

Erik Perkins
Mattawamkeag
LD 2118

Dear Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

I strongly support LD 2118. I graduated from MSSM 25 years ago. The early exposure which I received there to not only particular methods of mathematics and physics, but also the associated scientific mindset, had a profound and formative effect on my life and career. I went on to obtain a PhD in physics, and to a professional career in data science. I can attribute every door that was opened along the way to the experience I had at MSSM.

Knowing not only what questions to ask, but how to ask them, and how to approach answering them, is critical to success in many aspects of life. The physicist's particular way of doing this has proven to be very powerful, and MSSM showed me how to this at an early stage. I would not likely have had access to such early exposure elsewhere.

The opportunities provided by the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, and the lifelong dividends they pay, should be supported as much as possible. I urge this committee to vote in favor of LD 2118.

Thank you,
Erik Perkins
Mattawamkeag