

SY 25-26
Issue 9
April 1, 2026



MAINE

VIRTUAL ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

DR. MELINDA BROWNE, HEAD OF SCHOOL

At MEVA, we are looking ahead to our optional summer offerings that support our mission and vision over the six-week session, June 22nd – August 7th, 2026. Please note that we give June 29th to July 3rd as a school vacation to summer students and teachers.

The MEVA Summer Session is a big opportunity for students to complete credit recovery and academic enrichment activities. Here is a list to guide your decisions; contact guidance@mainevirtualacademy.org for more information and to express your interest in participating.

1. Project-Based Learning (PBL): MEVA curriculum coordinator, Dr. Christina O'Grady, will design a customized learning experience to meet your needs. Dr. O'Grady focuses on linking students' interests to their assigned activities.
2. Work-Study: MEVA encourages our students to gain valuable experience through employment, internships, and volunteering in their local communities. Students may earn credit by completing the External Credit Form.
3. Summer Math and English for grades 7 and 8, with Extended School Year (ESY) for special education students per their Individual Education Plans (IEPs).
4. Other opportunities per teachers' design.

We are happy to speak with you at a team meeting to determine what works best and to discuss other ideas and plans that you may have.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Starting April 13th-
MANDATORY IN
PERSON TESTING
BEGINS
- 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](#)

FOX BRIGHAM, VALEDICTORIAN

Hello, my name is Fox Brigham, and being named the class of 2026 Valedictorian at MEVA came to me as a pleasant surprise. This is a great honor, and I couldn't have done it without the amazing support system that exists in my life, the great teachers and students of MEVA, and my determination to succeed.

MEVA was a phenomenal resource and was definitely a big influence in my success as a student. At MEVA, I was able to access many different subjects and learn about many different topics that sounded interesting to me. I was able to take early college classes to further broaden my knowledge and prepare myself for college as a whole. I joined some clubs that were fun to take part in, such as Gaming Club and Virtual Travel Club. I also got to cultivate relationships with many teachers and counselors, who were a great influence on my ability to learn effectively. A special thank you to Ms. Dubovik, Ms Tyler, Ms. Lugdon, Mrs. K Campbell, Mrs. McMillan, and Mr. Z Campbell for being such positive influences on my learning and helping me succeed.

In my life, a big thing about me is that I don't like to stick to one thing. I really enjoy learning about and experiencing many different things. I really enjoy many different types of video games. I used to play a ton of soccer and a bit of basketball. I like being outside, especially during the fall, and doing activities with friends and family. Whether it's hiking, going on a walk, or going to my family camp to hang out with family and enjoy lake activities. I also enjoy collecting different types of objects, like soda or energy drink cans, Funko Pops and figures, or different stickers.

For my final statement, I would like to leave off with some advice and some of my future plans. I've been accepted to an honors program at a state university, so that's exciting, and I am hopeful about where my life will take me. A quote I really love goes like this: "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." To the people reading this: you are the only person who has the sole authority to shape your path. Stay open to change, take risks, and seek the opportunities you desire. Start creating that person today :)



CALLIE NADEAU, CO-SALUTATORIAN



Hello! I'm Callie Nadeau, and I am so honored to be MEVA's Class of 2026 Co-Salutatorian. I've been at MEVA for four years now, and it has been a wonderful experience. Through MEVA, I have been able to take early college courses, serve as a member of the National Honor Society, and take part in the Garden Club and GT Art. I am very thankful to all my teachers who have supported me throughout my time at MEVA; you've helped make this unconventional way of schooling far more manageable.



In my free time, I enjoy reading, writing, crocheting, drawing, and playing with my cat, Mira. I also have fun volunteering at my local elementary school and library, which I have been able to do thanks to the community service projects for NHS. After graduation, I plan to attend The University of New Hampshire where I intend to study English with a concentration in creative writing. Once again, thank you to all the MEVA staff who have made this journey possible!

VICTORIA CASEY, CO-SALUTATORIAN

Hello, my name is Victoria, and I'm honored to be named a co-salutatorian of the Class of 2026. As graduation approaches, I've been reflecting on my high school years and the sustained mix of learning and adjusting that shaped them. I still find it strange how the years that once seemed endless have suddenly reached a close. My time at MEVA provided me the opportunity to work and learn at my own pace, and I've valued the quiet, disciplined experience that taught me a great deal about consistency and showing up for myself. I'm especially grateful for the teachers whose thoughtful and encouraging feedback helped guide me along the way.

Outside of classes, the things that kept life balanced were often the simplest ones. My favorite pastime has always been film and television—my ever-growing collection of 4Ks, Blu-rays, and DVDs can attest to that—and I've also enjoyed filling my days with music, time with my family and pets, and, more recently, getting creative with cooking and baking. These routines made life feel a little lighter and ended up being just as meaningful to me as the academic milestones. Moving forward, I'm taking time to explore my options with care and understand what direction feels most honest to myself. I'm certain this isn't the end of my education, and I'm looking ahead with curiosity as I figure out where my path leads.



A NOTE FROM THE SENIOR TEAM

Congratulations on all of your success this school year! Our time together is quickly coming to a close even with the long month of March winding on. Trust us, the next couple months will flash by before you know it!

With that in mind, we know how important it is to start planning for graduation. Our graduation ceremony will be a Live Zoom ceremony held at 2 p.m. on June 5th. Using the Zoom Event platform, we will be able to maximize attendance with a 1,000 person platform to ensure that you can invite the relatives and friends of your choice. We will email the ceremony link prior to the event.

By Mid-May, we will be mailing out a graduation package that includes your cap (feel free to decorate it), tassel, diploma, diploma cover, and NHS Materials (if applicable). If you have not already, please complete the senior exit survey to help us ensure your box gets to you.

We will have information about how to purchase the yearbook in late April after we finish finalizing it and getting it ready for publication.

MEVA GRAD. SWAG is Now Available for purchase, [HERE!](#)

Orders ship directly to your home. SWAG will be available all semester. T-shirts and hoodies include the class motto and original artwork from a MEVA senior. Sizes are available in XS-4XL. The shirts are high quality and true to size.

Now is the time to work with your teachers to ensure that you are on track to graduate in June. PLEASE NOTE: All work must be submitted by May 15th to ensure you will pass all classes and graduate. We cannot wait to celebrate your accomplishments at our ceremony in June. And, please be in touch with anything you need!

Your Senior Team

FY27 ESEA GRANT APPLICATION FEEDBACK

We invite your feedback regarding our proposed ESEA grant application, which we intend to allocate towards supplementary instruction in mathematics and reading. The public comment period will remain open until June 16, 2026. Please feel free to email me at mbrowne@mainevirtualacademy.org with any suggestions on how these funds could be utilized to enhance the learning experience for MEVA students and support teacher professional development.

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: Worthington Scholarship Closes 4/15/26, Richard H. Pierce Memorial Scholarship Closes 4/15/26
- 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, April 29th 9:30am-1pm

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

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.

TESTING- WHERE AM I GOING?

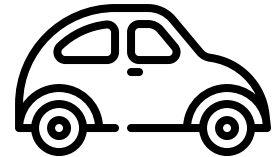
Testing is an incredibly important part of MEVA's culture, we rely on testing to tell us where to focus extra teaching efforts, as well as securing vital funding to be able to make MEVA the best of the best! Testing at MEVA is **MANDATORY**, however we work hard to ensure it is a smooth and painless process for all! That said, it can get confusing as to where and when testing will take place. Please read below to learn more!

NWEA TESTING =



NWEA testing is for grades 7-11 and happens 3 times a year, in September, January and April. This test will take place from the comfort of your own home **VIRTUALLY** on your computer!

MEA TESTING =



MEA testing is for grades 7, 8, 10 and 11 and happens 2 times a year, in October and April/May. This test is **IN PERSON**, however we set up test sites all over the state to bring testing closer to you! Locations include: Saco, Lewiston, Augusta, Farmington, Bangor, Houlton and Presque Isle.

I-READY TESTING =



iReady testing is for grades 7-11 and happens 2 times a year, in January for mid-year enrollees and April. This test is **VIRTUAL** and will take place during Math and English classes.

MSAA TESTING =



MSAA testing is for Specific students in grades 7, 8 and 11 and happens 1 time a year, in March. This test is **IN PERSON**.

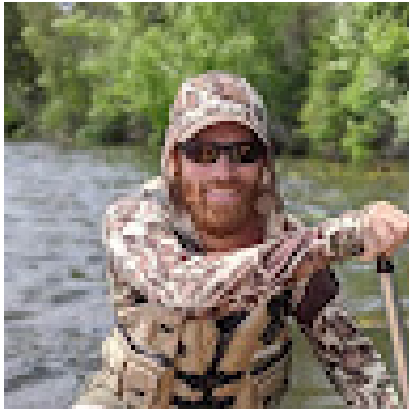
ACCUPLACER TESTING =



Accuplacer testing is for Seniors and anyone wishing to graduate early! Testing happens **VIRTUALLY** throughout the year, and is scheduled directly with Dr. O'Grady!

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

help