SY 25-26
Issue 8
March 1, 2026

MAINE VIRTUAL ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

DR. MELINDA BROWNE, HEAD OF SCHOOL

We are focusing on serving our students and their families by providing a high-quality virtual public-school option. Our success as a public charter school depends upon your participation. We measure our school climate, annually, via the Panorama Survey, which is distributed to students, families, and faculty in late March. Please keep an eye out for communications during the week of March 16th, 2026 – our expected survey launch date. We hope that you invest a few moments of your precious time in contributing your feedback.

MEVA takes great care to analyze our Panorama results to continuously improve your experience. We are always happy to meet with you using your phone/Zoom to learn more about your students' needs. We pride ourselves in keeping our thumb on the pulse of the school – celebrating your successes and supporting your challenges. MEVA aims to provide the best virtual teaching and courses for all our learners to thrive and realize their goals.

A reminder that Re-Reg opened on 2/24/2026. Please work on submitting all required documents ASAP!

IMPORTANT DATES

- March 3rd- 3PM **Chess Tournament!** Join via Zoom- all students welcome!
- March 20th- No School
- March 25th- MEVA Meets 9:30-1, Ballard Center, Augusta
- March 25th- Science Fair, 5PM via Zoom
- April 21st-24th- April Vacation

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- April 20th-Patriots Day

MEVA CONTACTS

Use these emails for a quick response to your questions:
Attendance
Guidance
Tech

Mandatory in person state testing is coming right up in April and May, please keep an eye on your inbox for more infomation!

MEVA MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

Maine Virtual Academy's (MEVA) mission is to develop each student's full potential with learner-centered instruction, research-based curriculum and educational tools and resources to provide a high quality learning experience for grade 7-12 students who are in need of alternative educational options. MEVA will develop an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) with specific learning goals to meet each student's needs.

MEVA's rigorous curriculum is aligned to the eight Maine content areas, the Maine Learning Results, the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. MEVA will demand the highest level of accountability from our Maine-certified teachers, our educational management system and our nationally recognized provider of educational services. The MEVA Board will contract with Stride K12 for educational products and selected support services.

SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS

- Are you a strong student looking for a challenge?
- Are you interested in taking a college class for FREE in the Summer?
- If so, please talk this over with your Learning Coach and counselor and read all the **information** carefully.

SENIORS AND EARLY GRADS:

- Reminder: Mitchell Scholarship Closes 3/1/26, Worthington Scholarship Closes 4/15/26, Richard H. Pierce Memorial Scholarship Closes 4/15/26
- Many colleges have a March 1 priority filing deadline for the FAFSA, including UMaine, USM, and Thomas College as well as many others. If you need assistance with the FAFSA, you can schedule a virtual appointment with a FAME counselor by using this link: Virtual FAFSA Help
- If you have not met with Mrs. Tyler about your plans for after high school please reach out by **email** to schedule a meeting. Even if you don't know what you want to do, we can help!!
- Let us know what colleges/post-secondary programs you've been accepted to by filling out the survey linked **here**. We are so proud of you!
- MEVA GRAD. SWAG is now available for purchase, **HERE!**

VACCINE AND VISION COMPLIANCE:

SENIORS: If you have not, please email your most recent Immunization documents showing a second dose of MCV4 to **Guidance**.

JUNIORS: You will need a booster of MCV4 Prior to starting 12th grade, if you have already received this, please email your shot record to Guidance

7th and 9th graders: if you have been to the Eye Doctor in the last year, please fill out our **Vision Screening**

MEVA MEETS- AN IN PERSON STUDY HALL

Many of you may know me as Gina, or Ms. Davis, I send a LOT of communications to you weekly, answer your phone calls and technology requests, call to bug you for updated information occasionally or text and call to confirm your students presence at our in-person testing, among other things! What most do not know, is that I too, have a student at MEVA! She has attended almost every single MEVA meets since we started them about a year ago, and this is what I have to say, as a parent, about the MEVA Meets program!

“MEVA Meets is bridging the gap between Virtual and Brick and Mortar schools, the in-person you (and your student!) may need from time to time, with the safety and flexibility of virtual schooling. My student can accomplish in 4 hours at MEVA Meets what would take a week (and whole lot of nagging) at home. Dr. O'Grady is such a valuable part of this, she is the caring, compassionate teacher who doesn't judge, even if your student has fallen behind, but instead, quietly helps them make a plan of action to catch up and gets them excited about their progress”

I hope to see some of your students at one of our upcoming MEVA Meets!

