanish instructor- bi lingual
 - 1 AmeriCorps member who will support reception, garden work, wellness coordination, misc tasks with the school.
- Tuesday August 18th, 5pm-7pm: Ice Cream Social
- Training for staff is Aug 19, 20, 21- Sign up for slots via email from Liza
- Jake will be taking on some grant writing for ELC as well.

Motion to adjourn by Tia Poulin, seconded by Margaret Micolichek; Unanimous
Adjourned: 8:53 am

Meeting reconvened: 12:13pm

Executive Session:

Motion to enter Executive Session for Board Matter under 1 MRSA 405.6A at 12:14pm by Randy Fox, seconded by Tia Poulin; unanimous

Motion to exit executive session at 12:17pm by Randy Fox, seconded by Lauren Giroux; unanimous

Motion to renew Leza Packard's contract as Executive Director of ELC for FY 27 by Josh Kerksmar, seconded by Randy Fox; unanimous

Motion to adjourn by Randy Fox, seconded by Beth Arnold; Unanimous
Adjourned: 12:20pm