

January 30, 2012

Dear Senator Langley, Representative Richardson and members of the Educational and Cultural Affairs committee,

My name is Annissa Nicola, and I am currently a junior at the Maine Academy of Natural Sciences. I live on campus and come from Brewer.

All of the students at MeANS are here for a reason. My reason was because I had a hard time in Brewer. At my old school I felt like the staff was not there to help kids learn. I missed school a lot because it was a larger school and there was more drama. I had things going on in my life that other kids and teachers did not know about.

I feel that MeANS is ready to become a charter school. Here at MeANS we are like a family. We are all there for each other. This year I have only missed three days of school.

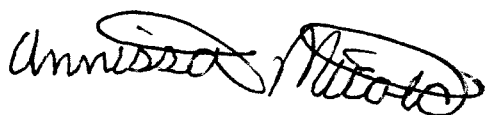
This school has changed my life by having someone to talk to, learning the way I want to learn, getting me ready for the future and knowing that I can do something I thought I couldn't do.

The President said- No Child Left Behind. We are not going to leave the kids at our school. This school is for giving students a second chance- letting our school admit students year round would give kids a second chance.

Some kids have hard times in their lives, and that pushes them away from school. It was hard to be in school because I didn't talk to my parents so it was hard to make meetings and do homework. Here I can stay and get the help I need.

Thank you for your time. I hope that MeANS can become the first charter school in the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annissa Nicola". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "A".

Annissa Nicola