

APPROVED



## Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School

### Minutes

#### Board of Trustees Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Thursday February 29, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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The Board plans to go into executive session at the end of open session to discuss strategies regarding negotiations with represented personnel as doing so in open session would be detrimental to the process.

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#### **Trustees Present**

Darren Rose (remote), Dwayne Stanley (remote), Evan Przyborowski (remote), Gregory Theos (remote), Jill Schafer (remote), Maura Webster (remote), Raul Porras (remote), Roger Jarrett (remote), Sheila Kelly (remote), Sowmini Sampath (remote)

#### **Trustees Absent**

Bela Gorman

#### **Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

Roger Jarrett

#### **Trustees who left before the meeting adjourned**

Gregory Theos

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## Guests Present

Liana McLaren (remote), Marcy Eckel (remote), Mike Finkle (remote), Mike Nawrocki (remote), Sara Snow (remote)

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Call the Meeting to Order

Raul Porras called a meeting of the board of trustees of Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Feb 29, 2024 at 6:02 PM.

### B. Record Attendance

The Chair announced that this meeting is being recorded.

The Board will go into executive session at the end of open session to discuss strategies regarding negotiations with represented personnel as doing so in open session would be detrimental to the process. and. The Board will not reconvene.

### C. Public Comment

There was no request for public comment.

## II. Consent Agenda Items

### A. Construction Budget Updates

Liana McLaren shared an update on the building project.

(See attached presentation slides)

They have begun work on the second floor; with steps, elevator shaft, and the drop zone where our science students will do their research. This is what makes it AMSA.

They are now pouring the cement floors, putting in the plumbing, and the roof and exterior framing is coming soon.

The project is on track with the budget and completion date.

New Chiller was put in place today... and this is a very big deal!!!

## III. Votes

### A. Approve Minutes from January 4, 2024

Maura Webster made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 01-04-24.

Gregory Theos seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

Jill Schafer            Aye

**Roll Call**

Evan Przyborowski	Aye
Maura Webster	Aye
Bela Gorman	Absent
Sheila Kelly	Aye
Dwayne Stanley	Aye
Darren Rose	Aye
Roger Jarrett	Absent
Gregory Theos	Aye
Sowmini Sampath	Aye
Raul Porras	Aye

**B. Approve Minutes from Strategic Planning Meeting January 27, 2024**

Sheila Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes from Strategic Planning Meeting on 01-27-24.

Darren Rose seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Jill Schafer	Aye
Maura Webster	Aye
Bela Gorman	Absent
Roger Jarrett	Absent
Gregory Theos	Aye
Sowmini Sampath	Abstain
Evan Przyborowski	Aye
Sheila Kelly	Aye
Dwayne Stanley	Aye
Darren Rose	Aye
Raul Porras	Aye

**IV. Updates**

**A. Faculty Representative Update**

Greg Theos reported that he had a short update.

The faculty are curious about the contract negotiations. He is aware that contract information is confidential but many are in the dark and would like some information.

Raul responded that the first meeting was held and the second meeting was cancelled due to snow. A meeting has been scheduled for next Monday.

Since there is not much the Negotiation Task Force can share with teachers, Raul suggested if teachers have questions they could communicate directly with their Union Rep.. The Board certainly wants to get the contract finalized as soon as possible.

Gregory Theos left at 6:14 PM.

**B. Capital Campaign**

Marcy Eckel would like to change the name of the Capital Campaign Update to the Fundraising Update. They have raised 385K to date. She said they are "seeding our garden in the community" with events such as Giving Tuesday, end of year giving, and a push for buying bricks. Bricks will be part of the 20th anniversary campaign. The website is getting a new look and will be easier to use when donating or learning more about AMSA.

They are currently working on four grants. They have had two good meetings with the Major Gifts Committee. They are strategizing on how to grow those gifts. STEM Soaring Eagles will help in this work. They are building the AMSA fund that will support the 20th anniversary campaign. They are embracing the lower dollar threshold.

