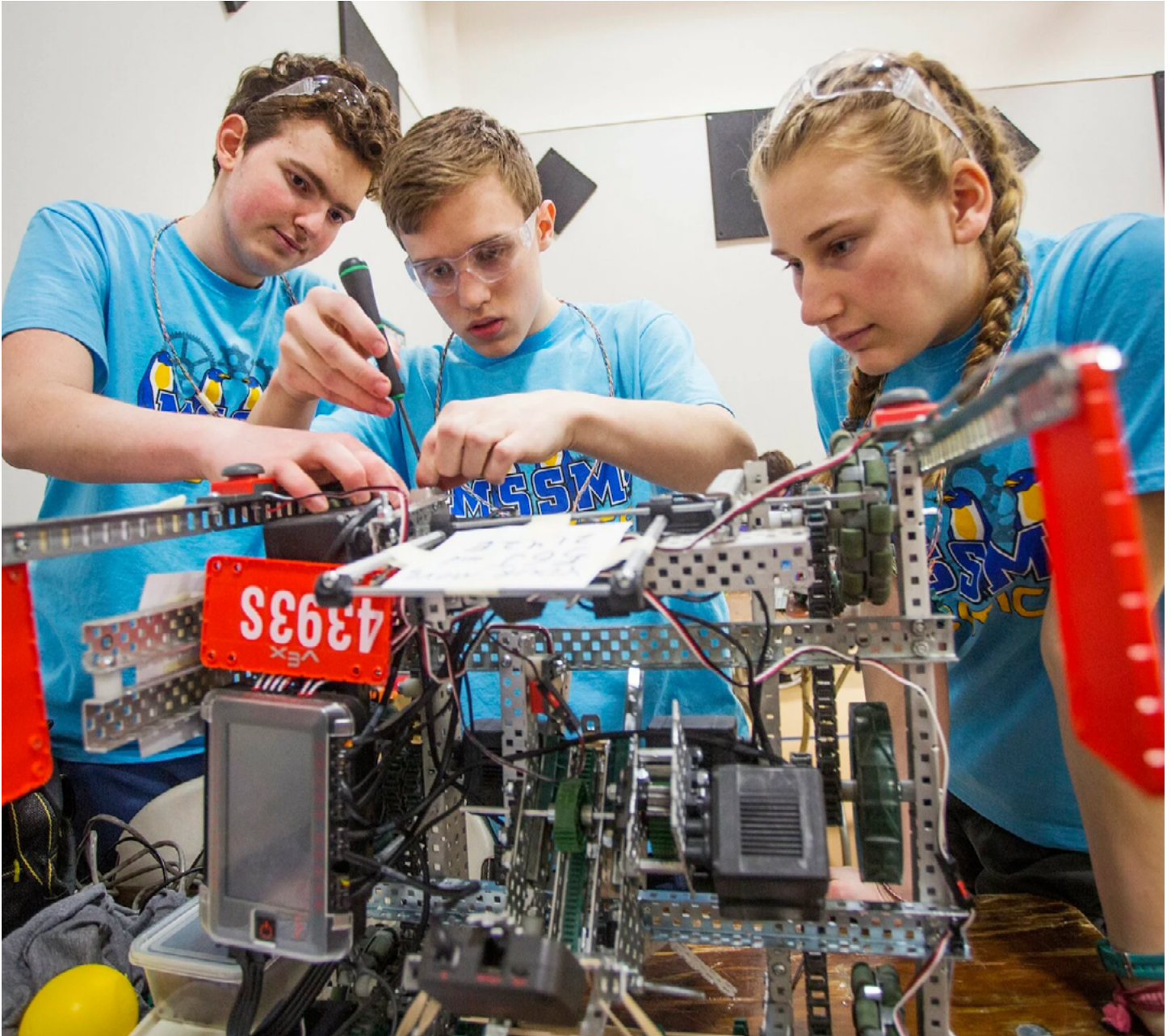


Executive Director Search



The Maine School of Science and Mathematics
Limestone, Maine
www.mssm.org

Position Starts July 2023



EDUCATORS COLLABORATIVE
EXPERTS IN SEARCH, TRANSITION & STRATEGY

WWW.EDUCATORSCOLLABORATIVE.COM



About the School

Located on a hilltop in Limestone, Maine, the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (MSSM) is a national leader in STEM education. Nestled in a picturesque setting of forests and farmland, MSSM is committed to the pursuit of academic excellence, lifelong learning, and unquenchable curiosity. This residential learning community brings together a group of Maine's most academically motivated high school students and guides them to become innovative, well-rounded scholars with the ability to develop, investigate, and communicate critical ideas that improve the human condition and benefit the state of Maine. The school provides a rigorous curriculum that exceeds state educational standards while emphasizing connections between science, mathematics, and the humanities. MSSM extends its unique mission by fostering a statewide, year-round community of innovative learners that includes many of Maine's students, educators, and the general public.



This school changed my life.

Alum and former Executive Director

Unique Mission and Students

MSSM is a public residential magnet high school chartered and funded by the Maine State Legislature. Launched in 1995, it was only the eleventh statewide residential magnet school specializing in mathematics and science education in the United States and the only school of its kind in New England. Both remain true today.

While MSSM students come from diverse backgrounds, one common purpose prevails: the enthusiasm, desire, and motivation for—as well as the commitment to—learning. The challenging curriculum and stimulating environment create an ongoing learning experience with students working, studying, and socializing with classmates who share similar interests and goals.

MSSM is a member of the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools ([NCSSS](#)), which represents many of the top-ranked programs in the U.S. and around the globe committed to transforming science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education through school wide initiatives that include authentic research or project-based learning.





And There's More

Ranked #1 in the State of Maine for best public high school teachers and #5 in the country for best public high school teachers by Niche.com.

Ranked #2 Best High School in the nation by U.S. News and World Report (2019).

[Portrait of a Graduate](#)

[The MSSM Experience](#) (listen to what students have to say)

[Campus Life and Activities](#)

[Why MSSM?](#)

[Summer Camp at MSSM](#)

[Traditional Academics](#)

[Commitment to Equity and Diversity](#)

[The School's Profile](#)

Did you know...

- MSSM students may receive college credit for many of their classes through an agreement with the University of Maine/Presque Isle.
- January Term offerings range from blacksmithing, raising chickens, Python programming at The Berkeley National Laboratory in California to community service in the Dominican Republic through a partnership with IPPC (Pilar Constanzo Polytechnic Institute).
- Student organizations include the Civil Rights Team, a NERF Club, the Literary Magazine, and a Ukulele Club, to name a few.
- The Boys' cross country team competed in the MPA State Cross Country Championship this fall and had their best team finish at the State competition finishing 5th place in Class C.



How do Penguins describe MSSM?



“The MSSM experience was truly transformative for my son.

Alum parent and MSSM Trustee





Limestone, Maine: An Outdoor Oasis in All Seasons

Located two miles from the Maine/New Brunswick border, MSSM shares educational facilities with the Limestone Community School, maintains an independent dormitory, and has access to extensive nearby state lands of the former Loring Air Force Base in Limestone, ME. Surrounded by agricultural land and forest, this rural town of 2,000 lies on ancestral lands of the Wabanaki people, and close to current-day Mi'kmaq and Maliseet communities. Influences from Acadian culture are noticeable in the surrounding communities, with French being spoken in about 15% of the county's homes. A short drive away are the trails of the Aroostook National Wildlife Sanctuary and Nordic Heritage Center, home to miles of trails for walking, hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing. Additional recreational activities include canoeing, fishing, hunting, and (during our substantial winter) snowshoeing, downhill skiing, snowboarding, and tubing at Big Rock ski area, or snowmobiling on "The County's" extensive trail network.

Located 30 minutes from the commercial center and regional airport in Presque Isle (p. 10,000), Limestone is approximately a 3-hour drive from both Bangor and Québec City, QC, and a 5-hour drive from Portland.



MSSM is where students and faculty find their people and their home.



At a Glance

Established: 1995
 Number of Students: 100
 Average class size: 12
 Student to Teacher Ratio: 7:1
 AP Courses offered: 8
 Acres of campus: 12
 Number of clubs: 31
 Sports teams: 5
 National Merit Finalists: 4

Teachers with PhDs: 4
 Teachers with Advanced Degrees: 13

Student Demographics:

4% African American or Black;
 13% Asian;
 5% Hispanic/Latino;
 89% White
 Female: 40%; Male: 50%; Nonbinary: 10%

Students come from 15 of Maine's 16 counties and 2 states



Opportunities and Challenges for the Next Executive Director

- Working with the larger community, higher education, and state legislature, enhance and/or expand current facilities to provide MSSM faculty and students with learning spaces that better support the outstanding academic program the school offers.
- Explore opportunities to further leverage the school's unique location in terms of academic program and student experiences, including proximity to Quebec, New Brunswick, the Fredericton area and Québécois regions, as well as external partnerships with area organizations.
- Continue to recruit and retain mission-aligned, passionate, world class faculty, supporting their wellness and professional growth to maximize engagement with students both in and out of the classroom.
- Celebrate and promote the deep sense of community that defines MSSM, fostering a culture of collaboration, inclusivity, equity, and caring.
- In partnership with faculty and school leadership, build upon the expectation of rigorous academics while reviewing current programs and pursuing innovative, experiential curricula across all disciplines.
- Advocate for and articulate the value of an MSSM education, elevating the school's profile and its unique STEM mission to strengthen student recruitment and retention regionally, nationally, and internationally.
- In alignment with demographic and enrollment trends, fiscal realities, and pedagogical goals, develop and implement long-term strategies that ensure the financial health of the school.
- Building on 25 years of nationally acclaimed STEM education, provide the vision, leadership, and passion to advance MSSM to the next stage in its institutional evolution, maintaining core values of mastery, self-awareness, resilience, engagement, and purpose.
- Continue to foster a culture of and commitment to innovation, creativity, and aspirational striving for students and faculty alike.
- Support and expand the innovative and extensive concurrent college enrollment initiatives, including the associate's degree opportunity—the only of its kind in the state.



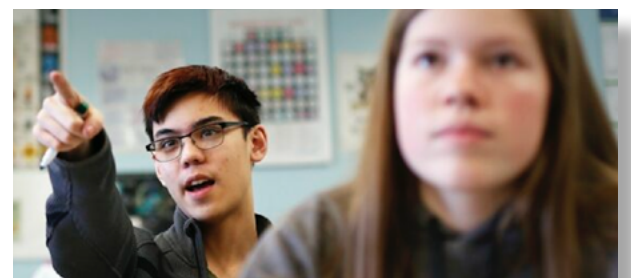
Desired Skills and Attributes

- An experienced educator and administrator with considerable knowledge of best practices and emerging research trends in education, particularly STEM education.
- A skilled political advocate and community ambassador, embracing a “both/and” perspective, bringing people together to find creative solutions and generate new possibilities.
- An entrepreneurial visionary who can facilitate generative dialogue, culminating in strategies and actions that advance the school’s goals and aspirations.
- A courageous, determined leader who will delegate responsibility, empower and motivate others, work collaboratively, and hold high expectations for themselves and for others.
- An educator with a love for the independence, quirkiness, and intellectual gifts of MSSM students.
- A true aficionado of life in a rural community and a love for the outdoors, who will engage fully in the life of the school and put down roots professionally and personally for a significant period of time.
- An adept and articulate communicator, with the capacity to build relationships within the MSSM community and beyond.
- A compassionate servant leader committed to nurturing an inclusive, diverse, and equitable community rooted in transparency, trust, and honesty.
- A thoughtful leader who listens deeply, invites all perspectives, holds the mission of MSSM at the forefront, and is willing to make and execute difficult decisions.
- An individual with strong business acumen and proven management skills who can provide strategic direction and operational oversight to a complex institution in collaboration with a dedicated Board of Trustees.



” MSSM touches you at your core.

Alum and MSSM Foundation board member



To Apply

Candidates interested in this position are asked to submit the following materials by February 27:

- EC Summary Sheet and Disclosure Statement (Contact Tracy Bennett for these documents)
- Letter of Interest addressed to the Search Committee
- Current Resume
- Statement of Institutional Leadership Philosophy
- A list of five or more references with contact information (name, relationship to candidate, phone and email addresses)

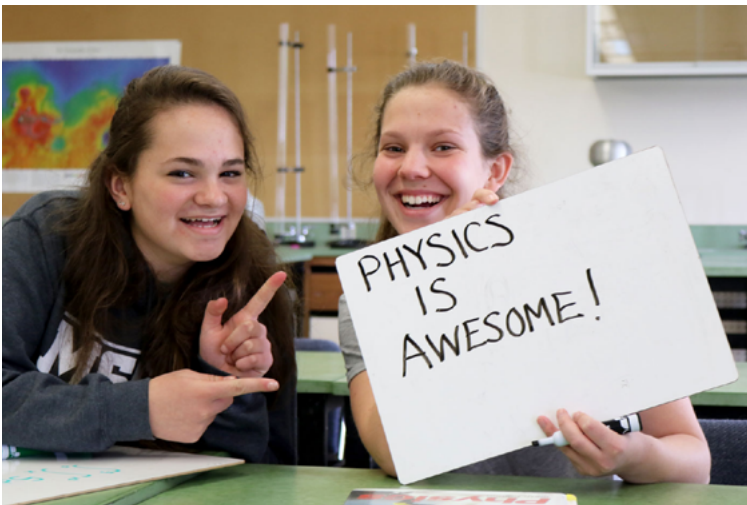


Send application materials via email to:

Tracy Bennett, Partner, Educators Collaborative

Email: tbennett@educatorscollaborative.com

Phone: 425-466-4748



”

MSSM holds a unique position in our state as a magnet school for STEM that is focused on providing accelerated learning and curated educational opportunities based on individuals skills and interests, as well as supporting personal growth and development as adolescents transition to young adults.

”

The brilliance of the students, the immersive residential environment, and the large number of AP classes available, prepare MSSM students for the future. Students from MSSM go on to attend the best universities and colleges in the country.

