

APPROVED



## Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School

### Minutes

#### Board of Trustees Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Thursday May 2, 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**

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

#### **Trustees Absent**

Sheila Kelly

#### **Ex Officio Members Present**

Lisa Mobley (remote)

#### **Non Voting Members Present**

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Lisa Mobley (remote)

**Guests Present**

Christine Tridente Fahey (remote), James Carter (remote), Liana McLaren (remote), Marcy Eckel (remote), Mike Nawrocki (remote), Padmaja Bandaru (remote), Sara Snow (remote)

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

**B. Record Attendance**

livestreaming and recorded ...executive session  
not reconvene

Timekeeper: Sowmini Sampath

**C. Public Comment**

None

**II. Votes**

**A. Approve Minutes from March 28, 2024**

Roger Jarrett made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting - In Person on 03-28-24.

Darren Rose seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**B. Student Opportunity Act (SOA) Plan**

SOA presentation (see attached)

Disparity in achievement.

year 3 of a 6 year contract with the state,  
Built into the tuition number.  
A three year plan....  
We do better than the state.  
We still target students who need it the most.  
There is still a gap...but we are behind.

3 focuses  
Comprehensive Tiered Support System  
Targeted Support Social Emotional Learning.  
High leverage Practices for students with disabilities.

Current 6th graders...AMSA's plan for targeted support  
All day...for all four weeks.

Engagement for success. Advocacy Program...  
Partner with PTO..parent network program...  
Annual Engagement Survey from Education Committee.  
Admin will monitor and carry out the plan.

It will not affect the budget.  
We can do this with what we have.

MCAS scores were the percentages. from 2023.  
This was not in Education Committee....met with Luba and Marty to discuss and develop  
the plan.

Inviting people by phone. Notice went out.  
When would the board get a report? Roger....  
Lisa said we wont see results for about 2 years. fall of 2025,...scores from group.  
Apples and oranges....2023 compared to 2024 and 2025.  
Tracking by grade not students.  
Provide the board with anecdotal data.  
Track the acceleration participants.  
Teacher feedback and improvements.  
MCAS is not the best metric.  
Reporting out on this plan.  
State expects MCAS scores to improve.

Bela Gorman made a motion to approve SOA Plan.  
Evan Przyborowski seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**C. Roof Proposal**

199 needs new roof and the rough estimate is 130K. We will go ahead and do the work this year.

It is a good deal.

Finance Committee recommends that we do this.

The work will be done in mid June, a week after school gets out.

It will be a clean job that will take three to five days to complete.

Eric Lane is working on the schedule.

Roger Jarrett made a motion to roof.

Raul Porras seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**D. New trustee vote: Christine Tridente**

Governance Committee recommends both candidates.. Christine Tridente Fahey and James Carter.

Christine serve as Vice Chair of the Board for the Massachusetts Center for the Book, and is the CEO and owner of ePublishingPartners, Inc.

Christine hopes to be of use to a place that has brought joy to her family and she considers serving on the Board as professional development.

Maura Webster made a motion to as a trustee Christine t\Tridente.

Sowmini Sampath seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**E. New trustee vote: Jim Carter**

Jim Carter has served on the Finance Committee and has two recent graduates.

James is an Actuary, estimating future claim costs liabilities.

We welcome his financial expertise.

Governance was unanimous in their recommendation.

Roger thanked Jim for his service over the past year.

Bela Gorman made a motion to Jim Carter as trustee.

Gregory Theos seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

### **Roll Call**

Sowmini Sampath Aye

Board recruitment is very important. Having two new member is great news.

Terms will run through June. 30, 2027

Raul said they have built a great board and hopes the culture they have worked to develop will continue going forward.

## **III. Updates**

### **A. Board Education: Finance 101**

Finance Discussion for Board of Trustees.

We need onboarding materials for new board members on finance.

See presentation (attached)

Where does our money come from?

Annual reports are on the website.

Funds come from state tuition and we rely on the state for our income.

We now have rental income since 2018 because we rent out to SMOC.

The ESSR Grant is going away

Tuition is tied to state budget. 2.8% increase from the prior year.

Our Operating expenses have increased.

45% goes to teacher salaries.

17% administrative

12% taxes and benefits

We have set aside 3 months of a "rainy day fund" that is kept aside for unforeseen risks.

10M of the 19M is the loan.

We have 4M left for capital investments like the roof, HVAC, teacher laptops.

Bella would like to talk about capital investments next meeting.

We were able to put loan money toward the roof repair as part of the project loan because the money is earmarked for this specific purpose.

Charter Renewal Review will be presented in June.

### **B. Budget FY 24-25**

Liana presented the Budget. (See attached.)