Raul said he is hoping that the board is part of the recurring donations that play such an important role in the fundraising efforts.

Roger Jarrett arrived at 6:20 PM.

### **C. Parent Representative Update**

The Board's new Parent Rep Dwayne Stanley said he attended the last PTO meeting. He shared his email with parents, which he feels is one avenue to get feedback. He would like to determine how to get the community communication going. He would like to see more parent participation and ways to get connected with parents. He will work with the parents to encourage engagement.

## **V. Chair Business**

### **A. First meeting since strategic planning meeting.**

Raul reports that the Board did make progress during the strategic planning meeting. They focused on the strategy instead of goals. They focused on the accomplishment that have been made: the union agreement, development, the building project, and hiring a new Executive Director to name the most obvious. The biggest challenge was framing the strategic goals. How do we balance resources between students teachers and infrastructure? The Board was in agreement that AMSA teachers are the priority. They know why, but they need an answer to how. The focus will be on the needs of the teachers over the next few years.

Our next board meeting will be on March 28, and in person. The next meeting will be a combined April/May meeting and be remote.

The early June meeting will be in person.

## **VI. Committee Reports**

### **A. Development**

Maura Webster reported that the Development Committee has been successful, thanks to Marcy.

They are focusing on cultural philanthropy. Development Committee was put on pause for a while due to the overlap of efforts by the Imagine Committee.

They are now establishing rules and goals for each committee.

Darren Rose has some great ideas. They are considering rolling the gifts committee into Development Committee and do some reorganization.

Cindy Zomar and Mary Jo Nawrocki will become Development Committee members.

### **B. Finance**

Roger Jarrett reported on the financial status of the building project.

There were fewer adjustments than anticipated. The Finance Committee is working on the school budget for next year and have finished the first round of budget review.

Liana and Lisa are working hard on the next year's budget.

### **C. Governance**

Sheila Kelly reported on the Governance Business.

The Committee reviewed the Topic Calendar and the need for board education.

We already have OML, but if there are topics that members would like to add, please send suggestions to Raul, Sowmini, or Sheila.

They covered timelines on handbooks, policies, and the review and release of executive session minutes, which are made public upon request.

The Board will be provided an overview of the charter renewal process in May.

OML training is set for September

The Boards role in Development will be presented in October.

In November, the Board will be provided with training on how AMSA's Finances work.

### **D. Education**

Roger reported that the Education Committee did not meet, but they will meet in March.

The plan to discuss the staff and faculty survey with the expectation of an April roll out.

## **VII. Call for a Motion to go into Executive Session**

### **A. Vote to go into Executive Session**

Darren Rose made a motion to to go into executive session to discuss strategies regarding negotiations with represented personnel as doing so in open session would be detrimental to the process.

Evan Przyborowski seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Raul Porras	Aye
Sheila Kelly	Aye
Roger Jarrett	Aye
Sowmini Sampath	Aye
Bela Gorman	Absent
Evan Przyborowski	Aye
Jill Schafer	Aye
Maura Webster	Aye
Gregory Theos	Absent
Darren Rose	Aye
Dwayne Stanley	Aye

Invited guests include Mike Nawrocki and Liana McLaren. The Board will not reconvene.  
The Board went into Executive Session at 6:44pm.

**VIII. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Roger Jarrett made a motion to adjourn.  
Dwayne Stanley seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Bela Gorman	Absent
Roger Jarrett	Aye
Gregory Theos	Absent
Sowmini Sampath	Aye
Darren Rose	Aye
Jill Schafer	Aye
Dwayne Stanley	Aye
Evan Przyborowski	Aye
Raul Porras	Aye
Maura Webster	Aye
Sheila Kelly	Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Raul Porras

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**Documents used during the meeting**

- 2-29-24 AMSA Change Orders 2-23-24.pdf
- 2-29-24 AMSA 1-29-24 Req Tracking and invoices - December Invoices.pdf
- 2-29-24 AMSA Academic Building Update 2.29.24.pdf