

Moses Brown School Committee on Nurturing Friends Education: Report to NEYM 2024-2025

For Moses Brown School's Committee on Nurturing Friends Education (NFE), 2024-25 has been a period of strengthened collaboration and deepened relationship with New England Yearly Meeting. NFE's chief work this year involved the following priorities:

- **Moses Brown School Faith and Practice:** The committee oversaw the ongoing development of this document, which is now in draft form.
- **Board Appointment Process:** The NFE collaborated with MB's Governance Committee and the NEYM Nominating Committee and Permanent Board to review and update the process for appointing Friends to the Board of Trustees and Board committees.
- **Envisioning further partnership:** in its work to build connections with Friends for future Board service and enrollment in the school, NFE is eager to continue pursuing opportunities for collaboration and outreach.

Process and Decisions

A working group, including representatives from MB's Governance and NFE Committees, NEYM Nominating Committee (Jackie Stillwell and Chris Gant), and the NEYM Presiding Clerk (Rebecca Leuchak), convened to clarify the appointment process, revise recording duties, and identify further opportunities for collaboration.

The working group made the following decisions:

- **Collaborative Nominations:** Moses Brown School and the NEYM Nominating Committee will jointly nominate Friends for service as Trustees and Board committee members.
- **NEYM Approval:** The NEYM's Permanent Board will approve all nominations of Friends for MB service.
- **Recording Duties Clarification:** The bylaws' treatment of Recording duties will be clarified, and the **Board Recording Clerk** position will be renamed **Board Secretary**. The Secretary's duties will involve overseeing minute-taking, allowing flexibility for school staff to support this work as needed.

Strengthening the Relationship between MB and NEYM

Both organizations recognize the mutual benefit of a stronger relationship. Specific opportunities for connection include:

- **NEYM Sessions Attendance:** Moses Brown will attend NEYM Sessions starting in summer 2025. Head of School Katie Titus will address NEYM during Meeting for Business, and Director of Friends Education Jen McFadden (Providence

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Monthly Meeting member) and Trustee Val Reishuk (Providence Monthly Meeting member) will lead a workshop on Friends Education at Moses Brown.

- **Quaker Outreach:** Intentional communication efforts will provide Quaker meetings with a clearer understanding of MB's work, fostering relationships and aiming to increase enrollment of Quaker families.
- **Library Privileges:** NEYM Friends who express interest will have library privileges at Moses Brown.
- **Collaborative Programs:** MB will continue to explore opportunities to partner with NEYM in hosting programs such as the Discernment Dialogues held at MB in March 2025.

Proposed Revision to Charge

The NFE committee proposes one revision to its charge as outlined in the school's bylaws. The original charge states that the committee exists "to strengthen the Friends faith and practice of Moses Brown School..." The school has proposed replacing the word "strengthen" with "**support**," a change that removes connotations of weakness and affirms the school's current and ongoing commitment to Friends faith and practice. The committee is grateful for the trust, collaboration, and partnership it has built with NEYM and looks forward to supporting Friends education together in the coming years.