

Baxter Academy Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
March 18,

1. Call to order

Attendees: Justin Richards, Anna, Nik Charov, Ruth Dean, Kathleen De Silva, Jana Lapoint, April Theberge. Meeting came to order at 6:04PM

2. Approve minutes from February meeting (Link)

Meeting minutes approved by unanimous vote with no edits

3. Enrollment Update

## Enrollment Data Dashboard

For the 2025-26 School Year

**Total Commitments**

| Class of     | New Students | Returning Students | Total Combined | In Process (Offered) | Days Until October 1: |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2029         | 96           | N/A                | 96             | 11                   | <b>197</b>            |
| 2028         | 6            | 92                 | 98             | 1                    |                       |
| 2027         | 1            | 102                | 103            | 0                    |                       |
| 2026         | N/A          | 88                 | 88             |                      |                       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>103</b>   | <b>282</b>         | <b>385</b>     | <b>12</b>            |                       |

**Total Applicants**

| Class of     | Total Applications | Total Waitlisted | # Incomplete | # Withdrawn | Total Completed |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 2029         | 126                | 0                | 1            | 19          | 130             |
| 2028         | 10                 | 0                | 1            | 3           | 10              |
| 2027         | 2                  | 0                | 1            | 1           | 2               |
| Unassigned   | 0                  | 1                | 1            | 0           | 0               |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>138</b>         | <b>1</b>         | <b>4</b>     | <b>23</b>   | <b>142</b>      |

- Compared to last year our numbers are much stronger, and we are starting to build a wait list
0. Update from the school and update from Africa
- Anna comes back with new ideas and inspiration from her experiences. Reasons for trip include education, networking and service.
  - Visited 6 medical facilities, conducted multiple day clinics, and conducted over 250 interviews with women collecting prenatal data and conducting educational programming

- Met with nonprofit collaborative Girlkind
  - Found many areas where Baxter minds could be instrumental in improving conditions and solving problems at sites Anna visited
  - School was operated and managed beautifully while Anna was gone, kudos to the Baxter Staff for doing such a great job and juggling a lot going on at the school
    - Chess team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state tournament
    - March 29<sup>th</sup> Maine state science fair is coming up as well as trips to UMaine and UNE for visits, SAT testing on April 16th
0. Special Education Review - Final Determination from state positive
- Just waiting for the formal letter from the state, in comparison to years past it looks like we will have far fewer changes or amendments wanted for approval.
0. Strategic Planning/review of most recent policy changes from State & Federal Government
- Hard to pinpoint how to adapt our strategic plans with changes in federal policy, currently we have monthly “deadlines” for steps in the process and should be prepared for presenting our final plan in August
0. Moxie Charter School Application
- The charter commission received 10 initial requests for charter application, the process led to 2 final applicants
  - Moxie Charter School is a proposed Westbrook school with a similar scope and outlook to our current program
    - Some concerns with the fact that a similar program is looking to open next door, especially considering looking at where our students come from within a 25 mile radius that overlaps with the newly proposed charter
    - Proposed program would be a hybrid model, part online and part in person
    - Also concerns with pool of qualified teachers within the given area, even with a hybrid or remote program the State mandates

that teachers instructing remotely still need to be located within Maine.

- o Probable concerns from the greater Portland schools as well due to dropping enrollment across the board, another school competing for student enrolment would be a major strain on education
- Next step for us is to contact the charter commission with our questions and express our concerns over this proposal

0. Adjourn- meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM