

## Newsletter for July 2024

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### *2024-2025 Membership Renewals*

Thank you for your ongoing support of MeASBO; your membership enables our organization to help meet your professional development, information, and networking needs. The FY 2024-2025 membership renewal invoices were emailed from the system earlier this month. If you did not receive a renewal invoice, please check your *spam/junk* folder. If you did not receive a copy, please email [Joanne](#) for a copy. Our first meeting of the new fiscal year will be held on Friday, September 27 and all membership dues need to be current in order to attend the meeting.

### *2024-2025 Meeting Schedule a work in process*

We'll be hosting 4 in person meetings on September 27, November 8, February 28, and April 4. We are planning to continue with last year's format of full day meetings with lunch provided. RSVPs will be requested in advance as we need to provide our host facilities with an accurate head count.

What we do know about scheduling is that the Capital Area Technical Center in Augusta will be the location for our September 27 meeting. Our breakfast sponsor will be [Northeast Bank](#). Programming for that meeting is being finalized. Our November 8 meeting will feature presentation's from the Maine Department of Education's Federal Programs Team and the Maine Department of Education's Data Team. The location of this meeting, as well as our February and April meetings, are still being finalized.

MeASBO's annual Law Conference with Drummond Woodsum will be held on Friday, October 18 at the Augusta Civic Center.

Lunch and Learns will continue later this fall; if you have a topic that you feel would be pertinent for a lunchtime session, please reach out to [Joanne](#).

### *MeASBO's Certification Program gets a makeover*

Last year, MeASBO received many inquiries regarding its Certification program. Based on those questions, the Professional Development Committee decided to review the program and recommend updates to the Board of Directors. Those recommendations were approved by the Board in June and the revised program requirements are posted on our website, under the "Certification" tab. There you will find a link to "MeASBO Certification Program Requirements" which takes you to a workbook with two tabs. The first tab includes the revisions to requirements to enroll in/complete the program/retain Certification, as well as the process to enroll in the program. The second tab includes the updates to the curriculum.

Coursework to fulfill the program requirements may come from a variety of resources; MeASBO will program to some of the requirements during its in-person meetings and Lunch N' Learns however, not all required coursework will be able to be provided in these forums. Program participants are encouraged to seek coursework from other organizations in order to complete the program within the required timeline. Professional development offerings from partner organizations are included in our monthly newsletter, as well as on our website's calendar.

Questions? Need more information? Ready to get started? Reach out to <mailto:maineasbo@gmail.com>

## **News and Upcoming Events from Our Partners**

### *ASBO International*

Join John Brucato every Tuesday for new episodes of "School Business Insider" podcasts. The podcase is full of timely information and interviews tailored directly to school business professionals. SBI can be listened to on Apple, Spotify, or your favorite podcast platforms.

This week's podcast is entitled "Overcoming the Funding Gap: Revitalizing America's School Facilities". Dr. Timothy Unruh, the Executive Director of the National Association of Energy Service Companies, discusses the challenges that school districts face in maintaining and upgrading their facilities. He highlights the importance of innovative financial strategies and partnerships, such as energy savings performance contracts (ESPCs) and collaborations with energy service companies (ESCOs).

Go to this [link](#) to access all of the podcasts.

## Maine Loves Public Schools

Established in 2023, the Maine Loves Public Schools Initiative celebrates school communities by sharing stories to promote positive public engagement with Maine's public schools. These great stories are shared across a variety of platforms; please give them a look and if you have a story you wish to share, go to the "Get Involved" link at <https://www.maine lovespublicschools.org/>

Other ways to view content (be sure to like and share!):

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/maine lovespublicschools>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/maine lovespublicschools>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@maine lovespublicschools>
- X (formerly Twitter): <https://x.com/MElovesPS>

## Maine Department of Education

### Federal Fiscal Programs

Mark your calendars for this event:

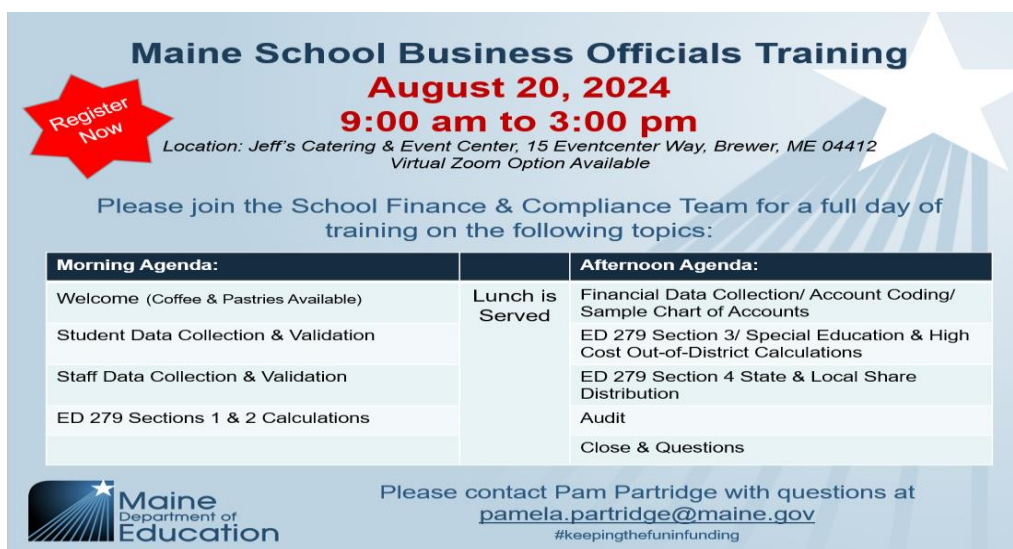


### School Construction Program Office Hours

Office hours on August 1 at 1:00 pm are intended to provide support for those school units completing a major capital construction project. You may join the webinar here:

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/calendar#calendar-6c6f22e1-033b-47cd-8ea3-0906acf8c9e4-event-ls4nb850>

## School Finance



**Maine School Business Officials Training**  
**August 20, 2024**  
**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**  
Location: Jeff's Catering & Event Center, 15 Eventcenter Way, Brewer, ME 04412  
Virtual Zoom Option Available

Register Now

Please join the School Finance & Compliance Team for a full day of training on the following topics:

Morning Agenda:		Afternoon Agenda:
Welcome (Coffee & Pastries Available)	Lunch is Served	Financial Data Collection/ Account Coding/ Sample Chart of Accounts
Student Data Collection & Validation		ED 279 Section 3/ Special Education & High Cost Out-of-District Calculations
Staff Data Collection & Validation		ED 279 Section 4 State & Local Share Distribution
ED 279 Sections 1 & 2 Calculations		Audit
		Close & Questions

Please contact Pam Partridge with questions at [pamela.partridge@maine.gov](mailto:pamela.partridge@maine.gov)  
#keepingthefuninfinding

Maine Department of Education

Also, remember the School Finance and Compliance Team is hosting monthly “office hours” on the third Tuesday of the month, beginning at 10:00 am. Due to the training event on August 20, the next office hours will be on September 17. If you have questions, the team would love to receive those in advance; send to [paula.b.gravelle@maine.gov](mailto:paula.b.gravelle@maine.gov)

You may find the registration link for these events via the [MDOE calendar](#)

Please let your auditors know that the FY 2023-2024 P-100 is not available at this time but the work to create it is in progress. A notification will be sent by MDOE and shared to MeASBO members as soon as the document is ready.

### NEO Help Desk

A webinar focused solely on the NEO Transportation Module will be held on Tuesday, August 27 from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm.

Staff data entry is coming up and as we all know, that’s an important data point in the calculation of state subsidy. A staff data entry webinar is scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, with a companion webinar on October 1 at 12:00 regarding the certification of the staff report.

Another important data point in subsidy calculation is student economic status; join the NEO on Thursday, September 5, for a webinar at 12:00 pm regarding this important data submission.

More information for all events, including the registration link for these events, is available via the [MDOE calendar](#)

## Maine Department of Health and Human Services

The Office of Maine Care Services is excited to share new resources where you can learn more about how Maine Care Covered Services are delivered in Maine schools. All courses may be accessed using a desktop, tablet, or mobile device. For more information and specific course offerings, visit <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/providers/childrens-services/school-health-related-services>

## Maine Revenue Services

Review recent copies of "Maine Tax Alert" [here](#) . May's publication features MRS rulemaking activity, to include: Proposed Rule 104, "Filing of Maine Tax Returns" Adopted Rule 803, "Income Tax Withholding Reports and Payments" and Adopted New Rule 811, "Student Loan Repayment Tax Credit". There is also information on the 2024 State Tax Symposium, to be held virtually on September 18. The event will cover recent tax updates and provide information regarding the Maine Tax Portal.



[Inflation Reduction Act Community Change Grants Program](#)

[USDA's updated nutrition standards will cost school districts \\$206M annually](#) – *K-12 Dive*

[Republican FY 25 plan would cut education funding by \\$11B](#) – *K-12 Dive*

[7 tips for workplace documentation that holds up in court](#) – *HR Dive*

[Questions not to ask during an interview — and what to ask instead](#) – *HR Dive*

[Final Title IX rule enshrines protections for LGBTQI+ students](#) – *K-12 Dive*

[What can states do to prepare schools for AI?](#) – *K-12 Dive*

[FCC approves E-rate expansion to cover Wi-Fi hotspots for students](#) – *K-12 Dive*



## *MeASBO Website*

Be sure to check out the “Shared Documents” section of our website, found under the Member Center as there are lots of new additions to this section. A big “thank you” to all of the contributors of documents!

## *MeASBO List Serve and Forums*

The MeASBO List Serve has been reactivated and a test message sent to all members last month. If you did not receive the message, please check your “spam” folder and if it’s not there and you wish to participate in the list serve, please reach out to [Joanne](#) as the list serve is being actively utilized to communicate information to members. The address to submit correspondence to the list serve is: [measbolistserv@measbo.memberclicks.net](mailto:measbolistserv@measbo.memberclicks.net)

If you are a vendor member, remember that there is a forum board specifically for you. This allows you to support our members through providing educational information, and continue to build positive, supportive relationships with our members. The forum is moderated by MeASBO leadership to maintain the goals and objectives of the forum board.