Tuition \$16,622,000

We are now paying interest and principal now

Grants have gone down and will be spent at the end of this year.

Salaries and benefits are the biggest expenses.

We can use philanthropy and annual giving for those extras. expenses so we must improve our development efforts.

Bela Gorman made a motion to approve budget.

Raul Porras seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

Thanks to Lisa and Liana for doing all the work for the budget.

**C. Capital Campaign**

Marcy Eckel provided the update.

Brick program will wrap up this summer.

They have 109 brick orders.

The new marketing plan is to offer a free brick with a purchase of \$350 or more.

Reminders will go out to families soon.

There will be a memorial brick for Ben Hammell.

Other outreach includes matching gift reminders and for them to check with their company.

Development will be tabling at Arts and Science Night.

Save the date for the June 15 Run.

Golf Tournament is August 26.

20th anniversary this year...a culture we need to maintain.

STEM Soaring Eagles met recently and they discussed refining the mission.

Development is focusing more on annual giving.

**ACTION: Marcy will share information with Board**

**D. Faculty Representative Update**

Greg Theos provided the update. Teachers are asking what is the deal with the union, with schedule and other big decisions.

The admin is still working on union contract but there are a lot of questions. The sooner a resolution the better.

It is easier to jump ship if you don't know where the ship is heading.

Lisa encourages teachers to reach out to their union rep for information.  
We are now working with PowerSchool and conducting an unofficial first run.  
Teachers will get their schedules before the end of the year.  
Mike, Amanda and Kate were involved with the scheduling this year.  
Greg said there will be a voluntary meeting on May 16 to discuss budget and finances.  
An agenda will go out with Q & A to quell anxiety.  
Schedules will be out to teachers by end of year.  
Next year will be easier. Rules have to be set up once.

#### **E. Parent Representative Update**

Dwayne Stanley provided a brief update but there was not too much from parents.  
He is able to talk to parents a sports events.  
The PTO has a new treasurer. The After Prom Committee is looking for new volunteers.  
Sponsor a Senior is wrapping up. The PTO is trying to get more engagement from parents.  
The goal is to fill the PTO board.

#### **F. Executive Director Report**

See attached ED report.  
Teacher appreciation Week next week. They have several surprises planned for teachers.

Liana gave the building update.  
They have removed the winter wrap on the construction and it is looking good!  
Interior framing is up and the classrooms are big.  
it is taking shape.

### **IV. Chair Business**

#### **A. Board Education Topics**

Christine and Jim will be assigned mentors.  
Having someone assigned to a new member is helpful.

The June meeting is the annual meeting when the Board selects Officers,  
If any board member is interested in serving as an officer, please let Raul know.  
The June meeting will be in person and start at 6:30pm to allow time for travel.  
This will be the last meeting for Raul and he plans to sponsor a dinner prior to the meeting.  
An opportunity to chat and hang out before the meeting.



## **V. Committee Reports**

### **A. Development**

Maura proved a brief update.

She wanted to make the brick for Ben Hammel special.

Development Committee will meet on May 22 at 8:30am to discuss reorganization.

They are looking for auction items for the Golf tournament.

### **B. Finance**

Roger Jarrett reported that the Finance Committee discussion was 90% spent on the budget. See attached budget.

### **C. Governance**

Sowmini reported that Governance focused on the two new candidates and making recommendations.

Governance looked at the recruitment process and what can we do to improve it.

Governance is the Recruitment Task Force and they are streamlining the process.

Board education is always important.

Not all committee members are board members, some serve as ex officio members.

Such as the Business Manager on Finance, the Director of Accountability on Governance, and the Principal on Education.

Succession planning will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **D. Education**

Roger reported that Education did not meet this month but they will meet to discuss the and staff survey results.

They will provide the initial report at the June meeting.

The Family survey is out now. They have 70 responses so far.

Please fill out survey as it helps to guide the school's decisions.

## **VI. Review Action Items**

### **A. Previous Meetings**

Teacher rep election will take place in May.

### **B.**

## New Action Items

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

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

Guests include Lisa Mobley, Mike Nawrocki, Liana McLaren, James Carter, and Christine Trident Fahey. Greg Theos will not attend.

Darren Rose made a motion to ecestugvei.

Maura Webster seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

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

### VIII. Closing Items

#### A. Adjourn Meeting

Dwayne Stanley made a motion to adjourn.

Maura Webster seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jill Schafer

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### **Documents used during the meeting**

- ED Report May 2, 2024.pdf
- 5-02-24 2025 AMSA FY 2024-2025 Budget Review.pptx
- 5-02-24 BOT Roof Proposal.pdf
- ED Report May 2, 2024.pdf