

Fuller, Heather

From: jlhannon <jlhannon2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 12:15 PM
To: Kautz, Bob; Post, Gina
Cc: Shelley Reed; Amy Volk
Subject: Independent Evaluation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Bob and Gina,

We have been communicating and meeting with consultants to conduct our independent evaluation. As we understand, the evaluator must be "mutually agreeable". We also understand that Karl has been in communication with you regarding the structure of the review, and has spoken to you about one of the consultants we met with. Because this is our first independent evaluation, we would like to ensure that all vested parties understand how we are moving forward and what has been discussed with us regarding the process of review.

Our charter contract notes:

"Commission Directive as noted in section 5.3.2 of the MCA Charter School Contract: *Beginning the second operating year, the charter school shall hire a mutually agreeable independent third party to evaluate **the schools execution of the educational program in the charter application**, including an evaluation of **the performance of the ESP**. The individual or entity hired to conduct the annual survey described above in section 5.3.2, and information obtained from the survey may, at the discretion of the independent third party, be used as part of the evaluation. The evaluation report shall be provided to the Commission no later than September 1st of the third academic year and annually thereafter; upon request the Commission shall have access to the underlying data and information. In addition, the individual(s) who prepared the report shall be available to the Commission, at the sole expense of the School, to present and discuss the report at a Commission meeting."*

Gina, you forwarded the following words of clarity to Karl: *"The evaluator should be looking to see if what is being carried out is the educational program anticipated in the application and for evidence that it is working for all segments of the student population (academics, school climate, etc.)."*
the review.

We will provided any evaluator with the above guidelines, all evaluations, surveys conducted, and relevant data as requested. Consultants have told our Board that they will either conduct their own survey or interview participants. Bill Nave, the consultant we are currently speaking with prefers to review surveys, data and information, and conduct interviews with key participants. We have reviewed his CV, and he has extensive experience in reviews and evaluation. You might even be familiar with his work with the Maine Department of Education. We trust that his evaluation will be subjective and add value to MCA's program and future.

Before we commit to a contract with a consultant, please let us know if his background and process meets your expectations. If not, please let me know, so that I might contact you and seek further clarity.

Thank you,

Julie Hannon, Vice Chair

Maine Connections Academy