Ballard Center, 6 E. Chestnut St. Suite 230, Augusta, ME 04330

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, March 25th 9:30am-1pm

Wednesday, April 29th 9:30am-1pm

Wednesday, May 27th 9:30am-1pm

MEET THE NEWEST TEACHER!

Hi! Erin Shanahan here, newest support teacher! You will find me mostly teaching 10th grade in English, Math and History. Before coming to MEVA I also taught a broad range including 3/4 English/SS, High School History and most recently with the GED program at Adult Ed.

I recently moved to Moosehead Lake but grew up in the little town of Sullivan on the Downeast coast. In the summer I stay busy as I own an ice cream store! Summer is right around the corner, glad to be with you all!

I AM FEELING LOST, WHERE CAN I GET HELP?

MEVA SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES:

MEVA has two school counselors who are trained to support all students in their academic, career/college, and social/emotional needs. If a student is in need of support, please reach out.

Mr. Pierce- Grades 7-10-
dpierce@mainevirtualacademy.org
Mrs. Tyler- Grades 11 & 12-
htyler@mainevirtualacademy.org

WHAT IS FOX TIME?

🌟 FOX Time: Focused Support for Real Growth 🌟

At MEVA, we believe every student deserves the time and support they need to succeed. That's why we offer FOX Time—a required support block designed to help students strengthen skills in reading and math. FOX Time isn't extra busywork—it's a targeted, standards-based intervention that gives students exactly what they need to grow with confidence.

Why It Matters:

✅ Builds strong foundational skills for long-term success
✅ Provides personalized attention in small groups
✅ Helps students practice and grow in a supportive environment
For more info, please email Mrs. O'Grady or Mr. Corbett

STUDENT HELP DESK

January is here, and that means the semester is almost over—great job so far! 🎉 As things wrap up, we want to remind you that HelpDesk is still here to support you every step of the way.
Whether you're feeling confident or a little overwhelmed, HelpDesk is a place where you can:

✅ Get help with homework, projects, or tricky concepts
✅ Work independently in a quiet, focused environment
✅ Ask questions in real time with teachers from every subject
✅ Meet with Fox tutors who get what you're going through
✅ Use the Writing Center for essays, reports, and more
✅ Stay organized with our daily Fox Planner (check your calendar!)
✅ Earn awards for showing up and staying engaged!
🕓 HelpDesk Hours:

- High School: 10:30 AM & 2:00 PM
- Middle School: 2:00 PM

If you haven't stopped by in a while (or ever!), we'd love to see you. Even if you don't need help, it's a great time to catch up, stay ahead, or just knock out some assignments.
You've got this—and we've got you.
See you soon at HelpDesk!
— Your MEVA Teachers
Questions? nhart@mainevirtualacademy.org

CLUBS AT MEVA

To join a club, please email Mr. Fournier

Tuesday

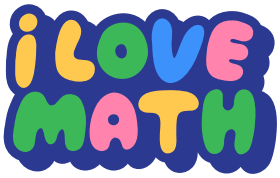
Coding Club- Are you a coding pro? A total Beginner? Somewhere in between? The Coding Club is welcome to anyone and everyone who is interested!

Anime Club meets every Tuesday from 3:00-4:00 PM. All students with an interest in anime are warmly invited to join us for our next meetings. No prior knowledge or experience is required—just bring your enthusiasm and an open mind!

Ready for a challenge? The School **Chess Club** is now open to players of all levels, from absolute beginners to seasoned pros. Learn new strategies, make new friends, and exercise your brain in a fun and friendly environment.

Wednesday

Garden Club meets every Wednesday at 3pm! Come join us to get ready for Spring!



Love games? Want to boost your math skills while having fun? **The Prodigy Club** is a new MEVA activity where students can explore math through the popular Prodigy Math Game — an interactive world full of quests, challenges, and friendly competition.

Interested in Drama and the Performing Arts? Want to explore unique ways to stage a performance either in front of an audience or behind the scenes? Stop by **Drama Club** every Wednesday at 3 PM to join in on the fun! Open to all and no experience necessary!

Thursday

Travel club meets weekly to virtually tour different countries and cities across the world. Students vote each week on where they want to "travel to" next and we explore locations through presentations, videos, photos, discussions and fun facts.

Join the MEVA **Gaming Club**! Play what you love: Video games, board games, card games... you name it! Friendly competition & Co-Op: Test your skills in tournaments or team up for epic adventures.