

September 2, 2016

Laurie Pendleton, Chair
Maine Charter School Commission
182 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0182

Dear Ms. Pendleton:

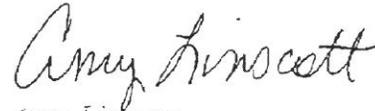
Pursuant to Section 2.3.1 of the Charter School Contract between the Maine Charter School Commission (the "Commission") and Maine Connections Academy, Inc. ("MCA"), dated May 6, 2014 (the "Charter Contract"), MCA is allowed to enroll 390 students in Academic Year 2016-2017. Pursuant to Section 2.3.5 of the Charter Contract and previous discussions between MCA and the Commission, MCA is seeking to enroll 10% more students than the 390 specified by Section 2.3.1 of the Charter Contract, or a total of 429 students. Pursuant to Sections 2.3.4, 2.3.6, and 6.10 of the Charter Contract such a 10% enrollment increase for Academic Year 2016-2017 must be approved by the Commission. Accordingly, MCA is seeking such an approval from the Commission for a 10% enrollment increase for Academic Year 2016-2017 at this time.

MCA believes that such a 10% increase is warranted because MCA has had consistent and sustained success from the beginning of its operations. Despite a compressed licensing and regulatory timetable, MCA successfully negotiated a complicated Charter Contract, obtained its Charter on time, enrolled an initial 270 students and began successful academic operations on September 2, 2014. During its first year of operation, MCA student standardized test scores exceeded expectations, and MCA 2015-2016 SAT test scores were above the State averages. Student withdrawal rates were also less than expected at 19% during the 2015-2016 school year as compared to an estimated 35% annual withdrawal rate during MCA's initial years of operation. Student graduation rates from 12th grade also exceeded expectations at 90.2%. Also, the personal testimonials of students and parents of students on the performance of the MCA educational system were frankly far better than we had expected.

In short, during its first two academic years, everything at MCA has worked better than expected. We are operating currently with 403 full-time students, and a waiting list of 25 students in addition to the over 300 that have expressed documented interest in attending MCA. For these reasons, we believe that the Commission should approve an enrollment cap of 10% more than the minimum number, or a total of 429 students for Academic Year 2016-2017.

MCA Board Members John E. Larouche, Esq. and Carol Weston are present at the Commission meeting today, along with Interim School Principal Doug Bourget, to answer any of your questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Amy Linscott
Chair
Board of Trustees

cc: Bob Kautz, Exec. Dir., Maine Charter Comm.
MCA Board