



ADVANCED MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL (AMSA) CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

What is a charter school?

Charter schools in Massachusetts are free public schools that are open to all students within the state. Admission is determined by random lottery; there are no entrance exams or admissions requirements. Charter public schools are managed by a public board of trustees and follow the same open-meeting laws and rules as district public schools.

What buildings comprise the AMSA campus and who owns them?

The Advanced Math & Science Academy owns its campus, which includes 165, 199, and 201 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752.

The campus includes three buildings located on twelve (12) acres:

- 165 Forest Street: 4-floor building (48,753 sq. ft) built in 1982, which is owned by AMSA. Currently, AMSA is leasing the 1st floor to SMOC and occupies the 2nd floor. The top two floors are vacant.
- 199 Forest Street: Traditional office building (40,350 sq. ft) built in 1998. AMSA occupies and owns the entire building (3 floors).
- 201 Forest Street: Office building (40,390 sq. ft), built in 1980. AMSA occupies and owns the entire building (3 floors).

How is AMSA funded? Why are donations being sought for the project?

Charter schools are public schools that operate outside of city/town public school districts' annual budgets. They receive state funding per student, but unlike school districts, must pay for their own buildings and improvements. Charter schools do not have access to Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) funds such as other Massachusetts public schools and therefore we are dependent on private bank funding and fundraising.

How will campus renovations be funded?

AMSA is fortunate to have some equity and to have received a bond to pay for most costs associated with purchasing, renovating, and improving our campus buildings. However, the funds we can access will not cover the total expected cost of the needed improvements. We are seeking support from grants, corporate contributions and from parents, families, and friends to help provide for the full cost.

What is the total project budget?

AMSA is investing in the future of our students by seeking to dramatically improve our campus and our students' academic experience. This is a transformational moment in our history, and we want to ensure we have sufficient funds to do all of the needed work.

This is a major facilities upgrade. Funded by savings and loans, we purchased our campus buildings and are making much-needed additions and improvements to classrooms and infrastructure.

The purchase of our campus buildings and needed improvements are expected to cost \$30M. AMSA is funding acquisition and improvements through a combination of school equity (\$4M), a tax-exempt bond issued by Boston Private and guaranteed through MassDevelopment (\$24M) and philanthropy (\$2M).

Are charitable contributions made to the capital campaign tax deductible?

Donations can be made to the STEM Soaring Eagles Foundation, Inc. The STEM Soaring Eagles Foundation is a 501(C) (3) non-profit organization that was set up to support the Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School through fundraising. Donations made to the STEM Soaring Eagles Foundation may be tax deductible and will be used to support AMSA. EIN# 46-2457561

Our goal is to raise \$2 million in this campaign.

Contact Marcy Eckel, Director of Development, at meckel@amsacs.org or visit www.amsacs.org/future.

The Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School - 201 Forest St., Marlborough, MA 01752 - 508.597.2400



How do I donate? How can I make my gift or pledge?

We can accept your gift in the form of a check, credit card, or other options for longterm giving opportunities. Please make checks payable to The STEM Soaring Eagles, Inc. and mail to AMSA Charter School, 201 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752. You can also [donate online](#).

Can I give to the Capital Campaign in my company's name?

We are flexible. Donors have choices on how to give as a company or from personal income, or to be creative and combine gifts with personal and company funds.

Will donations be restricted? How do I make sure my donation will go to the Capital Campaign?

All donations made to the school during the Capital Campaign will go to the campus construction project unless specifically directed to another program.

Who makes the decisions? Who has the oversight?

The AMSA Board of Trustees in conjunction with the Board of Trustees of The STEM Soaring Eagles Foundation, Inc. have oversight of the Capital Campaign. For the duration of the campaign, the overall fiduciary and operational responsibilities sit with the members of the AMSA Board. This group provides the ongoing leadership needed to ensure transparency and integrity over the life of the campaign's key priority areas. The Board will ensure that the funds raised are managed effectively in accordance with IRS rules and capital campaign purposes including any donor-directed restrictions. The Development Committee acts in a planning capacity to move the campaign plan and strategy forward. The Executive Director and members of the AMSA Board and STEM Soaring Eagles Board are on the Development Committee so there is coordination and overlap of the three organizations and their respective missions.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Contact Marcy Eckel, Director of Development, at meckel@amsacs.org.

Once I make my campaign gift, how else can I help?

Spread the word! In order for our Capital Campaign to be successful, we need help connecting with potential donors.

Will donors (and donation amounts) be publicly acknowledged?

Unless requested to be anonymous, all donations to the campaign will be acknowledged both in campaign recognition materials (print and digital) and in a form of signage (to be determined) in a central location on the renovated campus (to be determined).

If I cannot make a campaign gift or pledge now, can I still give something at a future date?

Our overall success is connected to our fundraising progress over the next 18-20 months. We realize circumstances change and contributions to the campaign are welcome now and in the future.

Does AMSA receive matching gifts?

Absolutely! Matching gifts are the perfect way to increase your gift! Many business owners and/or professionals are employed by companies who may offer this charitable benefit option. It is also worth exploring if your spouse or partner has a corporate matching program.

Our goal is to raise \$2 million in this campaign.

Contact Marcy Eckel, Director of Development, at meckel@amsacs.org or visit www.amsacs.org/future.

The Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School - 201 Forest St., Marlborough, MA 01752 - 508.597.2400