



Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting - In Person at AMSA

Date and Time

Thursday May 1, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location

The meeting will be held in-person at AMSA in the Upper School Cafeteria, 199 Forest Street, Marlborough MA.

The meeting was held in-person at AMSA in the Upper School Cafeteria, 199 Forest Street, Marlborough MA.

Trustees Present

Bela Gorman, Darren Rose, Dwayne Stanley, James Carter, Maura Webster, Stephan Richter

Trustees Absent

Evan Przyborowski, Gregory Theos

Ex Officio Members Present

Lisa Mobley

Non Voting Members Present

Lisa Mobley

Guests Present

Liana McLaren, Marcy Eckel, Sara Snow

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Maura Webster called a meeting of the board of trustees of Advanced Math & Science Academy Charter School to order on Thursday May 1, 2025 at 6:05 PM.

B. Record Attendance

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

None

III. Consent Agenda

A. Quarterly Financial Statements

B. Transportation Bid

Liana provided the summary on the transportation bid.

The only bid they received was for 3 years with two optional years.

An increase of 12% for next year and an increase of 8% over the next two years

The contract is for the regional buses and athletic transportation (one fee). We do subsidize transportation for athletics and field trips.

The increase has been 4% in the past three years.

This was the only company that bid, but they are a wonderful vendor to deal with.

How is the increase communicated to families?

Lisa is working on a document to send to families about the increase and what families will need to know when coming to AMSA and how to access financial assistance. It will include expense expectations.

Transportation is a big expense.

IV. Votes

A. Approve BOT Meeting Minutes from March 27, 2025

James Carter made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 03-27-25.

Stephan Richter seconded the motion.

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

B. 2025-2026 Annual Budget

Annual Budget 2025-2026 and Capital Plan (See attached slides.)

Tuition is the largest item based on the 3rd Quarter projected tuition.
Do we think that we will receive the same federal grants as last year?
The budget is tight this year.
We have to watch this carefully.
Salaries and benefits (up 7%) are high.

Bela Gorman made a motion to to approve budget.
Darren Rose seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Updates

A. Fundraising Update

500 from Avidia for video Art and Science Night.
ForeKicks joined as a Business Partner at the 5000 Platinum level.
They are happy to report they have 15 business partners.
They have raised \$22,500 this year.
Mary Jo and Cindy are working on leads.
Upcoming events are the Mayors Charity Gala and the Kentucky Derby Party hosted by the Chamber of Commerce next Thursday at the Best Western. They will award the Non Profit of the Year and we are in the running!

We are looking forward to our Arts and Science Night on May 22.

B. Parent Representative Update

Dwayne reported that no parents reached out to him, so he has little to mention.
However, he did want to mention that the Prom will be held tomorrow night and it is a busy night!
The Deadline for college selection was tonight.

C. Faculty Representative Update

D. Executive Director Report

Lisa read the list of colleges where our seniors will be going. Impressive list!
She mentioned that we will be asking for seniors' personal emails in order to build an alumni list so we can keep in touch.

There is a tentative contract agreement with the Dept Chairs. The MOA will be signed tomorrow.

The Board will meet via a virtual meeting on May 15 to ratify the contract.

Lisa is pleased to announce the name of our new Athletic Director, Jaquan James. He is currently the Assistance Athletic Director in Hopkinton.

Pete Jones received an email from the Wayside Athletic Complex reneging AMSA's swim time.

They offered these slots to Nashoba! AMSA will need swimming time between Thanksgiving through February. Pete was trying to negotiate more swimming time when he received the news.

We have 40 kids who participate in swimming. They are in the process of looking for an alternative pool.

Mike has been collaborating with the Department Chairs to come up with goals and measures for each department for our 2025-2030 Accountability Plan. The first draft is due on May 9.

Important Dates:

Senior Awards May 20 6:00 at Assabet

Arts and Science Night May 22

Graduation May 30 6:00

Partners Breakfast June 3

8th Grade Step Up Celebration June 6 at Assabet

AMSA is starting a new tradition...Board members will present diplomas to their own children.

Lisa congratulated Catilsa Indresano, ELL Director, on her great progress. She read an email from Catilsa mentioning all the student successes.

AMSA's goal is to return to having a general education reading teacher but we are moving the focus right now to the special education program.

VI. Chair Business

A. Board Education

Robert Carpenter Assessment and Evaluation.

They have released the Family Survey.

The Chair will release the ED assessment from the Board in BoardOnTrack.

Gina Fafard could give one on one assistance with navigating BoardOnTrack.

Please let Stephan know what topics you would like to see for board education.

They can provide education in easily consumable chunks.

ACTION: Sara will reach out to Gina Fafard about Board education ideas.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Development

Evan said there wasn't much to report. The Committee has not yet met. They are still working on participation. Marcy has tried to recruit. If members know of anyone who might want to join the Development Committee, please contact Marcy. This is a work in progress.

B. Finance

The Finance Committee has held two meetings. They reviewed the budget and financials, which was brought to the board for a vote tonight.

C. Governance

Governance will begin the strategic review of bylaws over several more meetings. They have committed to expanding the size of the board to at least 11, with a stretch goal of 13.

Marcy gave Darren a solid list of names. He has prescreened most of the list and he would like to set up a social event for meeting candidates.

The Governance Committee will be refining the recruiting process and cultivating candidates. There is pressure to expand the board in the near future.

If you have any ideas for educating the Board, please send your ideas and suggestions to Governance.

He hopes to have some topics ready for the July meeting.

Dwayne is stepping down as the Parent Rep and will be up for becoming a Trustee.

The Committee also discussed Board Structure. Examples of consideration include ex-officio members and the status of the Faculty and Parent Representatives.

D. Education

See attached AMSA Curriculum Slides created by Greg Theos, comparing AMSA's curriculum to our surrounding districts.

The Family survey has been launched, and staff survey will start soon.

It was suggested to have stations with computers at the Arts and Science Night for families to fill out the survey.

VIII. Review Action Items

A.

Previous Meetings

Working on Board Education is ongoing

Strategic Planning Next Steps.

Finalizing by September a Task Force to create a Strategic Plan that aligns with the new Accountability Plan.

Finance is focused on long term financial viability. The Finance Committee does what we they are required to do, which is to keep AMSA financially viable.

Finding different ways to get revenue is a board strategy.

Broad strategies are important.

Do not get hung up on SMART goals which can be limiting if they aren't rigorous.

SMART goals without overarching goals doesn't do much.

Focus on good broad categories.

Finance has finite work to do.

The Board will focus on a continuous Improvement Plan.

B. New Action Items

Reminder will they be handing diplomas to their students at graduation. Darren, Dwayne, and Maura. Board members will go on stage and hand out diplomas to their kids.

Action: Sara will reach out to Gina Fafard about Board education.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Darren Rose made a motion to adjourn.

Stephan Richter seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Snow

Documents used during the meeting

- Jan - Mar 2025 Financial Statements.xlsx

- Transportation Bid 2025-2028.pdf
- Transportation Bid.xlsx
- 2026 AMSA Budget Review.pptx
- Copy of Curriculum Presentation.pdf
- Action Plan Template - Strategic Planning (1).docx
- SMART Goals Template - Strategic Planning.docx
- SMART Goals Template-Fin.docx
- 2025 Goal for Governance Committ _ Board .docx